

### Summary of enquiries: April 2002- March 2003

120 enquiries were received during 2002/03. The majority related to private woodland (35) (including nurseries and Christmas tree plantations) or privately owned amenity trees (34). Enquiries also came from Forest Enterprise (13), Forestry Commission on behalf of private woodland (12) and publicly owned amenity trees (6) (see right).



### Biotic damage

Pathogenic fungi were identified as the cause of damage in 33 enquiries. These fungi included *Lophodermium seeditiosum*, causing needle cast of Scots pine, *Ramichloridium pini* causing shoot death of lodgepole pine, *Anisogramma virgultorum* and *Marssonina betulae* on birch, several cherry leaf diseases, and the rust fungus, *Coleosporium tussilaginis*, on Scots pine (see left) and Corsican pine.

### Abiotic damage

Abiotic causes were responsible for tree damage in 26 enquiries received during 2002/03. The most common abiotic damage factors were exposure/winter injury (see right) and herbicide misuse. Other types of abiotic damage diagnosed included waterlogging, excavation damage, airborne pollution (see top right), and damage by shotgun pellets !.



### Contact:

Sarah Green,  
Forest Research,  
Northern Research Station,  
Roslin, Midlothian,  
EH25 9SY.

Tel: 0131 445 2176  
Fax: 0131 445 5124  
E-mail: [sarah.green@forestry.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:sarah.green@forestry.gsi.gov.uk)

### Summary of enquiries: April 2002- March 2003

503 enquiries were received; 50% amenity trees, 20% forests/woodlands and 30% general information. Amenity tree enquiries were split between public (25%) and private (75%), with forest/woodland enquiries split between Forest Enterprise (37%) and private forestry (63%). One disease investigated was red band needle blight on Corsican pine (see right).



### Dieback of oak

Concerns about 'Sudden Oak Death' caused by *Phytophthora ramorum* led to 85 enquiries. In all cases, symptoms were caused by other pathogens (see left) such as *Armillaria*. Although *P. ramorum* has been found on ornamentals in over 150 nurseries, it has not been found infecting trees in the UK. An Exotic Pest Alert on *P. ramorum* is available from [carole.lishman@forestry.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:carole.lishman@forestry.gsi.gov.uk)

### Biotic and abiotic damage

Biotic damage from root killing *Phytophthoras* was common, with yew, Lawson cypress and lime affected. *Phytophthora cactorum* caused dieback and death of horse chestnut. A typical mottled lesion caused by *P. cactorum* on horse chestnut is shown (see right). Abiotic damage involving waterlogging, herbicide injury and poor cultural practice was also widespread.



**If you see any of these diseases in your area, we would be interested to know.**

#### Contact:

David Rose,  
Forest Research,  
Alice Holt Lodge,  
Farnham, Surrey, GU10 4LH.

Tel: 01420 22255  
Fax: 01420 23653  
E-mail: [david.rose@forestry.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:david.rose@forestry.gsi.gov.uk)