

# Honey fungus plant list

RHS Advisory Service

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Sharing the best in Gardening

## Genera of trees, shrubs and other woody plants showing susceptibility or some degree of resistance to honey fungus

We have compiled a list of honey fungus records from the RHS Gardening Advice database, giving the number of cases recorded since 1996 (in **bold** alongside each plant genus). While the numbers are determined in part by how common each plant is in British gardens, it does provide useful information on their susceptibility or possible resistance to honey fungus.

### How to use this list as a planting guide:

The list is divided into three categories. Plants in the first category (most frequently attacked) are best avoided where honey fungus is known to be present in the area. Plants in the second category (occasional records) are also at risk where honey fungus is present. The third category (common plants with few or no honey fungus records) can be used as planting suggestions as they are likely to have a degree of resistance to honey fungus.

### The most frequently attacked plants:

In British gardens, the plants on which the RHS have isolated honey fungus most frequently are listed below. These plants are clearly susceptible to honey fungus and should be avoided, where possible, in situations where honey fungus is known to be present:

\*\* top hosts

<i>Acer</i> (151)	<i>Daphne</i> (25)	<i>Laburnum</i> (35)	<i>Robinia</i> (26)
<i>Aesculus</i> (49)	<i>Elaeagnus</i> (21)	<i>Ligustrum</i> (379)**	<i>Rosa</i> (335)**
<i>Betula</i> (114)	<i>Escallonia</i> (25)	<i>Liquidambar</i> (21)	<i>Rubus</i> (25)
<i>Buddleja</i> (41)	<i>Eucalyptus</i> (25)	<i>Magnolia</i> (58)	<i>Salix</i> (163)
<i>Camellia</i> (32)	<i>Euonymus</i> (34)	<i>Malus</i> (209)	<i>Sorbus</i> (151)
<i>Ceanothus</i> (58)	<i>Fagus</i> (47)	<i>Paeonia</i> (28)	<i>Syringa</i> (113)
<i>Cedrus</i> (64)	<i>Fatsia</i> (22)	<i>Photinia</i> (70)	<i>Thuja</i> (28)
<i>Chamaecyparis</i> (30)	<i>Forsythia</i> (29)	<i>Prunus</i> (360)**	<i>Viburnum</i> (325)**
<i>Choisya</i> (40)	<i>Fraxinus</i> (26)	<i>Pyracantha</i> (38)	<i>Weigela</i> (27)
<i>Cornus</i> (36)	<i>Hamamelis</i> (28)	<i>Pyrus</i> (70)	<i>Wisteria</i> (36)
<i>Cotoneaster</i> (85)	<i>Hydrangea</i> (50)	<i>Quercus</i> (52)	<i>x Cuprocyparis</i> (124)
<i>Crataegus</i> (24)	<i>Ilex</i> (50)	<i>Rhododendron</i> (269)**	
<i>Cupressus</i> (29)	<i>Juglans</i> (47)	<i>Ribes</i> (48)	

### Occasionally the following plants may also be damaged:

These are plants where we have occasional records. While they can be infected with honey fungus, we are not in a position to make clear conclusions on their degree of susceptibility to the disease. Their frequency in British gardens, as well as their relative resistance or susceptibility, will affect the number of records. However, it may also be worth avoiding these where honey fungus is known to be present.

<i>Abies</i> (14)	<i>Berberis</i> (14)	<i>Cistus</i> (17)	<i>Euphorbia</i> (8)
<i>Acacia</i> (11)	<i>Bergenia</i> (6)	<i>Clematis</i> (8)	<i>Hebe</i> (15)
<i>Amelanchier</i> (20)	<i>Carpinus</i> (8)	<i>Corylus</i> (7)	<i>Hedera</i> (10)
<i>Araucaria</i> (7)	<i>Castanea</i> (6)	<i>Cotinus</i> (9)	<i>Hibiscus</i> (11)
<i>Arbutus</i> (9)	<i>Cercidiphyllum</i> (13)	<i>Cytisus</i> (8)	<i>Jasminum</i> (10)
<i>Aucuba</i> (16)	<i>Cercis</i> (19)	<i>Eucryphia</i> (8)	<i>Juniperus</i> (11)

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### Plants occasionally damaged (continued)

<i>Laurus</i> (7)	<i>Metasequoia</i> (9)	<i>Populus</i> (6)	<i>Taxus</i> (16)
<i>Lavandula</i> (18)	<i>Osmanthus</i> (7)	<i>Rhus</i> (7)	<i>Tilia</i> (9)
<i>Liriodendron</i> (11)	<i>Parthenocissus</i> (20)	<i>Rosmarinus</i> (7)	<i>Trachelospermum</i> (9)
<i>Lonicera</i> (17)	<i>Picea</i> (6)	<i>Sambucus</i> (8)	<i>Ulmus</i> (7)
<i>Mahonia</i> (17)	<i>Pieris</i> (11)	<i>Skimmia</i> (19)	<i>Vitis</i> (14)
<i>Mespilus</i> (7)	<i>Pinus</i> (18)	<i>Spiraea</i> (6)	

**Note:** Not all the hosts on which honey fungus has been recorded are listed here. Sometimes the records are too incomplete or inconsistent for us to draw any conclusions.

### Plants rarely recorded as being affected by honey fungus

This list includes plants commonly grown in British gardens where we have few, or no, honey fungus records. These plants are, therefore, likely to have some degree of resistance to honey fungus. On this basis, we recommend them in situations where honey fungus has been found.

#### TREES

*Alnus* (5)  
*Azara* (1)  
*Buxus* (3)  
*Calocedrus* (2)  
*Caragana* (0)  
*Carya* (1)  
*Catalpa* (0)  
*Celtis* (1)  
*Cordylina* (1)  
*Cryptomeria* (2)  
*Cydonia* (2)  
*Davidia* (5)  
*Eriobotrya* (3)  
*Exochorda* (2)  
*Ficus* (3)  
*Frangula* (0)  
*Genista* (0)  
*Ginkgo* (2)  
*Gleditsia* (5)  
*Hoheria* (2)  
*Koelreuteria* (4)  
*Lagerstroemia* (0)  
*Larix* (2)  
*Morus* (1)  
*Nothofagus* (3)  
*Nyssa* (2)  
*Olea* (2)  
*Parrotia* (3)  
*Paulownia* (4)  
*Platanus* (3)  
*Pseudotsuga* (2)  
*Ptelea* (0)  
*Pterocarya* (1)  
*Rhamnus* (0)

*Sciadopitys* (0)  
*Stewartia* (0)  
*Styrax* (0)  
*Taxodium* (3)  
*Wollemia* (2)  
*Zelkova* (0)

#### SHRUBS

*Abelia* (3)  
*Abeliophyllum* (0)  
*Abutilon* (1)  
*Akebia* (2)  
*Androm* (0)  
*Aralia* (2)  
*Arctostaphylos* (0)  
*Argrocytismus* (0)  
*Aronia* (1)  
*Artemisia* (2)  
*Azara* (1)  
*Bambusa* (1)  
*Brachyglottis* (3)  
*Bupleurum* (0)  
*Buxus* (3)  
*Callicarpa* (0)  
*Callistemon* (2)  
*Calluna* (1)  
*Caryopteris* (3)  
*Ceratostigma* (1)  
*Chaenomeles* (4)  
*Chamaecytisus* (0)  
*Clerodendrum* (2)  
*Convolvulus* (1)  
*Corokia* (0)  
*Coronilla* (0)  
*Corylopsis* (4)

*Daboecia* (0)  
*Danae* (0)  
*Daphniphyllum* (2)  
*Desfontainia* (0)  
*Deutzia* (5)  
*Eleutherococcus* (2)  
*Embothrium* (1)  
*Enkianthus* (2)  
*Erica* (0)  
*Exochorda* (1)  
*Fothergilla* (2)  
*Fremontodendron* (5)  
*Fuchsia* (2)  
*Garrya* (4)  
*Gaultheria* (1)  
*Genista* (0)  
*Grevillea* (1)  
*Griselinia* (2)  
*Halesia* (1)  
*Halimocistus* (0)  
*Halimium* (0)  
*Helianthemum* (0)  
*Helichrysum* (0)  
*Hoheria* (1)  
*Hypericum* (2)  
*Indigofera* (0)  
*Itea* (0)  
*Kalmia* (3)  
*Kerria* (0)  
*Koelreuteria* (4)  
*Kolkwitzia* (3)  
*Lavatera* (4)  
*Leptospermum* (0)  
*Leucothoe* (0)  
*Leycesteria* (2)

*Lithodora* (0)  
*Luma* (0)  
*Melianthus* (1)  
*Menziesia* (1)  
*Myrtus* (1)  
*Nandina* (1)  
*Nerium* (1)  
*Olea* (2)  
*Olearia* (2)  
*Pachysandra* (0)  
*Parahebe* (0)  
*Penstemon* (2)  
*Perovskia* (2)  
*Persicaria* (1)  
*Philadelphus* (5)  
*Phillyrea* (1)  
*Phlomis* (0)  
*Phormium* (0)  
*Phygellus* (1)  
*Physocarpus* (5)  
*Pittosporum* (4)  
*Poncirus* (0)  
*Potentilla* (4)  
*Praecox* (0)  
*Prostanthera* (1)  
*Protea* (1)  
*Punica* (1)  
*Rhamnus* (0)  
*Rhaphiolepis* (1)  
*Ricinus* (1)  
*Ruscus* (0)  
*Ruta* (0)  
*Salvia* (1)  
*Santolina* (0)  
*Sarcococca* (0)

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**SHRUBS (continued)**

*Senecio* (2)  
*Solanum* (3)  
*Spartium* (1)  
*Spiraea* (5)  
*Stachyurus* (4)  
*Symphoricarpos* (0)  
*Sarcococca* (0)  
*Tamarix* (1)  
*Ulex* (1)  
*Vaccinium* (0)  
*Vitex* (1)

**HEDGING**

*Alnus* (5)  
*Brachyglottis* (3)  
*Buxus* (3)  
*Chaenomeles* (4)  
*Corokia* (0)  
*Fuchsia* (2)  
*Genista* (0)  
*Griselinia* (2)  
*Hippophae* (0)  
*Hypericum* (3)  
*Hyssopus* (0)  
*Olearia* (2)  
*Pittosporum* (4)  
*Potentilla* (4)  
*Santolina* (0)  
*Symphoricarpos* (0)  
*Tamarix* (1)

**CLIMBERS**

*Actinidia* (1)  
*Akebia* (2)  
*Aristolochia*  
*Campsis* (2)  
*Fallopia* (1)  
*Passiflora* (2)