

Forest Health News

March 2022



An Roinn Talmhaíochta,
Bia agus Mara
Department of Agriculture,
Food and the Marine

Welcome to the first edition of 2022 Forest Health News. Here you will find the latest news and information relating to forest and tree health issues and developments internationally at European level and nationally in order to create awareness and provide stakeholders with the very latest information. Here we make use of international and national information and expertise including the Department's own Pest Risk Analysis team.

OUTBREAKS & RECENT DEVELOPMENTS

UK - *Ips typographus*

Outbreak of *Ips typographus* in Kent and East-Sussex, UK

Following the first finding of the eight-toothed spruce bark beetle (*Ips typographus*) in the wider environment in Kent in 2018, new breeding populations of have been discovered in Kent and East Sussex in 2021. Legislation has been put in place that restricts the movement of spruce trees in the area. See the following link: <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/forestry-commission-acts-on-bark-beetle-tree-pest>

The demarcated area around the confirmed outbreak sites restricting the movement and methods of forest operations can be seen here: [Ips typographus demarcated areas uk](#). Ireland has protected zone status for *Ips typographus*, where stricter import requirements apply. For more information see our [Pest Info. Note](#)



Ips typographus. Photo credit: Milan Zubrik, Forest Research Institute - Slovakia, Bugwood.org



Damage caused by *Ips typographus*. Photo credit: William M. Ciesla, Forest Health Management International, Bugwood.org



Example of *Phytophthora pluvialis* lesions on a tree stem. From Forestry Commission (2021-10-20) Guidance on *Phytophthora pluvialis*

UK - *Phytophthora pluvialis*

Confirmed findings of the tree pathogen *Phytophthora pluvialis* in UK

P. pluvialis has recently (September 2021) been found in the UK. This is the first finding of the pest in Europe. It was first found in Cornwall, affecting mature western hemlock and Douglas fir trees. Since then, it has (as of January 2022) been found in Devon, Cumbria, Gwynedd in Wales, and on one site in the north west of Scotland. See the following link: <https://gov.wales/first-case-tree-disease-phytophthora-pluvialis-discovered-wales>

More information including a symptom guide can be found here: <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/phytophthora-pluvialis>

P. pluvialis has not been found in Ireland. The Forestry Inspectorate (DAFM) is currently conducting surveys of Douglas fir and western hemlock plantations throughout Ireland for the presence of this harmful organism.

IT - *Xylella fastidiosa*

An outbreak of *Xylella fastidiosa* subsp. *pauca* was reported in Italy

Xylella fastidiosa, is a bacterial disease of a wide range of broadleaved trees and is regulated in the EU as quarantine organism. In Italy, it is causing the rapid decline of olive trees over a large area. *Xylella fastidiosa* is not present in Ireland, and measures are in place to prevent its introduction.

IE - *Phytophthora ramorum*

Information on recognising and reporting Japanese larch dieback can be found on our webpage: <https://www.gov.ie/en/publication/a8885-forest-health/#pests-and-diseases>

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PUBLICATIONS, REPORTS & EVENTS OF INTEREST

- A recent publication: [Living With The Impact Of Ash Dieback – Local Mitigation Practices against H. fraxineus on the Island of Ireland](#) funded by DAFM and DAERA, provides an update of current knowledge of ash dieback and mitigation techniques trialled in Europe in order to identify strategies that are feasible for disease management at a local level.
- The UK Met Office and Defra have recently developed a climate-pest risk web tool to estimate and map indicators of risk. This was utilised to forecast the possible emergence dates of oak processionary moth and European spruce bark beetle following outbreaks. See following link: https://www.metoffice.gov.uk/hadobs/pests_1km_v1/
- UK has further developed its suite of guidance and tools to help manage OPM. See link: <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/managing-oak-processionary-moth-in-england>

National Tree Week

March 20 – 26

“More forests for a
greener future”

<https://www.treecouncil.ie/>



International Day of Forests

March 21

Theme for 2022: “Forests and sustainable production and consumption” <https://www.fao.org/international-day-of-forests/en/>



21 March
International Day of Forests

TRADER INFORMATION

TRADER NOTICE No. 10 of 2021

Notification requirements for movement of certain plants for planting and plant products into Ireland from other Member States

Additional notification requirements have been introduced to enable the Department of Agriculture, Food and Marine to carry out required plant health controls on the certain species of plants for planting and plant products. In accordance with S.I. 310 of 2021, if any of these plants for planting or plant products are delivered to you from another Member State, you must notify the Minister in writing as soon as practicable and no later than **48 hours** after arrival into the State. Read the full Trader Notice, including a list of the plants for planting and plant products [HERE](#).

TRADER NOTICE FH-02 /2021

Authorisation to issue Plant Passports

To be compliant with Regulation (EU) 2019/827, DAFM has introduced a method of assessing the (forest health) competence of Registered Professional Operators to become Authorised Operators to issue Plant Passports. The new authorisation process includes an online assessment, and an on-site inspection. All registered professional (Forestry) Operators must become authorised as set-out above in order to issue Plant Passports.

The Technical Guidance document and link to the assessment are available here: <https://www.gov.ie/en/publication/a8885-forest-health/#trader-information>



Plant Passport – PZ

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Sample Plant Passport