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- 2) In case no discoloration is evident in the wood, proceed as for sampling of roots.
- 3) Label and pack the sample, and send it to the diagnostic laboratory.

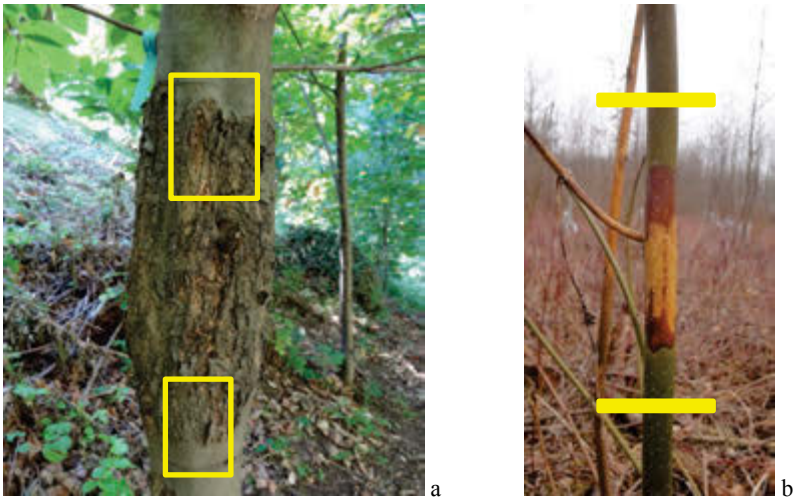


Fig. 4.1. Collecting samples from bark lesions. (a) Lesion on the main stem: pieces of bark including both healthy and symptomatic tissue of a few cm² should be removed (yellow rectangles); (b) Lesion on a young stem (or on thin branches): the entire section of the stem/branch containing the lesion can be removed. WSL.

Sampling of shoots

Visible symptoms may include wilted or necrotic shoots, flagging, discoloration and ‘shepherd crook’ curved shoot tip. To collect samples from symptomatic shoots, the following procedure should be adopted:

- 1) Collect the whole shoot by cutting through the healthy tissue about 3 to 5 cm below the symptomatic part
- 2) As shoots are fragile, it is imperative (more important than for bark samples) to collect them dry and send them as fast as possible to the diagnostic laboratory.

Sampling of leaves and needles

Symptoms visible on the leaves (and needles) consist mainly of necrotic spots of different shapes and colour. For collecting samples from symptomatic leaves (and needles), the following procedure should be adopted:

- 1) Collect the whole leaf and not only parts of it: when sampling simple leaves, include the petiole and when sampling compound leaves include the leaflets, rachis and petiole.