Description of Hawksworth Dwarf Mistletoe Severity Rating (DMR) system

Assessing the severity of dwarf mistletoe infection (Fig. 72) within individual trees is accomplished by:

Step 1) Dividing the live crown of the tree into thirds.

- Step 2) Rating each crown third separately according to the following scale:
 - 0 No visible infections.
 - 1 1/2 or fewer of the total number of branches in the third are infected.
 - 2 More than 1/2 of the total number of branches in the third are infected.

Step 3) Adding the ratings for each third to obtain a rating for the entire tree.

A tree with an infection on the bole but none on the branches is given a total tree rating of 1. Otherwise, bole infections are not considered in the rating system.

*Douglas-fir dwarf mistletoe should be rated in a slightly different manner: Because the plants are difficult to see (they are often the same length as the needles), severity should be assessed by determining the proportion of crown (rather than the number of infected branches) in each crown third that is in brooms. The numerical system described above is then applied.



Figure 72 — The 6-Class Hawksworth Dwarf Mistletoe Rating System.