

Mini data sheet on *Phytophthora* disease of alder

Added in 1995 - Deleted in 2001

Reasons for deletion:

Phytophthora disease of alder initially appeared in the EPP0 Reporting Service in 1995 and then in the first version of the Alert List in 1999. In 2000, the EPP0 Panel on Phytosanitary Measures decided to remove it from the EPP0 Alert List because it was considered that this pathogen of alder was essentially causing problems for the environment and could not really be handled by plant quarantine. However, Dr Gibbs from the Forestry Commission of UK stressed that despite a fair amount of searching in several European countries, the pathogen was still not widespread in Europe and that alder was a common and important tree. There was also some evidence that this pathogen was a new species (related to *P. cambivora* but distinct from it) which could be disseminated via movements of nursery plants. It was accordingly decided to include again *P. cambivora* in the EPP0 Alert List. In 2001, the Panel reinstated the fact that no efficient phytosanitary measures could be implemented and the disease was deleted again from the EPP0 Alert List.

Phytophthora disease of alder (a new root disease of alder)

Why	This came to our attention because a new root disease of alder causing tree mortality was first reported in UK in 1993.
Where	UK, and then in the Netherlands. According to the UK Forestry Commission, the fungus has also been found in Austria, Denmark, France, Germany, Sweden (UK Forestry Commission Web site). Found in 1999 in Hungary (Nagy <i>et al.</i> , 2000).
On which plants	Common alder (<i>Alnus glutinosa</i>).
Damage	Dead roots, leaf fall, dieback, presence of tarry or rusty spots on the stem base of trees. Tree mortality has been observed. In 1994, it was reported that more than 20,000 alders were affected in southern Britain (UK).
Possible identity	An unusual form of <i>Phytophthora cambivora</i> .
Pathway	Alder plants for planting and wood(?) from infested countries.
Possible risks	Alders are important trees in the landscape. Tree mortality is reported. Further work is needed on the identity of the pathogen and possible means of control.
Source(s)	Annual Report 1996, Diagnostic Centre, Plant Protection Service, Wageningen, Netherlands, 114 pp. Brasier, C.M.; Rose, J.; Gibbs, J.N. (1995) An unusual <i>Phytophthora</i> associated with widespread alder mortality in Britain. <i>Plant Pathology</i> , 44(6), 999-1007. Gibbs, J. (1994) <i>Phytophthora</i> root disease of common alder. Research information Note 258. Forestry Authority, Forestry Commission, Wrecclesham, Farnham, Surrey, GB, 4p. Gibbs, J.N.; Lipscombe, M.A.; Peace, A.J. (1999) The impact of <i>Phytophthora</i> disease on riparian populations of common alder (<i>Alnus glutinosa</i>) in Southern Britain. <i>European Journal of Forestry</i> , 29(1), 1-88. Nagy, Z.A.; Szabo, I.; Bakonyi, J.; Varga, F.; Ersek, T. (2000) A <i>Phytophthora</i> disease of alder trees in Hungary. <i>Növényvédelem</i> , 36(1), 573-579. Streito, J.-C.; de Villartay, G.; Tabary, F. (1999) Une nouvelle espèce de <i>Phytophthora</i> s'attaque à l'aulne. Phytoma - La Défense des Végétaux, no. 519, 38-41. Web site of the UK Forestry Commission http://www.forestry.gov.uk/website/oldsite.nsf/byunique/HCOU-4U4JC6 Web site of the Laboratoire National de la Protection des Végétaux, Nancy (FR) Le <i>Phytophthora</i> de l'aulne. http://pro.wanadoo.fr/lnpv/ Personal communication with Dr J.N. Gibbs, Forestry Commission, UK, 2000-03.
EPP0 RS 95/010, 96/041, 98/023, 99/084, 99/156, 2000/082, 2001/108	
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