The Ghost of Christmas Yet to Come?

Trees In Danger
Some scientists believe a warming planet will make severe weather events more frequent and increase insect disease and outbreaks.
— Yamhill Valley News-Register

Wild Weather - An unusually wet spring, dry summer and wild winds ruined trees at Lollis Christmas Tree Farm near Rudy, Arkansas. “As far as the drought, this is the worst one we’ve ever had,” said Buddy Lollis, who has more than two decades of experience in the tree farming business.
— SNews Online, local news for Fort Smith-Fayetteville, AR

Mountain Pine Beetle - Some areas of Colorado prohibited families from cutting their own due to hazards created by the Mountain Pine Beetle infestation.
— Vail Daily

Drought & Wildfire - Thirst, overheating and wildfires — all amplified by a record-breaking drought in the Southwest — killed hundreds of thousands of Christmas trees. “We lost probably 90 percent of our trees,” said Jean Raiser, 79, who runs a 10-acre Christmas tree farm in Purcell, Okla, with her husband since 1985. “The other 10 percent are dying now.”
— Associated Press

Phytophthora Cinnamomi - A deadly plant pathogen threatens many popular Christmas tree species and can destroy entire ecosystems. “Cinnamomi continues to get worse. It shows up in new places and on new hosts...There’s evidence of cinnamomi becoming increasingly active in areas farther north than it has historically been present,” said Everett Hansen, an emeritus professor of botany and plant pathology at Oregon State University.
— Sierra Magazine