



Information Note 14

Planting and restocking with larch species

In light of further confirmed cases of *Phytophthora ramorum* in Wales, including a case in private sector woodland in North Wales, Forestry Commission Wales (FCW) has decided that changes are needed to reduce the risk in future. The following applies to both new planting and restocking and to all larch species including Japanese, Hybrid & European larch.

Approved BWW schemes

We would strongly encourage contract holders to change species where larch species are scheduled for planting. In order to allow both forest managers and nurseries the opportunity to adjust FCW will continue to fund larch planting in approved contracts up to and including the 12/13 planting season. However, contract holders must bear the risk that if the crop fails due to *Phytophthora* FCW will reclaim grant. Beyond 12/13, FCW will no longer fund planting of larch in approved contracts.

If you wish to change larch to another species you need to email us at:

bww.ts@forestry.gsi.gov.uk

Please put in one email per BWW case as the Technical services officers will use this as the amendment information.

Put the BWW case reference and the word 'LARCH' in the email subject line.

The main text needs to include sub compartment number and what species you intend to restock with instead of larch.

Please note that the change of species should not effect the stocking rate or % component and needs to be in line with the relevant grant type e.g. if larch was to be planted at 2500/ha and makes up 10% of a sub-cpt. in a 'Simple Mixture' and you now wish to plant Douglas Fir, then DF would need to be planted at the same stocking and % of the sub cpt. If broadleaves were to replace larch in the above example they would need to be planted at 2500/ha.

You will still need to comply with the number of species required for the planting type approved within your contact i.e. for a simple mixture a minimum of 3 species is still required.

BWW schemes that are not yet approved and Glastir Woodland Creation schemes

With immediate effect, FCW will not approve or fund any larch planting in BWW plans or Glastir Woodland Creation schemes once these have been launched

