

DNB Strategy (GB)

Scottish Action Plan

Operational Plans

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DNB Programme Board (GB)



GB Biosecurity Programme Board



**Dothistroma needle blight:
GB Strategy**
(10 April 2012)

Purpose

To propose and coordinate the actions required to minimise the risks of DNB in GB

Key risks

The potential loss of a significant proportion of GB's forest resource

The potential loss of GB's iconic Caledonian pinewoods

An increase in dead trees leading to a build up of other diseases and pests

Objectives

1. Maintaining pine as a silvicultural option to protect the social, economic and environmental functions of pinewoods, and avoiding impacts of DNB on other conifer species
2. Conserve GB's iconic Caledonian pinewoods
3. Reduce collateral damage from other diseases and pests

1. Maintaining pine as a silvicultural option to protect the social, economic and environmental functions of pinewoods, and avoiding impacts of DNB on other conifer species.

- 1.1 Surveillance and monitoring
- 1.2 Prevent introductions of DNB/mating types/genotypes to forests
- 1.3 Manage pine where disease established and impacts unacceptable/progressing
- 1.4 Improve longer-term resilience
- 1.5 Avoid introductions to nurseries
- 1.6 Minimise impacts on Christmas tree farms
- 1.7 Prevent introductions to and spread from urban environments

2. Conserve GB's iconic Caledonian pinewoods

- 2.1 Surveillance and monitoring
- 2.2 Improve longer-term resilience
- 2.3 Prevent introduction of DNB/mating types/genotypes
- 2.4 Manage pine where disease established and impacts unacceptable or progressing

3. Reduce collateral damage from other diseases and pests

- 3.1 Avoid retaining extensive areas of dead and dying trees

Resources

- Increase in capacity and resources required to implement Strategy
- Significant, front-loaded increase in research investment required

DNB communications strategy

Measuring success

Short term (5 yr):	Demonstrable progress in Strategy implementation through Country Action Plans which include indicators for measuring success
Medium term (20 yrs):	Investor confidence in pine silviculture – as reflected in pine demand from nurseries and acceptance of natural regeneration of pine
Review period	Annual until further notice
Delivery	Through country Action Plans (to be developed with sector)

Strategic objective

Minimise economic impacts, prevent significant damage to native pinewoods, and support the long term sustainability of Scottish forestry.

Research

- epidemiology
- origin/provenance susceptibility
- alternative species
- surveillance techniques
- field-scale trials of treatments
- rapid diagnostics

Precautionary measures

- Destroy infected plants at nurseries
- Advice/support to nurseries
- Review moratoriums regularly
- Encourage private sector to take similar precautionary measures to FES
- Develop/implement appropriate biosecurity
- Consider need for financial support measures via CAP review

Detection & awareness

- Annual nursery inspections
- Use of aerial surveillance techniques
- Annual surveys on national forest estate (presence/absence; severity)
- Tree health events

Dealing with infected stands

- Reprioritise harvesting programmes on national forest estate to reduce inoculum
- > use of natural regeneration by FES
- Encourage private sector to take similar measures
- With Confor/UKFPA consider need for pine timber marketing sub group

The UK Forestry Standard (2011)

“Managers should be aware of the risks posed by pests and disease, be vigilant in checking the condition of their forests and take responsible measures to combat threats to tree health.”

UKWAS Second Edition

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|---------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 5.1.2 Requirement | Tree health and grazing impacts shall be monitored and results shall be incorporated into management planning together with guidance from national monitoring on plant health |
| 5.1.2 Verification | Owner/manager is aware of potential risks
Evidence of unhealthy trees noted and appropriate action taken |
| + Woods >100ha | Documented systems for assessing tree health
Notes or records of monitoring and response to problems |

UKWAS Third Edition

5.1.2 Requirement

Tree health shall be monitored and results shall be incorporated into management planning together with measures to prevent the introduction and onward spread of tree pests and diseases according to guidance arising from national monitoring of plant health

5.1.2 Verification

Owner/manager is aware of potential risks

Evidence of unhealthy trees, tree pests and disease is noted and appropriate action taken

Compliance with statutory Plant Health Notices

+ Non-Slim

Documented systems for assessing tree health
Notes of records of monitoring and responses to problems



