



INTERNATIONAL TREE FAILURE DATABASE (ITFD)

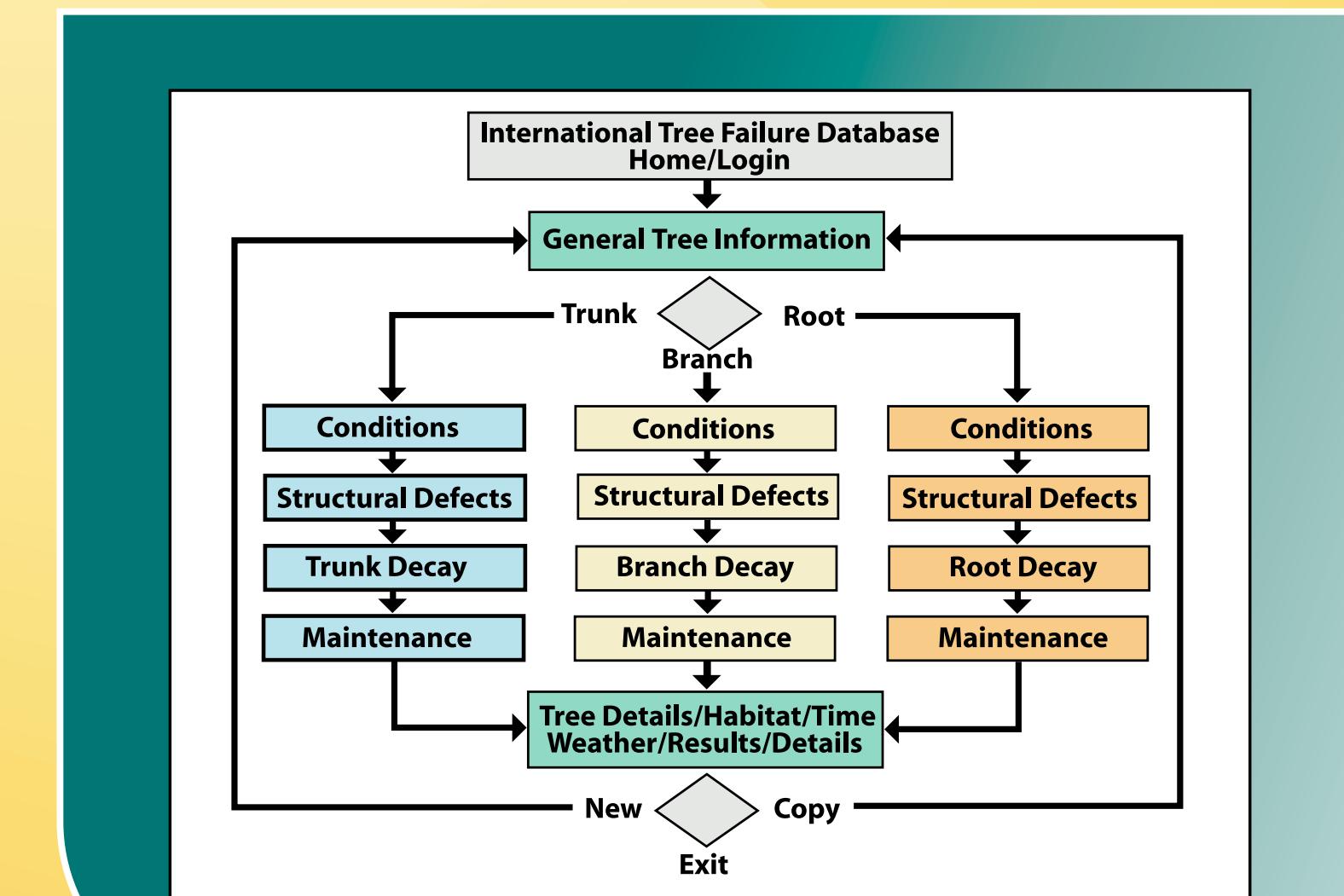
A PROGRAM TO IMPROVE THE ABILITY TO IDENTIFY AND MANAGE HAZARD TREES

»» HISTORY:

The ITFD was modeled after two local programs with successful histories. The California Tree Failure Report Program (CTFRP) was established in 1987 for gathering quantitative information on the mechanical failure of urban trees.

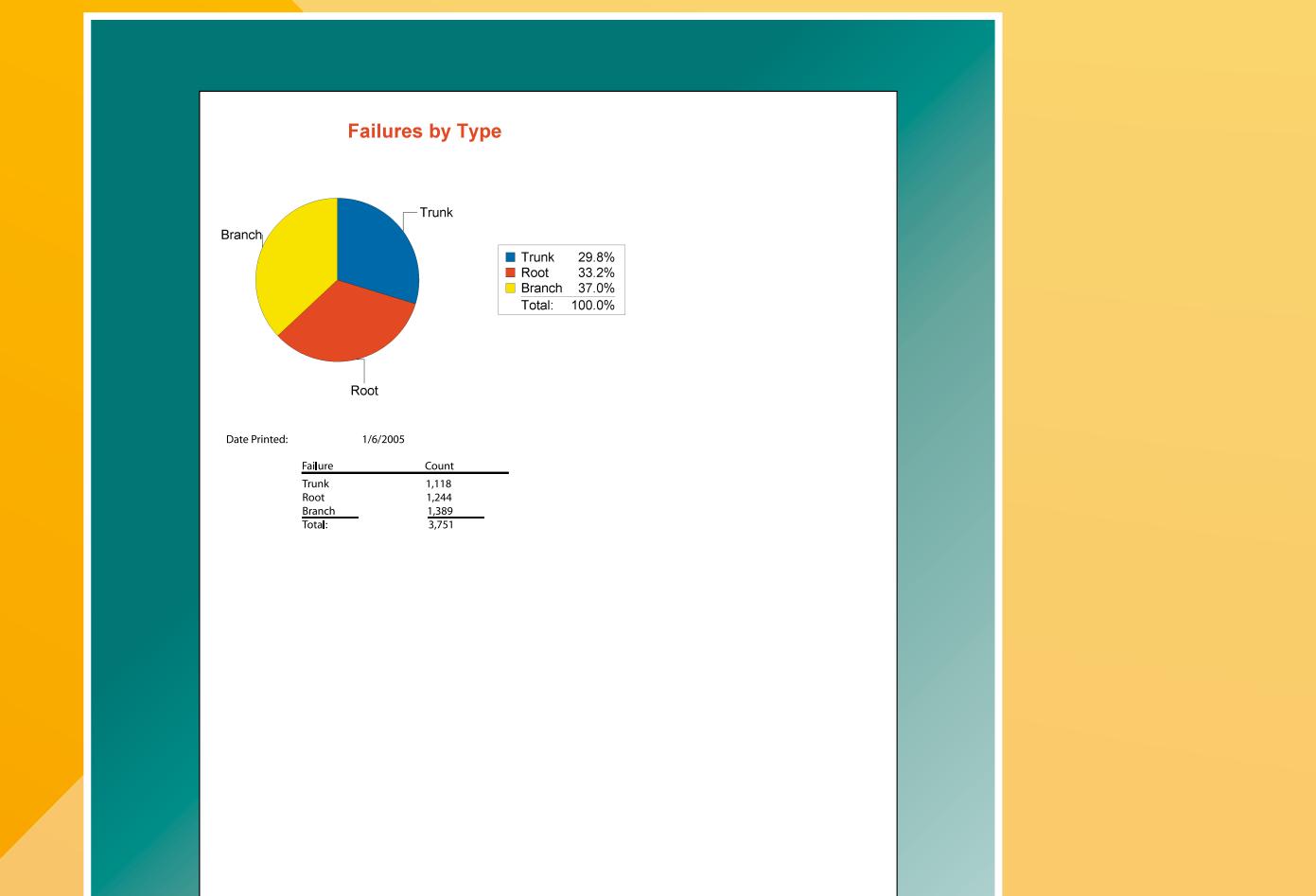
Over 200 tree care professionals in California cooperate in collecting data and then submit forms for entry into the database. The CTFRP currently has over 4000 records that have been migrated into ITFD.

Pacific Northwest Tree Failure Report Program (PNW TFRP) has a standard data collection, training sessions, and cooperators providing input primarily from urban tree failures. The records from PNW TFRP have also been migrated into ITFD.



»» WHAT IS IT?

ITFD is a web-accessible database for the input, storage and retrieval of facts and figures collected from fallen trees. The data will accumulate over time presenting species, site conditions, environment factors, management practices, and other significant details about the failure. In the future, these records will provide a valuable source of information for historical analyses. The current focus of the ITFD is on North American situations however, modifications will be made to accommodate other areas and countries.



»» QUESTIONS TO ANSWER:

What defects are most often associated with failure?

What conditions or symptoms of a given tree species indicate probable failure?

What are the limitations of a tree species regarding environmental and site conditions?

What are the differences in rates of failure between tree species in similar situations?

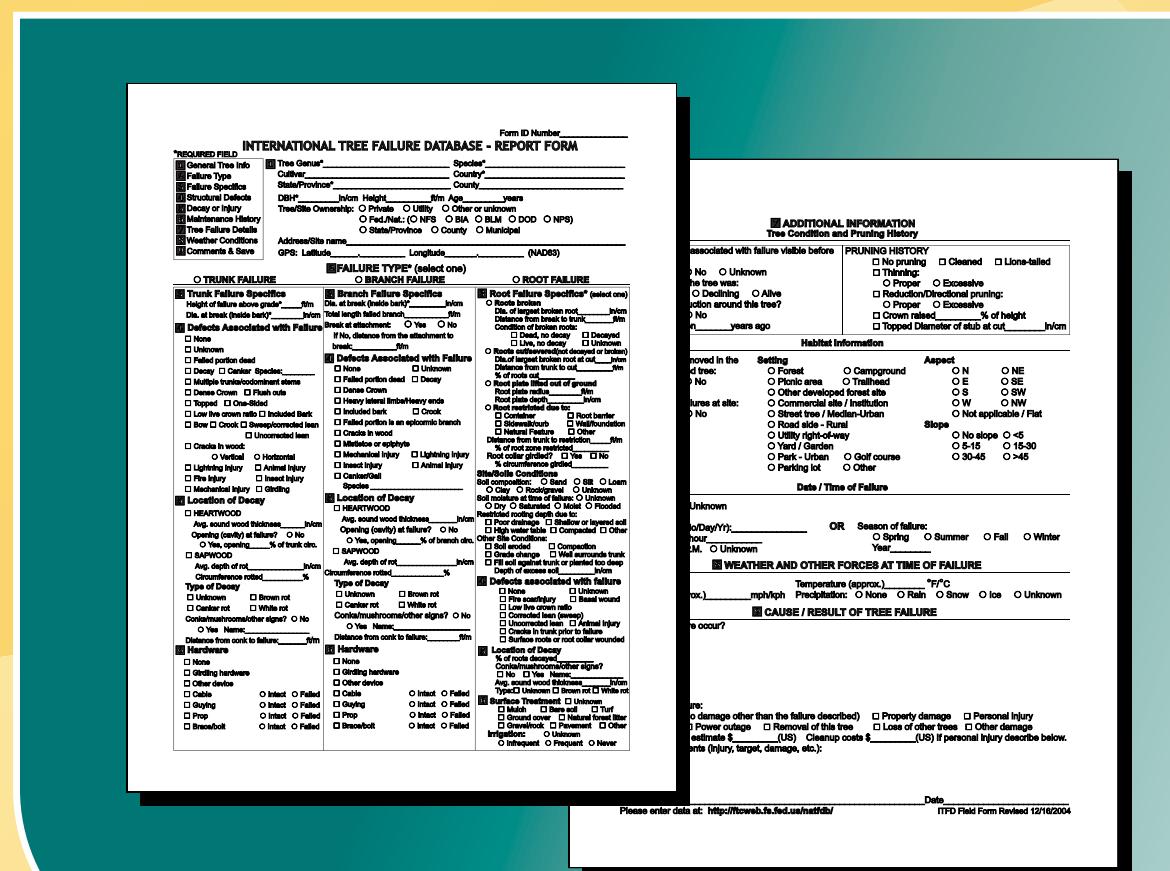
»» WHAT TYPE OF INFORMATION IS COLLECTED?

Root, Branch or Trunk details
Defects associated with failure
Decay, Cracks, Fire injury, etc...
Location and type of decay
Site and soil conditions

»» HOW DATA ARE COLLECTED:

The paper form is a standardized collection method indicating the three primary options depending on the type of tree failure (branch, trunk or root).

Data are collected using the paper form and then entered into the database. Another entry option is to use a portable data recorder. The software for the recorder including automatic upload capability to the database is available under the Help tab.



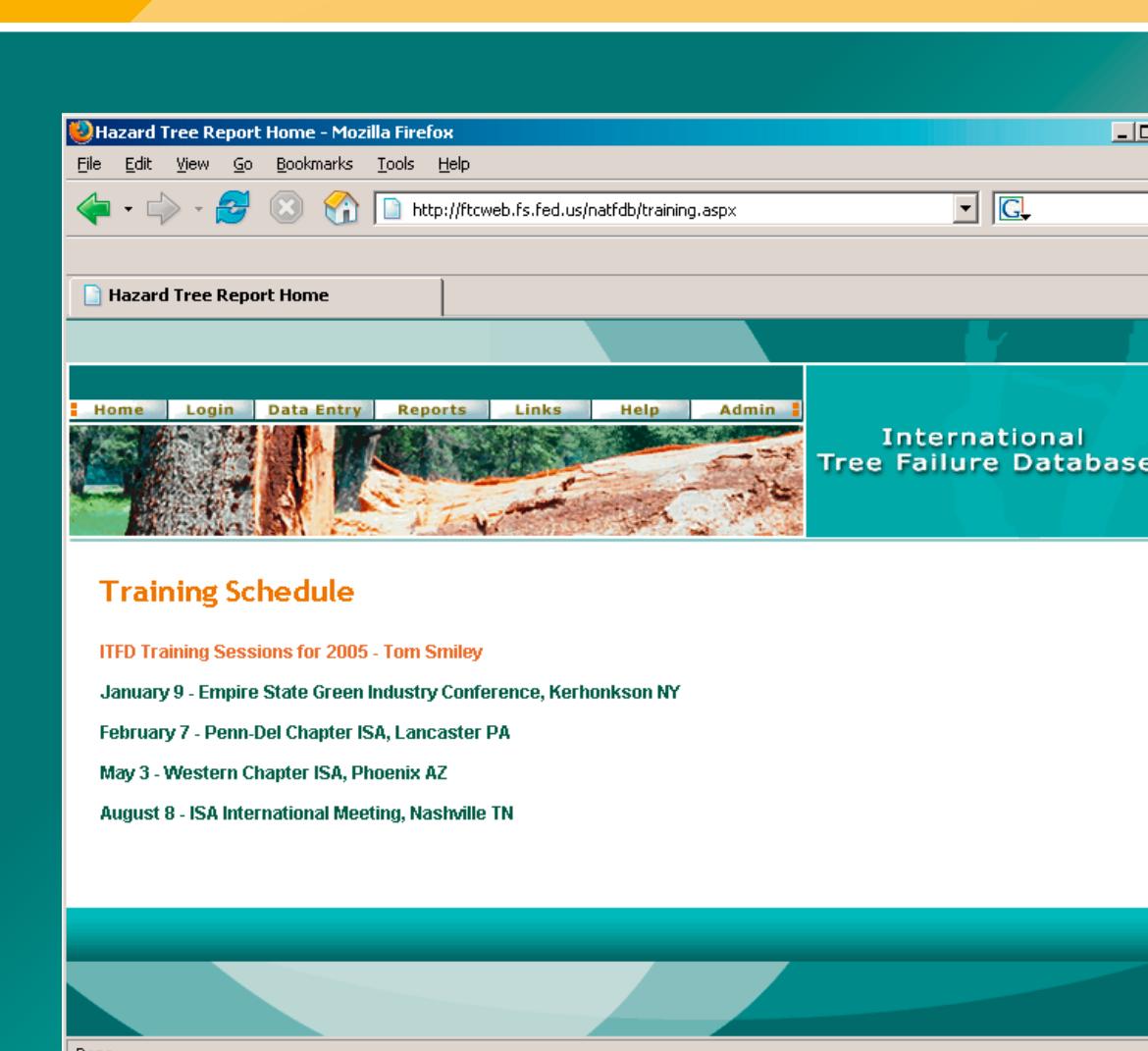
»» CURRENT USERS:

Foresters
Arborists
Pathologists
Entomologists
Recreation Site Managers
Landscape Architects

»» ACCESS:

Completion of a Forest Service or ISA training session is required prior to obtaining a username/password for data entry privileges.

The web site Home page has a training schedule listed under Help. Reports will not require a username/password on the internet.



»» STEERING COMMITTEE:

A core group participating throughout the design and development
USDA Forest Service
Forest Health Protection
Urban and Community Forestry Program
Bartlett Tree Expert Co.
HortScience
University of California
Industry Support



»» WEB SITE ADDRESS:
<http://svinetfc2.fs.fed.us/natfdb/>