

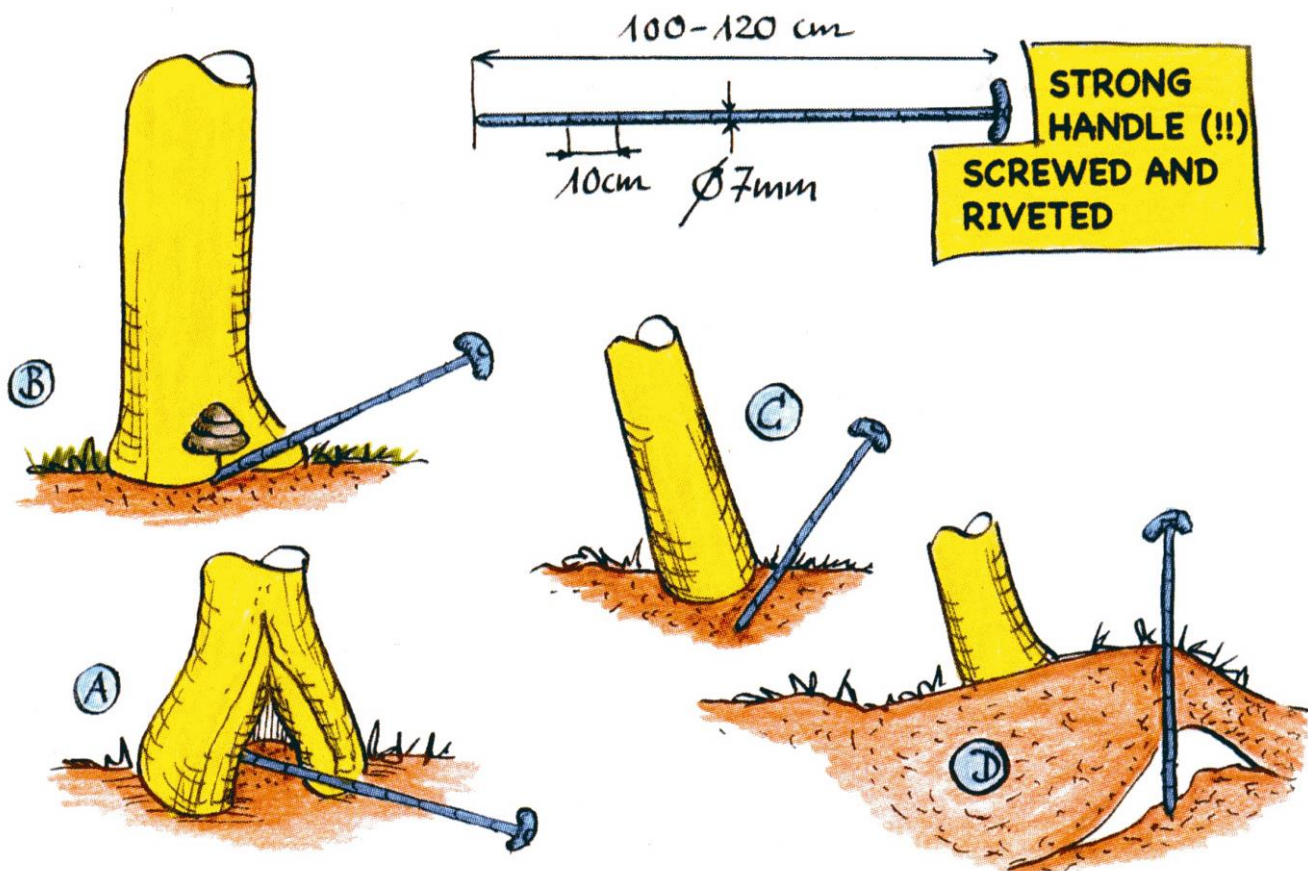
# The steel spike

(= IML-Probe Rod)

A stainless steel spike approx. 1 m long with a strong cross-handle, in order to pull it out again from tough white rots, is a simple and reliable implement. It can be pushed into open decays (A) in order to feel residual wood, or into the hole of the increment borer in order to save boring on the opposite side.

Therefore it should not be thicker than 7 mm in diameter. A series of markings at 10 cm by probing obliquely into the soil near the stem (B), and this is also sensible with leaning trees without a raised root-plate (C).

One can try to make an approximate measurement of hollows or voids (D) beneath raised root plates (low resistance to probing). A simple implement which provides good information, and which also often helps to convince lay persons.



Drawings by Claus Mattheck  
(From the book: 'Updated field guide for Visual Tree Assessment')

# IML-Probe Rod

Steel spike for tree examination (localization of decay)

Technical Data	
Diameter:	7 mm
Standard length:	600 mm (consisting of 2 components)
Length:	variable expandable to max. 1500 mm
Extension:	300 mm with thread screw connection
Scala:	markings at 100 mm
Material:	made of high-grade steel



Pic. shows **IML Probe Rod** with application

## IML Probe Rod

(Standard length: 600 mm)

Pic. shows **IML Probe Rod**  
(Standard length 600 mm)



Pic. shows **Thread screw connection**



## Extension

(Length: 300 mm)

Pic shows **Extension**  
(Length 300 mm)

