



**THE PLANT HEALTH (FORESTRY) ORDER 2005**

**NOTICE UNDER ARTICLE 31(4) OF THE PLANT HEALTH (FORESTRY)  
ORDER 2005**

**Felling of plants infected or suspected to be infected with:**

***Phytophthora ramorum***

**Section 1 – Declaration**

Under the powers conferred by article 30 of the Plant Health (Forestry) Order 2005 (“the Order”), the location described in section 3 of this Notice has been inspected and found to be infected with *Phytophthora ramorum*.

*Phytophthora ramorum* is a tree pest, referred to in article 31(5)(b) of the Order, which is not normally present in Great Britain and in respect of which there is danger of its spreading or being spread in Great Britain.

Under the powers conferred by article 31(4) of the Order the measures set out in Section 4 of this Notice are required to be taken by you, being the person named in Section 2 of this Notice as the occupier or other person in charge of the premises on which *Phytophthora ramorum* is known or suspected to be present.

Under the powers conferred by article 35 of the Order you are required to inform your local Forestry Commission Inspector not later than **Compliance date** whether the measures required in Section 4 have been complied with and the details of the steps taken in order to comply with them.

If you want advice on how to comply with this Notice, if you know or believe that any of the information given in sections 2 and 3 is wrong, or if you have any questions about plant health controls generally, you should contact your local Forestry Commission Inspector in the first instance. Alternatively, you may call the Plant Health Service on 0131 314 6414.

**Signed:** ..... **Name:** .....

(An inspector authorised by the Forestry Commissioners to be an inspector for the purposes of the Plant Health (Forestry) Order 2005)

**Date:** .....

**Your FC contact:** FC inspecting officer

**Address:** Forestry Commission, Address of FC contact

**Telephone:** Contact's office phone

**E-mail:** Contact e-mail

**Section 2 – Occupier or other person in charge of the premises on which *Phytophthora ramorum* is known or suspected to be present**

**Name:** Land owner name

**Address:** Land owner's full address

**Telephone:** Land owner's phone number

**Section 3 – Location and nature of the material on which *Phytophthora ramorum* is known or suspected to be present**

Location of infected material:

Area within the red boundary marked on the map shown in Annex 1 of this Notice.

Target Site Number and Property name

**Nature of infection:**

The presence of *Phytophthora ramorum* is suspected on the following species:

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**Section 4 - Measures to be taken**

The infection described in section 3 must be destroyed using the agreed specification below by **Compliance Date**. Work must commence by **Commencement Date**.

Specification:

1) No plants, or parts thereof, of any susceptible genera and species shall be removed from the premises specified in Section 3 without the written authority of an Inspector. A licence to move the unprocessed roundwood derived from trees felled in the treatment area (see map at Annex 1) can be obtained from the Forestry Commission (Telephone: 0131-314-6182 or e-mail: [plant.health@forestry.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:plant.health@forestry.gsi.gov.uk)). You will need a licence from the Forestry Commission if you plan to process such roundwood within the Notice area.

2) The relevant text from the options below will be selected and any site specific detail added:

**a) Larch infection – tree felling:**

All larch (*Larix* species) present within the red hatched "treatment area", as defined on the map in Annex 1, are to be felled and the branches removed from the stems as required. Felling and clearance is to commence without undue delay from the date of this notice. Branches and other residue are to be retained on the premises or burned in situ. Any regeneration of larch developing during the Notice period should be cut or killed with herbicide.

**b) Larch infection – chemical treatment:**

All live larch (*Larix* species) present within the red hatched "treatment area" are to be killed by herbicide treatment. The treatment specification for required for each tree is to:

i) Make a notch using a small axe or billhook that penetrates into the phloem layer of the tree, in at least three places on the stem of the tree and equidistant to each other around the circumference of the tree and at about 1.2 metres above ground level.

ii) Apply undiluted Roundup pro-biactive into each notch at a rate of 2ml per 10cms of stem diameter at 1.2 metres above ground level. For example, a tree with a diameter of 20-30cms would receive a dose of 6ml into each notch. For trees greater than 30cms in diameter 4 notches are required.

*(Suggest we need a section on felling or mulching Rhododendron with subsequent herbicide application on any Rhododendron growth)*

**c) Rhododendron – mechanical treatment**

All rhododendron present within the red hatched "treatment area", as defined on the map in Annex 1, will be motor manually felled or mulched by machine. Further chemical treatment (Round Up Pro Biactive (360g/litre glyphosate) at a product rate of 10 litres per Hectare) should be applied to any regrowth that appears from a previously cut or treated stump. Follow-up applications should continue throughout the period this Notice remains in force.

**d) Rhododendron – chemical treatment**

All rhododendron present within the red hatched "treatment area", as defined on the map in Annex 1, will be chemically treated (glyphosate at 360g/litre plus recommended adjuvant if required) as appropriate for the site conditions to ensure there is no living material by **Compliance Date**. Further chemical treatment (Round Up Pro Biactive (360g/litre glyphosate) at a product rate of 10 litres per Hectare) should be applied to any regrowth that appears from a previously cut or treated stump. Follow-up applications should continue throughout the period this Notice remains in force.

**e) Sweet chestnut with crown infection – tree felling:**

All sweet chestnut (*Castanea sativa*) present within the red hatched "treatment area", as defined on the map in Annex 1, are to be felled and the branches removed from the stems. Felling and clearance is to commence without undue delay from the date of this Notice. Branches and other residue are to be retained on the premises or burned in situ.

**f) Sweet chestnut with crown infection – chemical treatment:**

All live sweet chestnut (*Castanea sativa*) present within the red hatched "treatment area", as defined on the map in Annex 1, are to be killed by herbicide treatment. The treatment specification for required for each tree is to:

i) Make a notch using a small axe or billhook that penetrates into the phloem layer of the tree, in at least three places on the stem of the tree and equidistant to each other around the circumference of the tree and at about 1.2 metres above ground level.

ii) Apply undiluted Roundup pro-biactive into each notch at a rate of 2ml per 10cms of stem diameter at 1.2 metres above ground level. For example, a tree with a diameter of 20-30cms would receive a dose of 6ml into each notch. For trees greater than 30cms in diameter 4 notches are required.

**g) Sweet chestnut with epicormic infection only:**

The epicormic shoots of all Sweet chestnut (*Castanea sativa*) trees present within the red hatched "treatment area", as defined on the map in Annex 1, will be removed from the trees and will be either retained on the site or burned in situ. This work will start without undue delay from the date of this notice.

h) Any other site specific details will be added as requested by the Woodland Officer.

3) All work undertaken to achieve the requirements of this Notice should comply with industry best practice as detailed in the AFAG/HSE guides and meet all current environmental

legislation relevant to the premises in section 3. Where burning is to take place the current regulations and exemptions associated with these operations must be observed.

4) The bio-security protocols in Annex 2 must be followed at all times.

5) This Notice shall remain in force until **Expiry Date** unless amended or revoked by an Inspector.

Statutory Plant Heath Reference Number:	##/#####/##
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Please quote this reference in any communications with us.
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**Annex 1 - Map showing location of Infected Material described in section 3 of this Notice.**

Map appears here. Must have SPHN boundary and red hatched treatment area

## Annex 2 - Biosecurity guidance applicable to this Notice

### Precautions against spreading *Phytophthora* diseases

*Phytophthora ramorum* and *Phytophthora kernoviae* are fungus-like organisms that cause diseases that can affect many kinds of trees and shrubs. They are difficult to control once an outbreak occurs. Mild winters and wet summers increase the risk of these diseases spreading.

In this current *Phytophthora* outbreak on larch trees, the main ways in which the spores of the disease can be spread are...

- Rain splashing on infected needles and leaves;
- Wind, wind borne mists and water courses;
- Movement of infected plants;
- Movement of contaminated soil, leaves or needles from infected trees and shrubs stuck to footwear, clothing, timber, vehicles and equipment

We can't do much about the weather but we must do all we can to reduce the risk of carrying the spores around with us within and between woodlands. **Tree needles and soil are the main risks, especially if they are wet.**

This guide sets out a number of **simple precautions that must be taken** on any known *Phytophthora* control site (either confirmed or suspected). The aim of these precautions is to prevent the transfer of needles and soil on people, vehicles and bark.

#### Footwear

**The main precaution is for everyone to ensure that footwear is first cleaned of all soil, needles and plant debris and then disinfected before entering or leaving a control site.** The use of wellington boots will assist with this.

#### Before entering a *Phytophthora* control site...

- Footwear must be clean and free from soil and plant debris. The footwear should be sprayed with Propellar™ and left until it has evaporated.

#### Before leaving a *Phytophthora* control site...

- Footwear must be washed off on a hard standing near the entrance to the wood using a stiff brush and water. It is essential that all traces of soil be removed.
- The brush for this must be kept on site in a bucket of disinfectant.
- After cleaning, footwear must be sprayed with Propellar™ and left until it has evaporated.
- Care must be taken to ensure that any water run-off does not enter watercourses.

**Broad-spectrum farm disinfectants are not effective against *Phytophthora*.**

## **Clothing**

**Needles and leaves can get stuck in and on clothing.**

### **Before leaving a Phytophthora control site...**

- Needles and debris on clothing must be shaken out or brushed off before leaving the site or getting into a vehicle.
- Check inside footwear, hoods, outer pockets and collars. Remember to check any protective equipment such as helmets, ear-defenders, felling gloves and protective over-trousers.
- Wet clothing **MUST** be changed before moving between sites. Wet clothing must be bagged and laundered before re-use, or washed down and disinfected. The use of waterproof outer clothing and leggings will help with this precaution.

## **Tools**

**Hand tools and motorised tools used on infected sites for cutting and digging may become contaminated, especially if wet.**

- If any work (e.g. pruning) is to be carried out on an uninfected tree or shrub on a Phytophthora control site, tools must be disinfected or 'flamed' before being used

### **Before leaving a Phytophthora control site...**

- Chainsaw bars, chains and side covers must be removed and cleaned as thoroughly as possible to remove debris. Where it is appropriate and safe to do so, Propellar™ disinfectant may be applied and left to evaporate.
- Other hand tools and equipment such as tapes, cant hooks, wedges, fuel cans, tools and toolboxes must be cleaned off and surfaces brushed with disinfectant before being moved to another site.

**Do not give the disease a lift to another site**

## **Vehicles, machinery and equipment**

**Special care should be taken to ensure that vehicles are as free of soil and needles as practicable before leaving any Phytophthora control site.**

### **Before entering a Phytophthora control site...**

- Consider whether the vehicle needs to enter the site at all. If you can, park off site and walk in.
- Share vehicles wherever possible to reduce the number of vehicles that need to enter the site.
- When on site, road vehicles should stay on stone roads wherever possible and be parked in areas that are as free of larch needle and debris as possible.

## Before leaving a Phytophthora control site...

- Machines, plant and vehicles must be cleaned on a hard standing near the entrance to the wood using a pressure washer, preferably one that uses hot water or steam.
- This cleaning should focus on removing as much mud and needle debris as possible focusing on tyres, wheels, mud flaps, sills, wheel arches, guarded areas and anywhere else where mud and needle debris may have accumulated.
- Cab floors and pedals should also be checked and cleaned.
- After cleaning, tyres must be disinfected with Propellar™ or other approved disinfectant.\*
- Care must be taken to ensure that any water run-off does not enter watercourses.

**Disinfectants are NOT effective on soiled surfaces**

## Stacking considerations

**Picking up needles, leaves and other debris when handling and bringing wood from control sites to roadside is a major issue in these control procedures.**

## When working with timber on a Phytophthora controlled site...

- Minimise the accidental pick up of brash, leaves or other debris when moving timber in the wood and at roadside. Move the material as necessary to knock off needles and debris and to allow a clean pick up.
- Avoid placing timber back on the ground if possible especially in muddy conditions. Stack logs on bearers where it is safe and possible to do so.
- Stacked logs from control sites must not be placed in contact with live plants and foliage of other potentially susceptible trees and plants such as rhododendron, bilberry, larch, sweet chestnut and beech. Clear a stacking site first as necessary.
- Follow H&S guidance on stack height, stability and signage.
- Remove any debris from transfer and loading points as often as possible. Place this debris in a segregated area where road vehicles will not come into contact with it.
- Try to arrange loading sites to avoid forwarders travelling on the same route as road lorries as much as possible (e.g. forwarders only travel behind the stacks and not on the road itself).

**Keep stacking and loading sites organised and clean**