

Partner Gardens Forum 2022

Chris Moncrieff

Head of Horticultural Relations



RHS



Lucy Carson-Taylor
Derek McCann

Animal and Plant Health Agency

Animal & Plant Health Agency

Keeping our Gardens Safe – Biosecurity in the UK today

RHS Partner Garden Forum

April 2022

Biosecurity - threats to plants and trees

Highlight how plant pest and disease threats are increasing

The work being done to protect the country from such threats

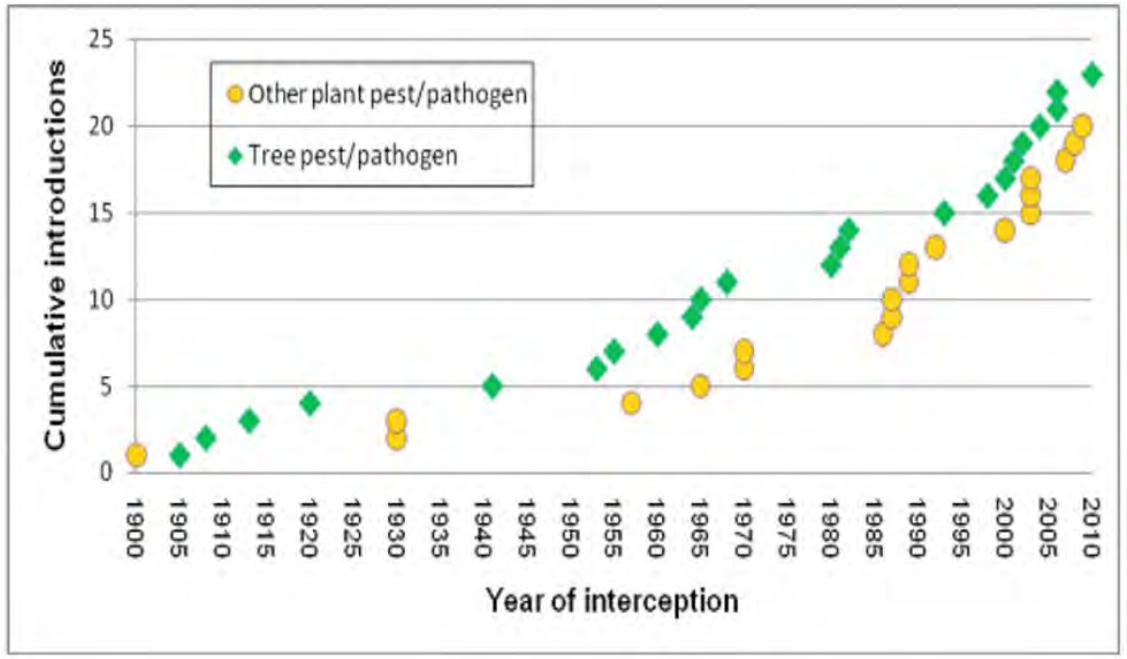
Example quarantine pest & diseases

Public engagement

Increasing threat

Today trees and plants are suffering from unprecedented attacks from pests and diseases:

- Pathways - Increased globalisation of plant trade, equipment & natural spread
- 'Love of the New' - tourism, gardening television programmes, press articles, internet etc
- Demand for instant landscapes
- Climate change



- Increasing threat – over 1,200 plant pest and disease on UK risk register
- Approx 200 QP&D in legislation
- 800 interceptions / 100 plant health outbreaks per year. 1 – 2 major tree health outbreaks per year.

What does Government do?

Plant Health Service in England is:

- Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (Defra)
- Animal & Plant Health Agency (APHA) - primarily the Plant Health & Seeds Inspectorate (PHSI)
- Food and Environment Research Agency (Fera)
- Forestry Commission (FC) including Forest Research (FR)



Plant Health & Seeds Inspectorate (PHSI)

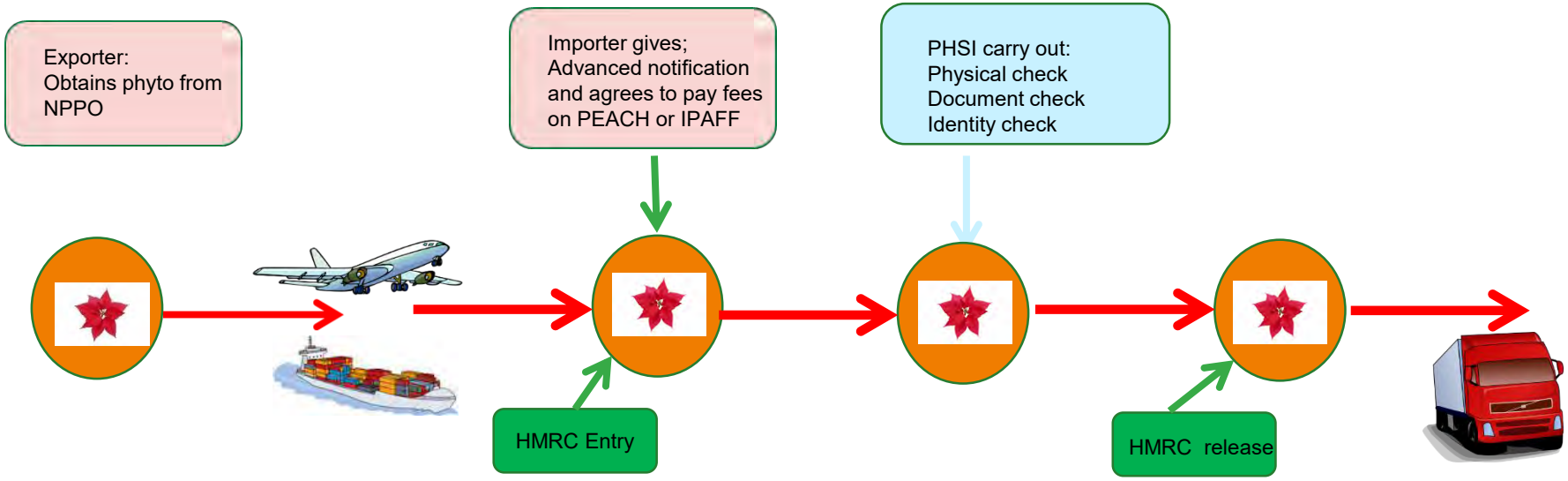
We anticipate PHSI total workforce to be at c. 720 when recruitment is complete to cover work at the border and inland

Since July 2020 we have recruited and onboarded 176 frontline inspectors including 40 apprentices

Further recruitment is already well underway in 2022 for a further 52 inland inspectors

Specific recruitment for Border Control Post inspectors ongoing

Imports



Place of Production | Transport | GB Border | Border control Post (BCP) or Place of Destination (until July 22) | Circulation

Plant passporting

(Please refer to Plant Passporting - UK Plant Health Information Portal (defra.gov.uk) for detailed factsheet)

The new format of UK Plant Passports compared to the format of existing EU Plant Passports

New UK format to be used from 1 January 2021

PFA format

UK Plant Passport – PFA
[EPPO code/ scientific name]

A	[Botanical Name]
B	[Registration Number]
C	[Traceability Code]
D	[Country of Origin]
E	[GB(NI) if applicable]

Current EU format to be used before 1 January 2021

PZ format

Plant Passport - PZ
[EPPO code/ scientific name]

A	[Botanical Name]
B	[Registration Number]
C	[Traceability Code]
D	[Country of Origin]

Exports



Goods allowed into the EU from GB must be pre-notified and accompanied by a phytosanitary certificate (PC), these are commonly referred to as plant health certificates

Only official of the exporting country can issue a PC. The UK is a signatory to the International Plant Protection Convention (IPPC), which sets internationally agreed standards

There are details on gov.uk - Export plants and plant products from Great Britain and Northern Ireland - GOV.UK (www.gov.uk)

Inland surveillance

To ensure that plant movement regimes are being operated effectively

To ensure that known quarantine pests and diseases are not spread

To ensure that we have early warning of any new threat from a previously unknown pest, disease or trade

Country freedom evidence to defend import regulations and support export

New programme of quarantine surveillance covering Annual (20+ QP&D) and Multi-annual (180+ QP&D)

Gardens

Sourcing plants – suppliers, origin and plant type

Quarantine – on arrival and holding period

Management – Plant culture, Infrastructure, Hygiene, Water, Waste and Training/monitoring



The Plant Health (Amendment etc.) (EU Exit) Regulations 2020

11 tree threats

2 tree & ornamental threats

1 ornamental threat

8 food security threats

34 published contingency plans

[Contingency planning - UK Plant Health Information Portal (defra.gov.uk)]

SCHEDULE 1
New Annex to Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) 2019/1702

Regulation 48(4)

"Annex
List of priority pests

Agrilus anxius Gory

Agrilus planipennis Fairmaire

Anoplophora chinensis (Forster)

Anoplophora glabripennis (Motschulksy)

Aromia bungii (Faldermann)

Bactericera cockerelli (Sulc.)

Ceratocystis platani (J.M. Walter) Engelbr. & T.C. Harr

Clavibacter sepedonicus (Spieckermann & Kotthoff) Li *et al.*

Epitrix cucumeris (Harris)

Epitrix papa (Orlova-Bienkowskaja)

Epitrix subcrinita (Leconte)

Epitrix tuberis Gentner

Fusarium circinatum Nirenberg & O'Donnell

Ips amitinus (Eichhoff)

Ips duplicatus (Sahlberg)

Ips typographus (L.)

Leptinotarsa decemlineata Say

Rose Rosette virus and *Phyllocoptes fructiphilus* Keifer

Thaumetopoea pityocampa Denis & Schiffermüller

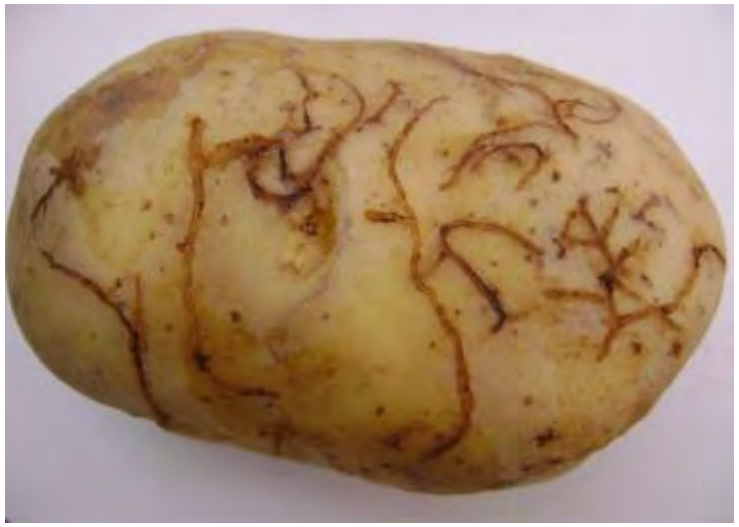
Thaumetopoea processionea L.

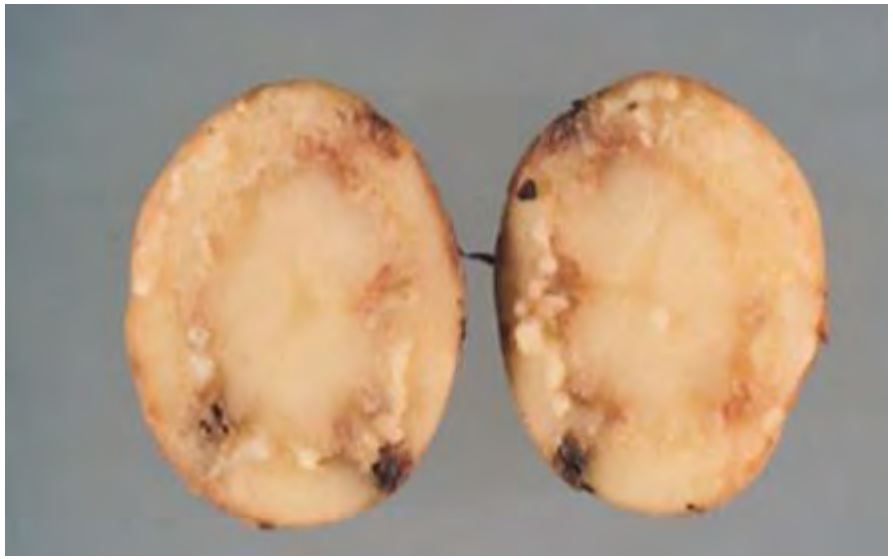
Thrips palmi Karny

Xylella fastidiosa (Wells *et al*) (all strains and subspecies)."










2 cm



Xylella fastidiosa

Key risks	
What is the threat?	*Xylella fastidiosa* is a highly damaging bacterial pathogen native to the Americas and introduced to Europe (Italy, France, Spain and Germany).
How would it get here?	Most likely to arrive on planting material.
How does it affect UK plants?	*Xylella* has a vast host range including lucerne, vines, lavender and trees like ash, elm and plane. Bacteria block the xylem (water carrying) vessels leading to dieback, leaf scorch and in some cases mortality.
Other impacts	Massive economic and social impacts due to the removal of ancient olive trees in Italy and the impacts on trade e.g. nurseries under movement restrictions for 5 years.
How quickly does it spread?	It is spread by xylem feeding insects like the meadow spittlebug, and can move in trade of asymptomatic plants.
How controllable is it?	The only control option is destruction of infected plants. Vector populations can be controlled by spraying.
Current and proposed actions	Tougher import regulations. Under GB contingency plan all hosts within 100 metres would be destroyed and movement of host plants controlled for 2.5 km.



Leaf scorch of *Platanus occidentalis* (American sycamore) © Edward L. Barnard, Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services



Polygala myrtifolia infected by *X. fastidiosa* in Corsica. © Bruno Legendre, Anses Plant Health Laboratory, Angers

Asian longhorn beetle: *Anoplophora glabripennis*

Key risks	
What is the threat?	The beetle enters the UK and damages a wide range of native trees.
How would it get here?	Larvae moved from Asia in poorly treated wood packaging material.
How would it affect UK trees?	Larvae tunnel inside wood, causing structural weakness and providing entry points for diseases.
Other impacts	Eradication campaigns can lead to the removal of valuable ornamental trees.
How quickly does it spread?	A few hundred metres a year would be typical for a well established outbreak.
How controllable is it?	Larvae feed inside trees and control options are limited, usually involving the removal and chipping of the infested tree(s).
Current and proposed actions	Tree felling in Kent has eradicated the one UK outbreak.



Adult female Asian longhorn beetle from the side © Melody Keena, USDA Forest Service, Bugwood.org



Cross section through trunk showing larval boring holes © Joe Boggs, Ohio State University, Bugwood.org

Potential hidden risks within the root ball





Plant Health Public Engagement Strategic Direction

Plant Biosecurity Strategy	• Target publication date: May / June 2022 • Outcome 2: A society that values healthy plants (Raising awareness and behaviour change / Education & professional training / Citizen science) • Focus on shared actions and commitments
National Conversation research project	• New Zealand's 'biosecurity team of 4.8m' • How can we engage to build public support for plant health and change behaviours?
Plant Health Engagement Accord	• Shared insights from research • Heard from partners • Built towards a 'Public Engagement in Plant Health Accord'

Public Engagement in Plant Health Accord

Joint statement with signatories:

- Necessity
- Commitment to take action
- Long term vision for public engagement, awareness raising and behaviour change
- The need to work collaboratively
- Guiding principles (e.g. public have responsibility / agency, no single approach, evidence-led, inclusive approach)

Public Engagement action statements:

- Organisational statement of key issues
- What we have done
- What we plan to do
- Intended outcomes in next 5 yrs.

Plant Health Week 9th-15th May 2022

• Multiple organisations across NGO, academia and trade join up to celebrate National Plant Health Week.

•TV presenter and garden designer Adam Frost featured in two of our videos with Nicola Spence and shared these with his followers on Twitter, he will join us again.

•Aim to have some in person events this year but social media will remain the key method of communication.

•Timed to include the UN International Day of Plant Health - 12th May.

•A new Plant Science Day was introduced last year and we introduce Sustainability Day this year.





Chelsea Flower Show 2022



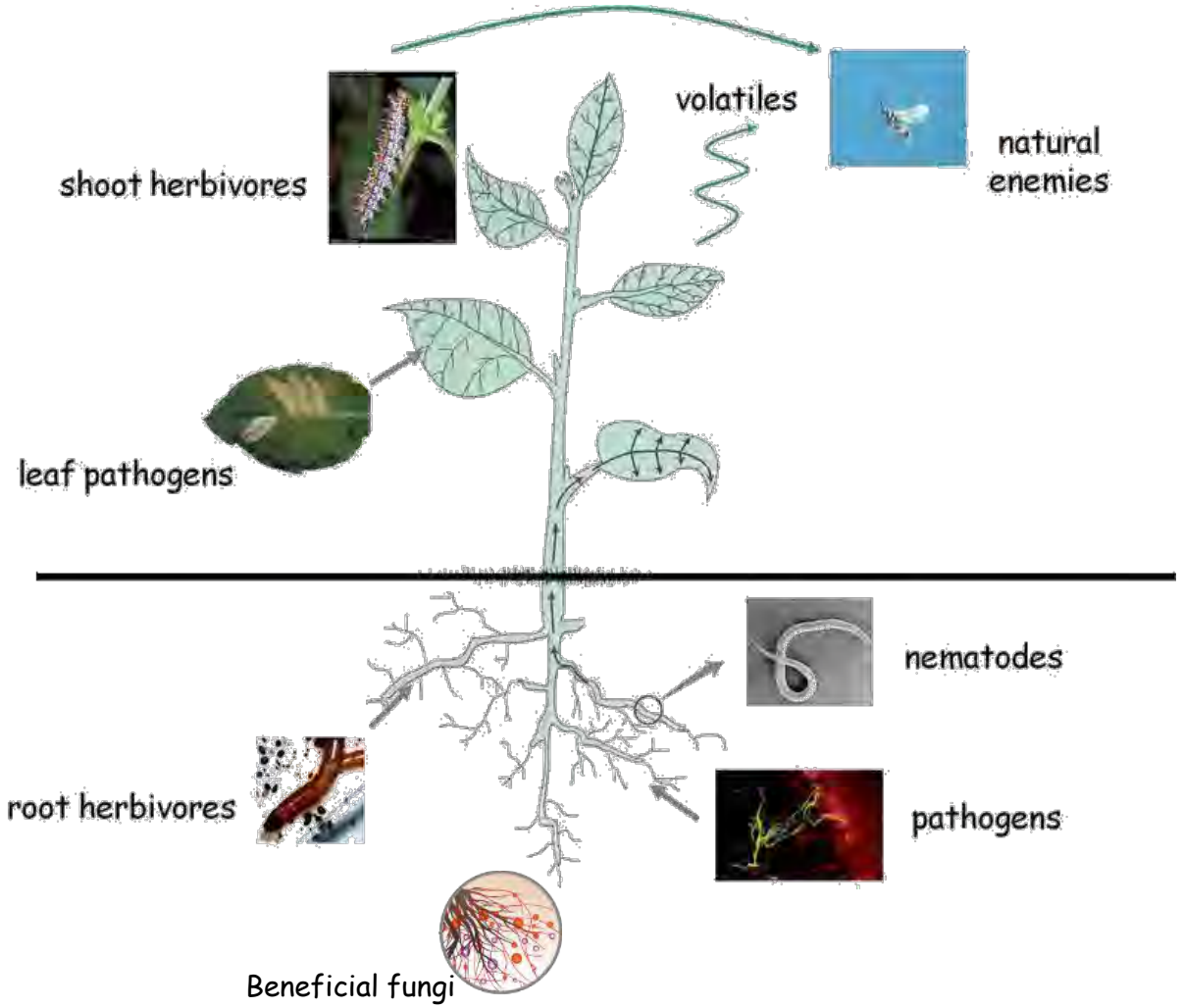


RHS Partner Gardens Biosecurity Network

Dr Fryni Drizou- Plant Health Scientist

frynidrizou@rhs.org.uk

Plants within an ecosystem



Picture from Dr Martijn Bezemer amended

Plants are part of an ecosystem

They have evolved together with different organisms (insects, fungi, bacteria etc.)

… and within certain environmental conditions

Pests are usually kept in balance by the plant's natural defences, as well as natural enemies

When the problem starts

Introduction of new/alien pests could lead to significant problems because:

1. Plants are not familiar with the pest and their defences are not effective
2. Because the natural enemies of the alien pests are absent from the environment

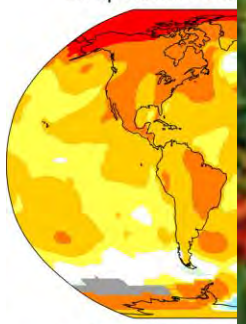








Temperature cha



2011-2021 averag

-1.0 -0.5 -0.2 +

-1.8 -0.9 -0.4 +





Plants for planting pose the highest risk on introducing new pests

The impact…

1. Food security
2. Natural environment
3. Financial impact and industry collapse

Damage caused by the pest itself

+

The measures taken to eradicate outbreaks.

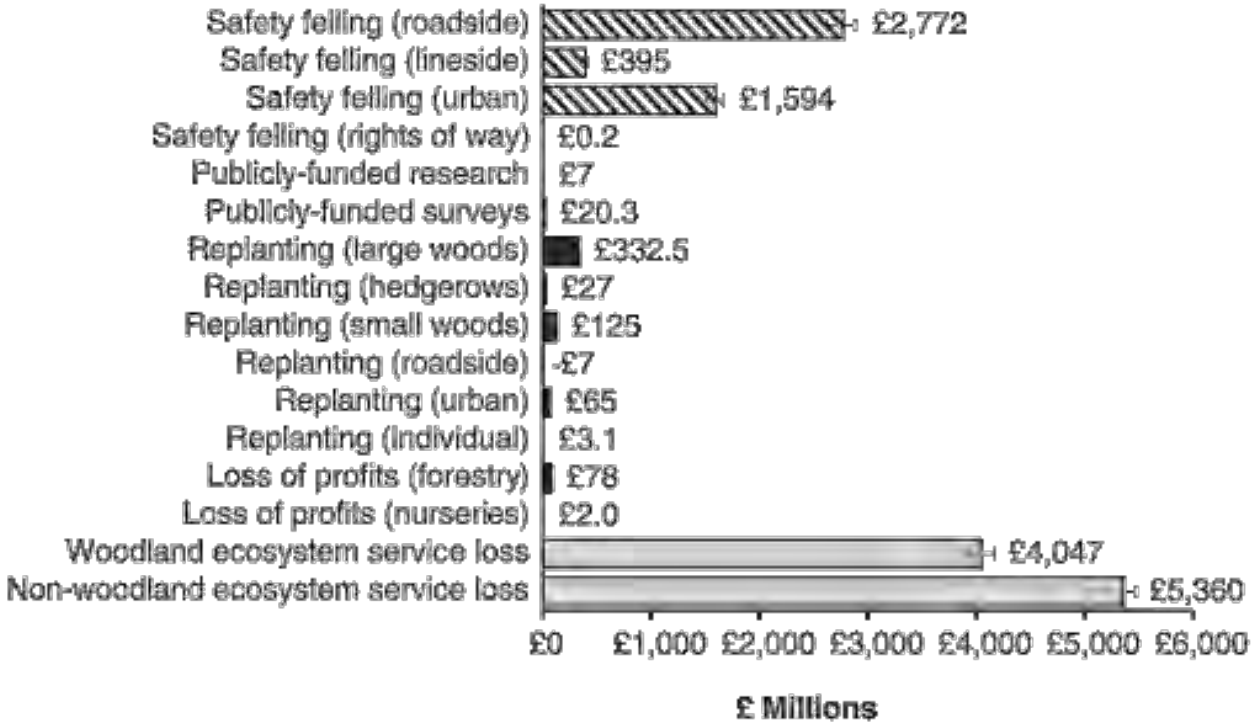
Current Biology
Volume 29, Issue 9, 6 May 2019, Pages R315-R316
CellPress

Correspondence

The £15 billion cost of ash dieback in Britain

Louise Hill [1,5], Glyn Jones [2], Nick Atkinson [3], Andy Hector [1], Gabriel Hemery [4], Nick Brown [1]

Show more



Biosecurity in Horticulture





Horticulture is at a great risk due to the high volume of incoming plant material in UK gardens

Gardens host rare plant specimens and plant collections which we ought to safeguard

There is a risk of outward spread from a garden to the wider environment and forests



The RHS Plant health principles

In response to globalisation and the threat from pests and diseases the RHS has six plant health principles which guide plant health practice across the Society.

Our six principles

1. Provide guidance on plant health issues to protect the sustainability of gardens and horticulture in the UK.
2. Assess plant health risks prior to undertaking activities that are likely to have phytosanitary implications and identify what mitigations are required.
3. Adopt practices across RHS activities that minimise plant health risk, whilst balancing that risk with horticultural benefit.
4. Prioritise and undertake research to generate the knowledge necessary to manage plant health risks to UK horticulture.
5. Communicate and exchange knowledge to enable informed decisions to be made to manage plant health risks to UK horticulture.
6. Work collaboratively, internally through the RHS Plant Health Working Group and with external organisations to contribute to the management of plant health risks to the UK and to help develop the skills necessary to manage such risks.

These promote good biosecurity practices:

- assess plant health risks and adopt practices that minimise them
- prioritise research to manage plant health risks to UK
- communicate and exchange plant health knowledge

https://www.rhs.org.uk/about-the-rhs/policies/plant-health-principles

RHS Biosecurity team

Inspiring everyone to grow



Dr Glen Powell
Head of Plant Health Team

Entomology

Biosecurity

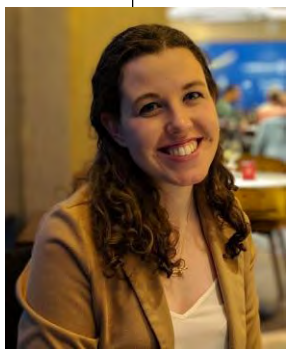
Pathology



Dr Fryni Drizou
Plant Health Scientist
Garden health lead



Kirsty Wright
Plant Reception
Coordinator

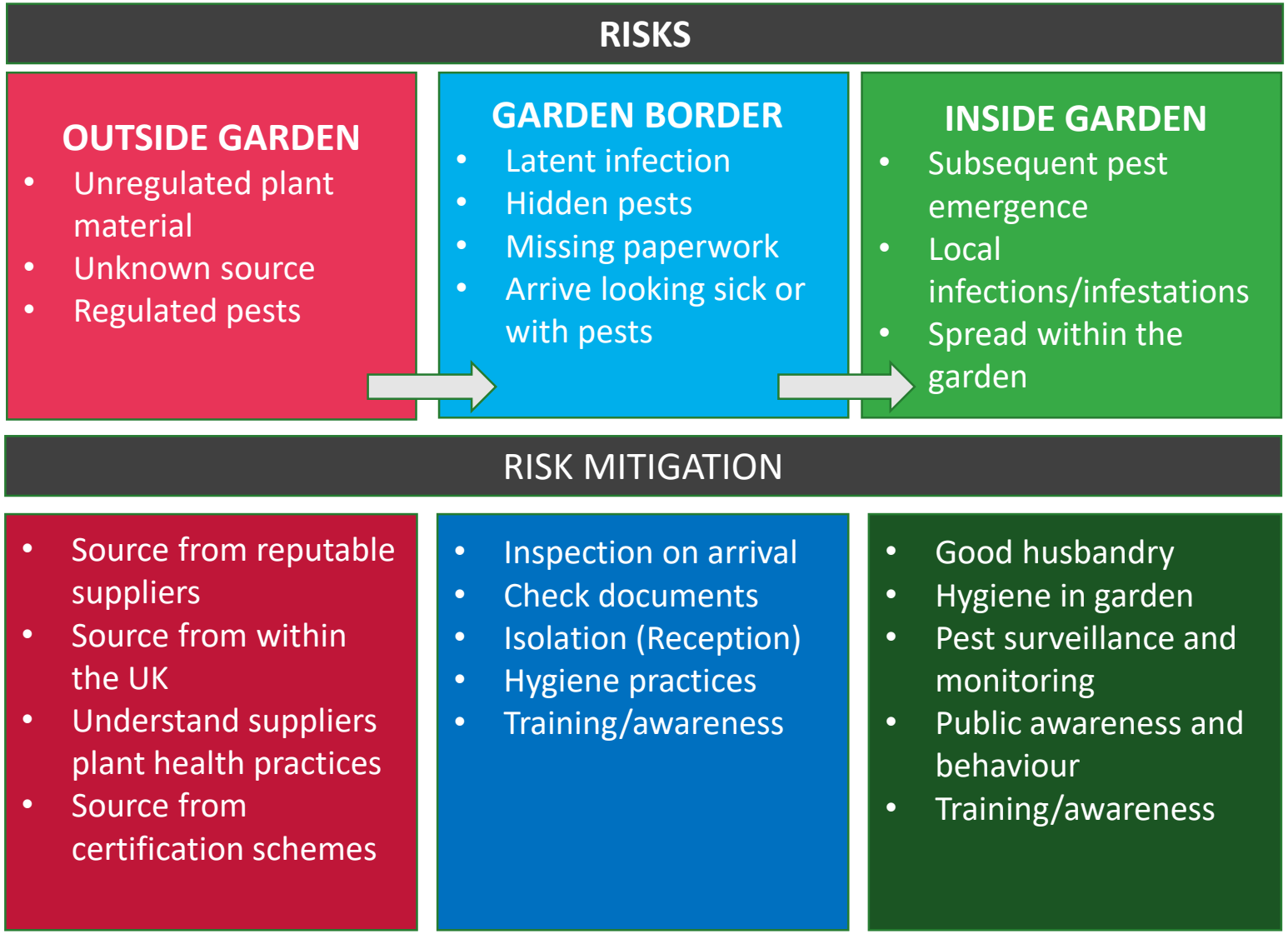


Anna Platoni
Plant Health Scientist
Shows lead



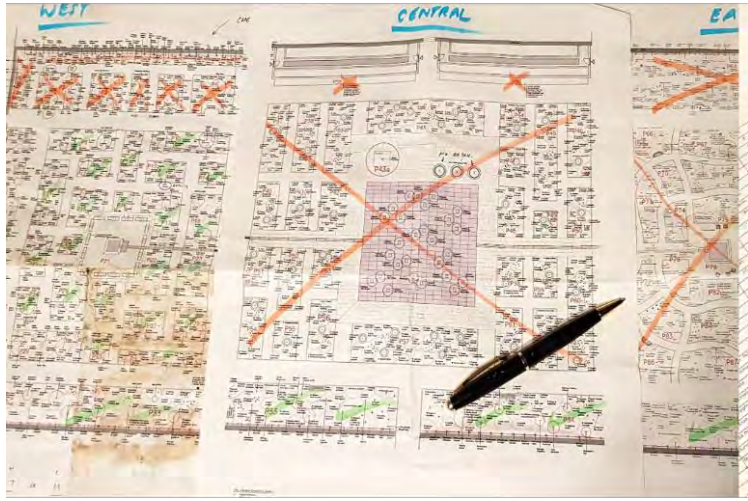
Dario Spagnoli
Biosecurity Scientist
Procurement specialist

Biosecurity continuum - Gardens

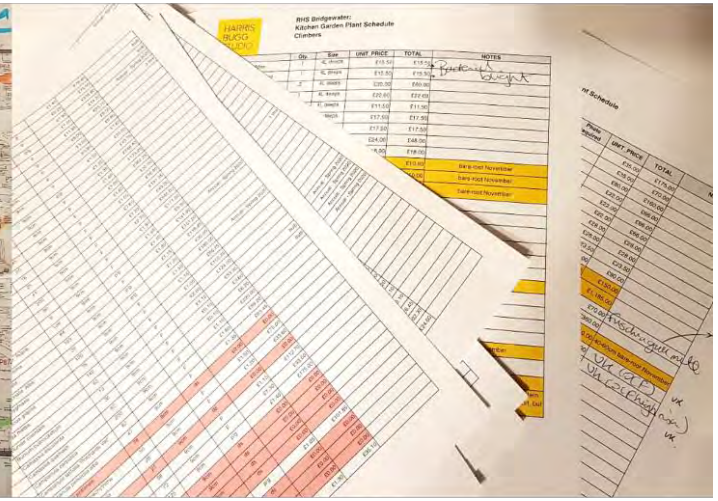


Minimising Biosecurity risk on a grand scale

- Plant schedule pest and disease risk assessment - Before tendering or approaching nurseries
- Sourcing and buying decisions led by risk assessment - latest pest and disease updates



Paradise garden planting plan, 3x A3



Kitchen garden plant schedule, 1200 lines long

RHS Bridgewater: Great example of secure sourcing of plants which helped us to develop better RHS policies

RHS plant procurement guidelines under development





Plant Healthy Certification Scheme

Promotes robust plant biosecurity systems by supporting horticulturalists, arborists and foresters to adopt the principles of the voluntary Plant Health Management Standard

Plant Healthy is a certification scheme which aims to reduce the risk of introducing and spreading destructive plant pests via the live plant trade

Adopt the Plant Health Management Standard and become Plant Healthy Certified – start by taking the free self-assessment at: planthealthy.org.uk

Together, we can be Plant Healthy

www.planthealthy.org.uk

At the garden border





Before entering the garden, the majority of **plants must go through a quarantine period** in Plant Reception.

Plants can be held in quarantine from 4 weeks up to 1 year depending on the

- type of plant material
- its origin
- the pest and disease risk associated with the plant

Plant Reception risk matrix

Type of plant material (work from first row down to determine type of material)	Time in Reception depending on source: UK (entirely UK grown or in UK for > 12 months)	EU*	Third countries
Semi-mature tree with root ball Taller than 5 m or girth greater than 20 cm, e.g. specimen trees	12 weeks	1 year	1 year
Host of *Xylella fastidiosa* Highest risk *Xylella* hosts are *Coffea, Hebe, Lavandula, Nerium, Olea, Polygala, Prunus, Salvia & Spartium*	4 weeks	1 year – highest risk hosts 12 weeks all other *Xylella* hosts	Refer to section 6 of HRH document † (some prohibited)
Host of other high-impact pests Reception time is based on associated risks – refer to section 6 of HRH document †	Refer to section 6 of HRH document †	Refer to section 6 of HRH document †	Refer to section 6 of HRH document † (some prohibited)
Woody material in commercial potting mix e.g. small potted woody shrubs or plants	4 weeks	12 weeks	6–12 months risks assessed
Woody material in soil Lifted and containerised, or root-balled woody plants, e.g. small trees, larger shrubs	12 weeks if lifted from private collection, botanic garden 6 weeks if nursery grown	12 weeks	6–12 months risks assessed
Bare-rooted young woody plants e.g. whips, bare-rooted roses	None	12 weeks	12 weeks
Herbaceous in sterile media i.e. commercial compost mix or sterile loam	None	4 weeks	12 weeks
Bedding, seeds, bulbs, plugs raised from seed or tissue culture	None	None	4 weeks

None: no reception time needed
Low risk: 4–6 weeks
Medium risk: 12 weeks
High risk: 6 months to a year (risk assessed)

* Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Croatia, Republic of Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Netherlands, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain and Sweden, with Switzerland and EEA member Liechtenstein. Norway and Iceland, though also EEA members, are considered third countries by the EU for plant health purposes.

† For link to High Risk Hosts (HRH) document, see back page.

Inside the garden

We work closely with the curatorial teams to ensure high-standard gardening and plant health practises.

- Developed RHS gardens Plant health advisory system
- Create maps of pests for each garden and management plant
- For each garden:
  - meetings
  - inspections
  - training



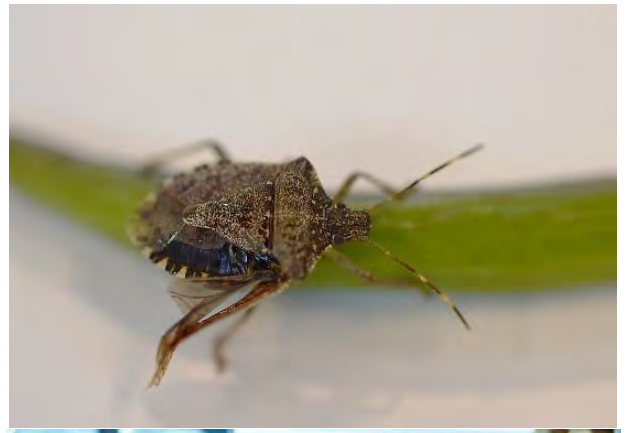




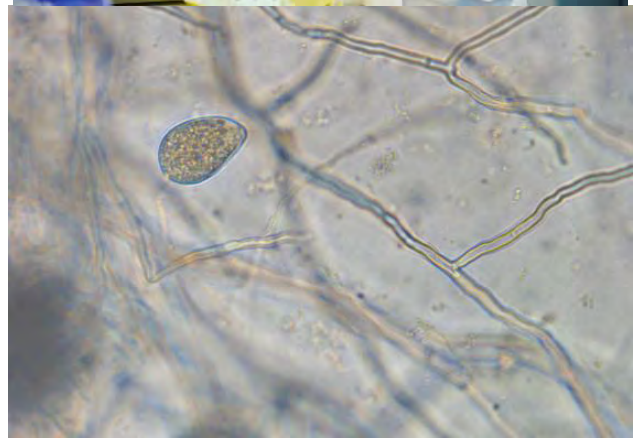
Collaborate with the government, national and international organisations to increase surveillance and mitigate plant health risks for our gardens and horticulture

Carry out surveys to understand the presence and the impact of pests

Do research and collaborate with universities to better understand certain pests and how we can manage them







Forest Research
The Research agency of the Forestry Commission

NIAB EMR

Animal & Plant Health Agency

International Plant Sentinel Network

fera

RHS Garden Events Risks Mitigation

Inspiring everyone to grow

The RHS gardens host a diversity of events, which involve the use of plants and plant material.









Mitigate risk from these activities and raise awareness across the RHS teams:

1. RHS plant health events policy
2. RHS workshops plant health policy

Plants used in the events should comply with:

1. Current UK Plant Health regulations
2. RHS *Xylella* and semi-mature trees policies
3. Follow specific restrictions for each RHS Garden

Some examples from our Gardens





Oak Processionary Moth (OPM)

Thamatopea processionaria (Oak processionary moth) was first found in West London in 2006 and in Wisley the first nests were discovered in August 2015

This was the result of established OPM population in the area near the garden.





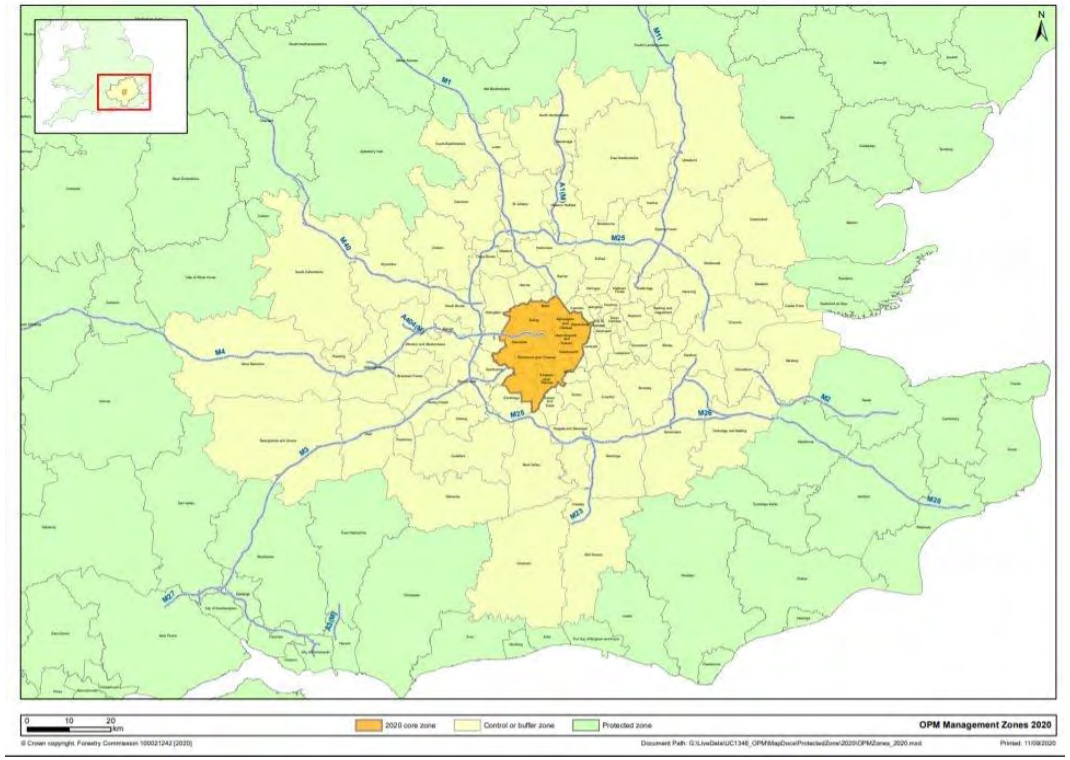
Actions

1. All the trees across the site are sprayed with Bt twice in spring

2. Nest removal is following in summer

No complaints from visitors and the control has been good despite the overall spread in the area

OPM and Risk Mitigation





- Increase monitoring and awareness
- Rosemoor, Bridgewater and Harlow Carr in the protected zone
- Restrictions on bringing in oaks in RHS events to Rosemoor, Bridgewater and Harlow Carr
- Prohibition for Wisley and Hyde Hall

Brown Marmorated Stink Bug

Inspiring everyone to grow

NIAB

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Home > News & Views > News > NEWS: NIAB EMR searches for non-native stink bug in fruit crops

NEWS: NIAB EMR searches for non-native stink bug in fruit crops

1 Jun 2018

UK scientists are carrying out field studies to check whether the Brown Marmorated Stink Bug has established itself in UK fr

Horticultural researchers at NIAB EMR, and crop specialists at Berry Garden Growers, are monitoring seven fruit-growing sites east England, utilising a trap containing the aggregation pheromone of the pest. The stink bug is a non-native species which has significant crop damage across Europe since its arrival in 2004.

NIAB EMR entomologist Dr Glen Powell commented, "NIAB EMR has long been at the forefront of finding, and developing, practical control strategies for newly arriving pest



BBC Sign in Home News Sport Weather iPlayer Sounds

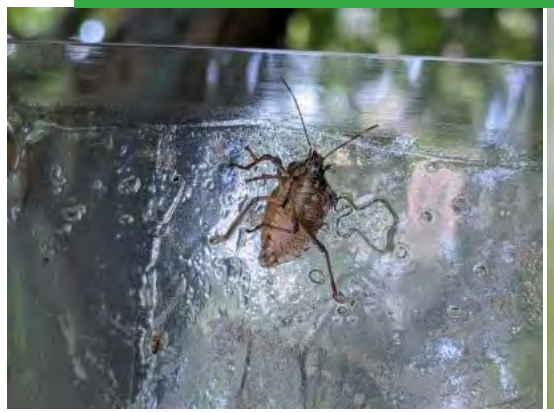
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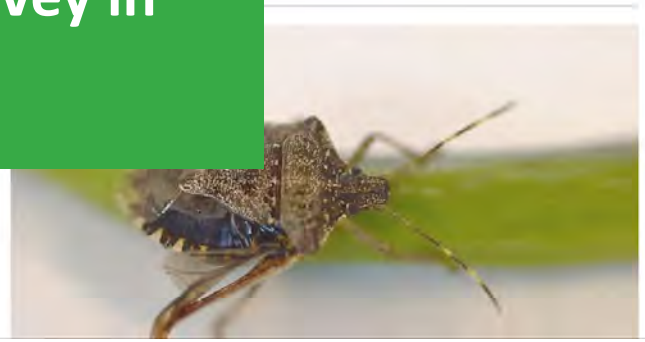
Science & Environment

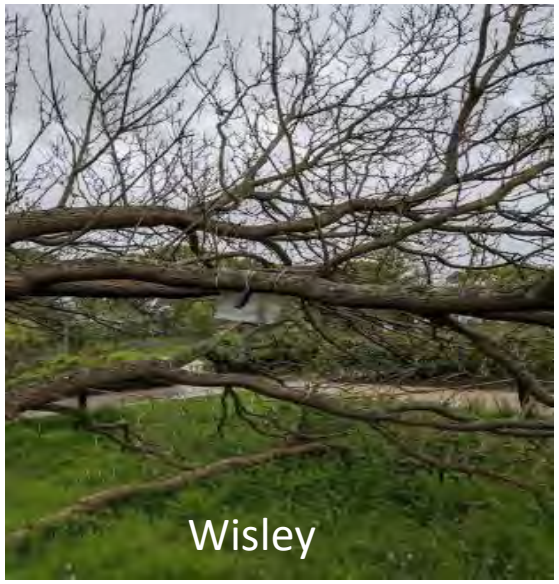
Stink bug discovery raises fears of threat to crops

This year we will carry out our own survey in communication with NIAB

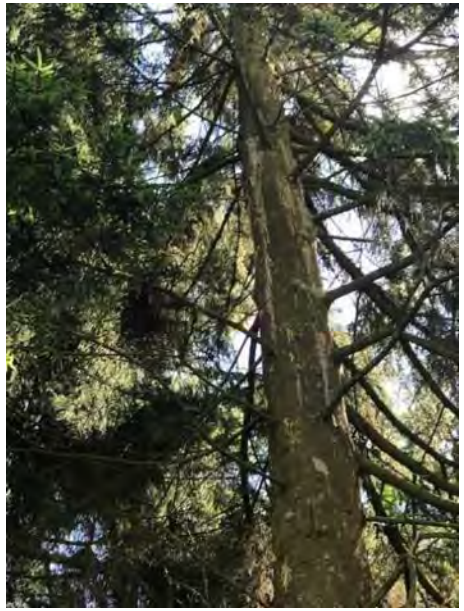












Picea orientalis displaying dieback, significant resin bleeding and woodpecker holes high up on the trunk.

Woodpecker holes = possible bark beetle infestation.

Felled trunk: entry holes, several galleries with frass and numerous beetle larvae were found.





Forest Research confirmed the identification the Great Spruce Bark Beetle (*Dendroctonus micans*).

Survey of other trees and release of predator to naturally control the beetle

Nematodes in the Hepatica Collection

Inspiring everyone to grow

Accidently found out that the collection is known to be infested with nematodes

We attended the annual repotting to check the root system of the plants

Collected material for laboratory examination

Identified the Root Knot Nematode *Meloidogyne hapla* as the casual agent

Because of the ongoing care on annual basis the collection is not at risk

Specimens for our permanent nematode collection





More than 180 known species including, *Phytophthora ramorum* , *P. kernoviae* and *P. pluvialis* (notifiable pests)

Within the 1

several cases

Outbreaks pu

Which species are present?

What is the impact?

What can we do?







2010-2011

2020 / +ve

2020/ - ve

2021

2022



Phytophthora and the RHS actions



- Plant health Inspections
- Specific training to the garden teams
- Provide Biosecurity updates for these pathogens to RHS teams
- *Phytophthora* management plan and code of practise

Generate and carry out research to:

1. Understand the presence and spread of the pathogen
2. Develop higher surveillance and management plans
3. Understand the relationship between *Phytophthora* spp. and important horticultural plants



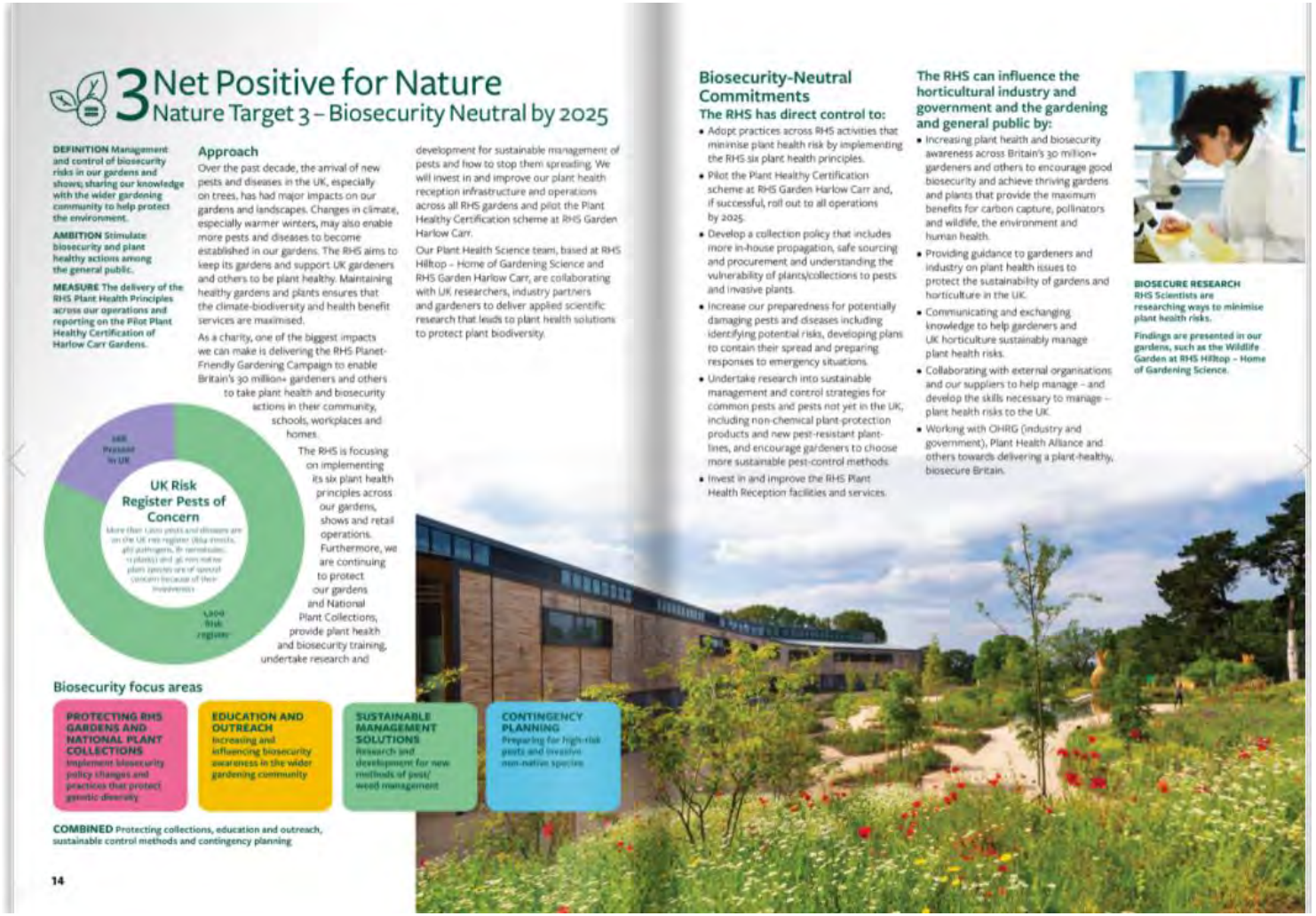


RHS Partner Gardens Biosecurity Network



Nature Target 3 of the RHS Sustainability Strategy: Biosecurity Neutral by 2025

Management and control of biosecurity risks in our gardens and shows; ***sharing our knowledge with the wider gardening community to help protect the environment***



3 Net Positive for Nature
Nature Target 3 – Biosecurity Neutral by 2025

DEFINITION Management and control of biosecurity risks in our gardens and shows; sharing our knowledge with the wider gardening community to help protect the environment.

AMBITION Stimulate biosecurity and plant healthy actions among the general public.

MEASURE The delivery of the RHS Plant Health Principles across our operations and reporting on the Pilot Plant Healthy Certification of Harlow Carr Gardens.

Approach

Over the past decade, the arrival of new pests and diseases in the UK, especially on trees, has had major impacts on our gardens and landscapes. Changes in climate, especially warmer winters, may also enable more pests and diseases to become established in our gardens. The RHS aims to keep its gardens and support UK gardeners and others to be plant healthy. Maintaining healthy gardens and plants ensures that the climate-biodiversity and health benefit services are maximised.

As a charity, one of the biggest impacts we can make is delivering the RHS Plant-Friendly Gardening Campaign to enable Britain's 30 million+ gardeners and others to take plant health and biosecurity actions in their community, schools, workplaces and homes.

The RHS is focusing on implementing its six plant health principles across our gardens, shows and retail operations. Furthermore, we are continuing to protect our gardens and National Plant Collections, provide plant health and biosecurity training, undertake research and development for sustainable management of pests and how to stop them spreading. We will invest in and improve our plant health reception infrastructure and operations across all RHS gardens and pilot the Plant Healthy Certification scheme at RHS Garden Harlow Carr.

Our Plant Health Science team, based at RHS Hilltop – Home of Gardening Science and RHS Garden Harlow Carr, are collaborating with UK researchers, industry partners and gardeners to deliver applied scientific research that leads to plant health solutions to protect plant biodiversity.

UK Risk Register Pests of Concern

Biosecurity focus areas

PROTECTING RHS GARDENS AND NATIONAL PLANT COLLECTIONS
Implement biosecurity policy changes and practices that protect genetic diversity

EDUCATION AND OUTREACH
Increasing and influencing biosecurity awareness in the wider gardening community

SUSTAINABLE MANAGEMENT SOLUTIONS
Research and development for new methods of pest/weed management

CONTINGENCY PLANNING
Preparing for high-risk pests and invasive non-native species

COMBINED Protecting collections, education and outreach, sustainable control methods and contingency planning

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Biosecurity-Neutral Commitments

The RHS has direct control to:

- Adopt practices across RHS activities that minimise plant health risk by implementing the RHS six plant health principles.
- Pilot the Plant Healthy Certification scheme at RHS Garden Harlow Carr and, if successful, roll out to all operations by 2025.
- Develop a collection policy that includes more in-house propagation, safe sourcing and procurement and understanding the vulnerability of plants/collections to pests and invasive plants.
- Increase our preparedness for potentially damaging pests and diseases including identifying potential risks, developing plans to contain their spread and preparing responses to emergency situations.
- Undertake research into sustainable management and control strategies for common pests and pests not yet in the UK, including non-chemical plant-protection products and new pest-resistant plant-lines, and encourage gardeners to choose more sustainable pest-control methods.
- Invest in and improve the RHS Plant Health Reception facilities and services.

The RHS can influence the horticultural industry and government and the gardening and general public by:

- Increasing plant health and biosecurity awareness across Britain's 30 million+ gardeners and others to encourage good biosecurity and achieve thriving gardens and plants that provide the maximum benefits for carbon capture, pollinators and wildlife, the environment and human health.
- Providing guidance to gardeners and industry on plant health issues to protect the sustainability of gardens and horticulture in the UK.
- Communicating and exchanging knowledge to help gardeners and UK horticulture sustainably manage plant health risks.
- Collaborating with external organisations and our suppliers to help manage – and develop the skills necessary to manage – plant health risks to the UK.
- Working with OHRG (industry and government), Plant Health Alliance and others towards delivering a plant-healthy, biosecure Britain.

BIOSECURE RESEARCH
RHS Scientists are researching ways to minimise plant health risks.

Findings are presented in our gardens, such as the Wildlife Garden at RHS Hilltop – Home of Gardening Science.

https://www.rhs.org.uk/about-the-rhs/sustainability/biosecurity-neutral

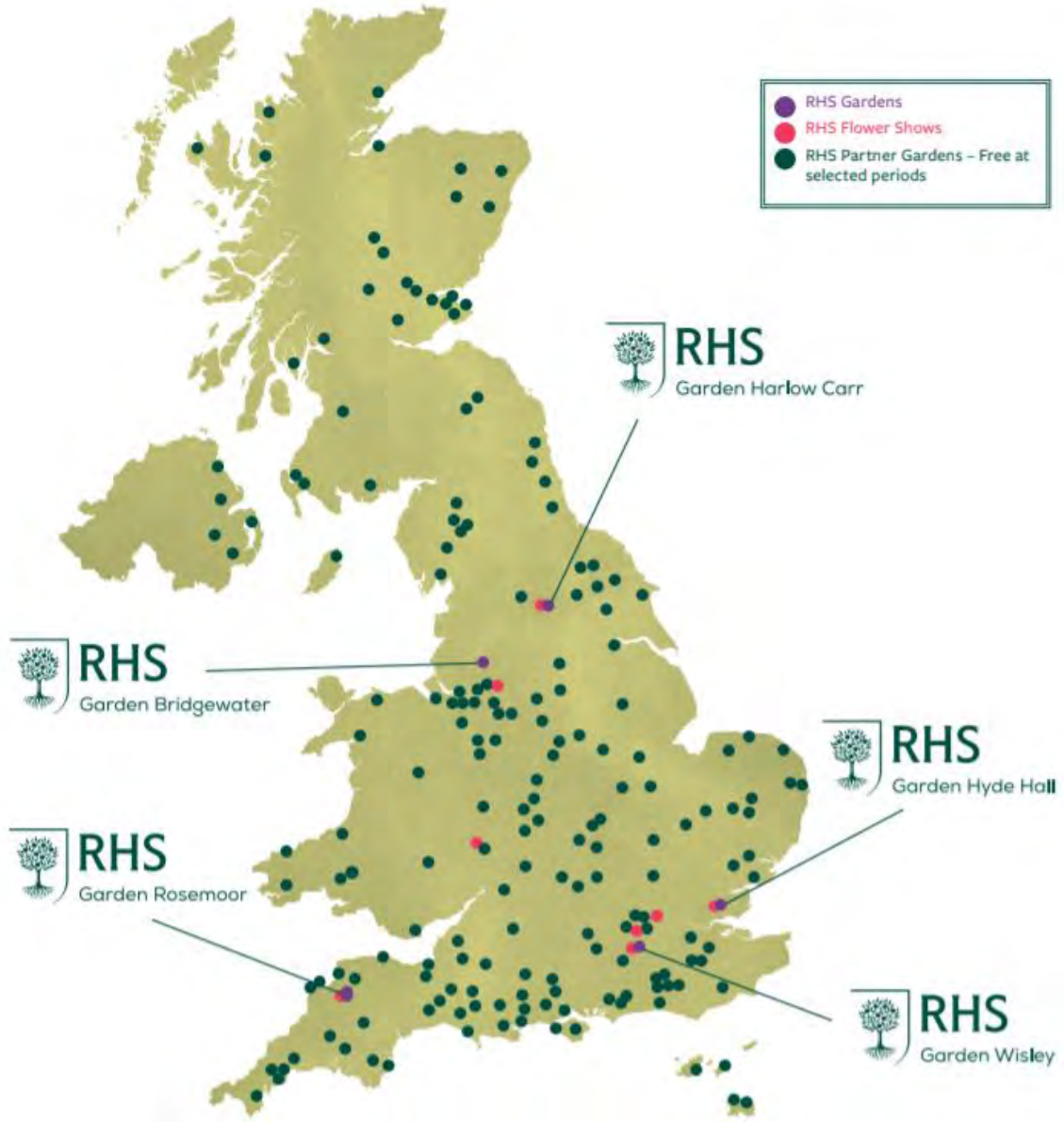
https://www.rhs.org.uk/about-the-rhs/sustainability/sustainability-strategy-document

Partner Gardens Biosecurity Network

Representation of different locations across the UK and plant heritage

Collaboration could enhance biosecurity capabilities and awareness

Allow us to understand better current and future plant health/biosecurity risks





This initiative aims to:

1. Support and raise awareness on biosecurity
2. Develop new collaborations and strengthen knowledge exchange

How could it work ?

1. Sharing information on biosecurity legislation and updates
2. Exchange experience on the development of operational procedures
3. The RHS to be your link for national surveys
4. Help us with our research by providing us samples from your gardens

Open for discussion based on everyone's availability and priorities

Some examples/ideas

Surveys/monitoring for pest/diseases of interest such (e.g. Brown Marmorated Stink bug)

Share with you material/updates on Biosecurity legislation and factsheets of pe

Provide informa RHS

Collect informat sts in your gardens

In the future???

Participation on regional events

Support you with plant health training

Contribution to research projects e.g. samples of *Phytophthora* diseases

Participation on other research and citizen science projects







Next steps

Questions and suggestions ?

Register your interest if you haven’t done so

Let us know if you would like to get involved in projects we are working on e.g. BMSB survey, pest and diseases etc.

Arrange hybrid meetings based on location ***or*** area of collaboration



Citizen science project- can you help?

Inspiring everyone to grow

Check a Sweet Chestnut

Follow us on Twitter @CheckChestnut

Steps:

1. Project registration form
2. Log sweet chestnut trees on **Treezilla**
    1. Find a tree & note location
    2. Measure circumference at chest height
    3. Check canopy and bark condition
    4. Look out for OCGW galls
3. Report galls via **Tree Alert**
4. Receive newsletters & tweets
5. Evaluate project (Sept 22)
6. Receive published results

Aims & Objectives:

- Map UK sweet chestnut Trees
- Map Oriental chestnut gall wasp (OCGW) *Dryocosmus kuriphilus*
- Review health of sweet chestnuts
- Case study of best practice for tree health citizen science

Future Impact:

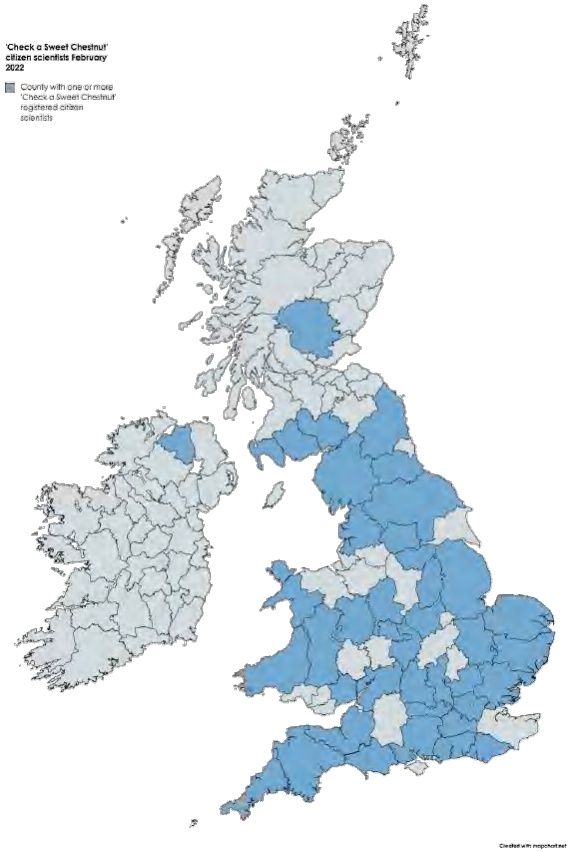
Biocontrol wasp being tested





Participant map:

Can you turn your county blue?



CU: Samantha Green & Katharina Dehnen-Schmutz,
RHS: Jassy Drakulic

RHS



Thank you!

RHS

Partner Gardens Update

5 April 2022

Helen Feary – Partner Gardens Manager



Opportunities for 2022

- Partner Garden of the Year competition
- RHS Flower Shows – tickets, drinks and leaflets to display
- Garden Day and National Gardening Week
- Gardeners' Networking Days
- Regular editorial opportunities

RHS Partner Garden of the Year 2022

- **19 April 2022 – 30 Sept 2022**
- **The Garden – RHS website – social media**
  Launch, reminder and winners
- **Promo pack sent out end Feb**
  Includes social media hashtags, messages, QR code, poster, ideas for promoting



RHS Life

Special offers

15% off Genus gardening trousers

The RHS-endorsed Genus 3-Season Gardening Trousers for men and women offer unparalleled comfort, style and performance. Visit genus.gs and use code RHS3 at checkout. Offer ends 29 May 2022. T&Cs apply.

15% off e-Pots

e-Pots products are environmentally friendly and plastic free – including the packaging. Browse the full range of peat-free compost, coir pots, wooden tools and more at e-pots.co.uk and use code RHSEXTRA. Offer ends 31 July 2022.

For more details about these and many other special offers, visit rhs.org.uk/offers

Search is on for the RHS Partner Garden of the Year

Members can vote for their top 'Feel Good Garden'

Following the success of the inaugural competition in 2021, we are once again inviting members and other garden visitors to vote for their favourite 'Feel Good Garden' out of more than 200 RHS Partner Gardens in the UK and overseas.

The competition recognises the immense value garden visiting has for health and mental wellbeing. Whether it is to find solitude in nature, to get planting inspiration for our own gardens, a chance to spot wildlife or a place to meet up with friends, gardens enrich our lives in so many ways.

Thousands of votes were cast in 2021, with Larch Cottage Nurseries in Cumbria crowned Partner Garden of the Year out of six regional finalists. Owner Peter Stott said: 'It has been an unexpected honour to be rewarded with this achievement considering that we started from nothing and created a garden that provides a sense of peace and tranquility in such times of uncertainty.'

Voting is open on our website from 19 April until 30 September 2022, and all voters will be entered into a prize draw to win a pair of tickets to the RHS Hampton Court Palace Garden Festival in 2023 with a luxury two-night stay close to the showground. Vote at: rhs.org.uk/pgoty

Celebrating Master of Horticulture achievements

Last September, the RHS held a ceremony for the Master of Horticulture (MHort) graduates from 2020 and 2021 (above left), whose celebrations had been delayed due to the pandemic. The annual event returned in March this year, when the 2022 graduates gained recognition for their achievements (above right). The prestigious degree-level MHort programme, aimed at professional horticulturists, is available to study online. Applications for our next intake (starting October 2022) open on 29 April. Find more information at: rhs.org.uk/mhort

rhs.org.uk

May 2022 | The Garden 111

RHS Flower Shows

Complimentary tickets – 2 per show
Order by 15 April

President's Drinks Tuesday 24 May – postal invitations w/c 18 April

RHS Hub – Partner Gardens promoted using your leaflets
Look out for details of where to send





National Campaigns

- **National Gardening Week 2-8 May**
  This years' theme 'The joy of Gardening'
  Activities in all RHS gardens - run your own and use #nationalgardeningweek to link to the national publicity.
- **2 May RHS Garden Day**
  Launched on The One Show in Feb
  4 regional gardens funded by RHS community grants open in Scotland, Wales, England and Northern Ireland.



Gardeners' Networking Days

- **26 Jul - Bridgewater**
  sustainability, ecological gardening and plants for pollinators
- **15 Sept - Harlow Carr**
  Productive gardening
- **11 Oct - Hyde Hall**
  Utilising Grasses
- **2 Nov - Rosemoor**
  Autumn Colour & Planting



Regular editorial opportunities

- **The Garden**

  O&A, Seasonal Scenes, Inspiration spreads, features such as Gardens to Visit May 22. PGotY



Seasonal scenes at RHS Partner Gardens

A blushed pink sky complements the tightly-packed flowers of *Prunus* 'Mikuruma-gaeshi' at Batsford Arboretum, Gloucestershire. Head Gardener Matthew Hall says, 'This is one of many beautiful Japanese cherries and forms part of the National Plant Collection here. The surrounding spring *Narcissus* look majestic in the morning sunshine, too.' Free entry for members; see *RHS Members' Handbook*

See pp121–126 for more RHS Partner Gardens to visit for free as a member.



RHS Life

Out & about

A selection of RHS Partner Gardens to visit for free and events with discounted tickets for members. Please check opening arrangements before visiting.

Important visiting information

- Free entry applies to the main member (for joint members, this applies to the member with * on their card); a valid card must be presented to gain free entry; please check any entry restrictions before visiting.
- Partner Gardens support RHS charitable work by allowing free entry to our members. They do not receive any funding from the RHS.

SCOTLAND

VISIT
CAWDOR CASTLE AND GARDENS
Cawdor Castle, Nairn, Highland IV12 5RD
cawdorcastle.com
'May brings an explosion of colour, fresh growth and optimism for the year ahead,' says Head Gardener Mihaly Petres. Rhododendrons and azaleas scatter colour through the gardens, while in the Wild Garden there is a mass of bluebells and wild garlic beneath the new season's leaf canopy. In the rockery in the Flower Garden, late-flowering bulbs such as *Tulipa turkestanica* AGM, *Muscari* and *Narcissus bulbocodium* AGM are in flower, and the Japanese cherry trees that line the driveway to the Castle are full of beautiful blooms. *Free entry for members; see* RHS Members' Handbook 2022, *p.24.*

VISIT
GLENWHAN GARDENS
Dunragit, by Stranraer, Wigtownshire DG9 8PH glenwhangardens.co.uk
'Among our most outstanding features this month are the flowering deciduous azaleas and late *Rhododendron* species,' says owner Tessa Knott. 'Many will be at their flowering peak, including *R. occidentale* and its cultivars, which also provide scent.' Numerous flowering trees and the thrusting spikes of *Cardiocrinum* are also a highlight this month. Introduced last year, a new garden trail steers visitors in the direction of endangered, threatened and vulnerable plants. *Free entry for members Sat; see* RHS Members' Handbook 2022, *p27.*

NORTH WEST

VISIT
BLUEBELL COTTAGE GARDENS
Lodge Lane, Dutton, Nr Warrington, Cheshire WA4 4HP bluebellcottage.co.uk
A new walled garden has been built on the site of the old vegetable garden. 'We have fine walls made from reclaimed Cheshire brick, an elegant greenhouse and raised beds for vegetable and fruit growing,' says owner Sue Beesley. 'Over time we will train fruit against the brick walls. It is the most exciting change we have made in 15 years.'

In early May herbaceous borders come to life. 'Many of our best scented shrubs are in flower, such as *Viburnum carlesii* AGM and *Lonicera pyrigantha*,' says Sue. *Free entry for members; see* RHS Members' Handbook 2022, *p37.*

EVENT
HUTTON-IN-THE-FOREST
Penrith, Cumbria CA11 9TH
hutton-in-the-forest.co.uk
Plant & Food Fair
15 May 10am–4pm
This event features Northern nurseries and Cumbrian food producers, walks and talks by experts and tours with Head Gardener Ben Houston. Delicious lunches and teas will be served in the Courtyard Tearoom. *Members £6, non-members £8. Tickets available on the day or book via the website.*

NORTH EAST

VISIT
BURNBY HALL GARDENS AND MUSEUM
The Balk, Pocklington, York YO42 2QF
burnbyhallgardens.com
May will be a busy month as these gardens host an annual Tulip Festival, a new Walled Garden opens, and the renovated Edwardian Rock Garden produces fantastic displays. 'We have more than 15,000 tulip bulbs – around 130 cultivars – on display,' says Head Gardener Jill Ward, 'and the new garden offers excellent wheelchair access too.' *Free entry for members; see* RHS Members' Handbook 2022, *p37.*

Yellow tulips are among plants in bloom softening the edges of the formal Flower Garden at Cawdor Castle, Highland.

rhs.org.uk/partnergardens

May 2022 | The Garden 83

Inspiration from RHS Partner Gardens

Daffodils in all their diversity are centre stage this month at **Backhouse Rossie Estate** in Fife, where these bulbs have been developed over a period of 100 years.

1 Frames of dazzling daffodils
Historic plants are displayed in the magnificent walled garden, forming part of the Plant Heritage National Plant Collection of *Narcissus* (Backhouse cultivars) with Scientific Status. South-facing cold frames are used to propagate daffodils; in the foreground is white-and-orange-flowered *Narcissus* 'Dick Wellband', bred here around 1921, while yellow and orange *N.* 'Red Curtain' dates from 1956.

2 Bordered by *Buxus*
A low box hedge backs a south-facing daffodil bed. Cultivars thriving here include *N.* 'Sunrise' with white petals and orange trumpets, bred before 1901.

3 Wall-trained pear blossom
Wall-trained pear trees and soft fruit grow in a 3m (10ft) deep border. The first pears are already breaking into blossom and cultivars here include *Pyrus communis* 'Pitmaston Duchess', 'Conference' AGM and 'Nouveau Poiteau'.

RHS Partner Gardens



For visiting details of RHS Partner Gardens, see *RHS Members' Handbook 2022*; Backhouse Rossie Estate is on p23.

Please check with all gardens first before visiting, as some gardens require prebooking, and opening details may be affected by Government restrictions. For more on RHS Partner Gardens see pp121–126.

Gorgeous gardens to visit in 2022

Whether you're looking for a peaceful oasis in the city, horticultural rarities, or somewhere for a stroll and a cup of tea, the UK has hundreds of gorgeous gardens to visit this summer, including some lesser-known gems



RHS Partner Garden

1 'I love the relaxed atmosphere'

Felley Priory, Underwood, Nottinghamshire NG16 5FJ

Picked by: Martin Fish, gardener, writer, broadcaster and RHS judge

'Although these gardens look like they have been there for centuries, they were actually laid out in the mid-1970s by the late Maria Chaworth-Musters. She was an amazing plantswoman with a great eye for design and detail. Her beautifully manicured yew hedges are cleverly positioned to divide the garden but also to allow it to flow from one area to the next, each area planted with a wide selection of interesting and unusual plants. In spring the meadows are rampant with bright yellow daffodils, and in summer the archways drip with fragrant roses.

'I love the relaxed atmosphere. You feel like you're miles from anywhere – though in reality just off the M1, its noise successfully buffered by woodland. It's such a calming, peaceful garden, and whatever time of year you visit, you'll be inspired.

'Away from the formal yew and topiary peacocks, the garden spreads into wilder, more natural areas. It hasn't got the manicured feel you usually get with stately homes, though of course the Priory is an amazing backdrop. There's a real sense this is a garden created with love.'

FAQs

What's the history? The Priory was founded in 1156 on the site of a small hermitage. The Chaworth-Musters family became owners in 1822, but only moved there in 1973. Today's layout dates from 1976.

Best bit? The enormous early flowering *Rosa banksiae* on the south-facing front of the house.

Free entry for RHS Members? Tues and Weds.

Contact details? 01773 810230; felleypriory.co.uk

Disabled access? Wheelchair access to garden and tearooms; accessible WC; guide dogs only.

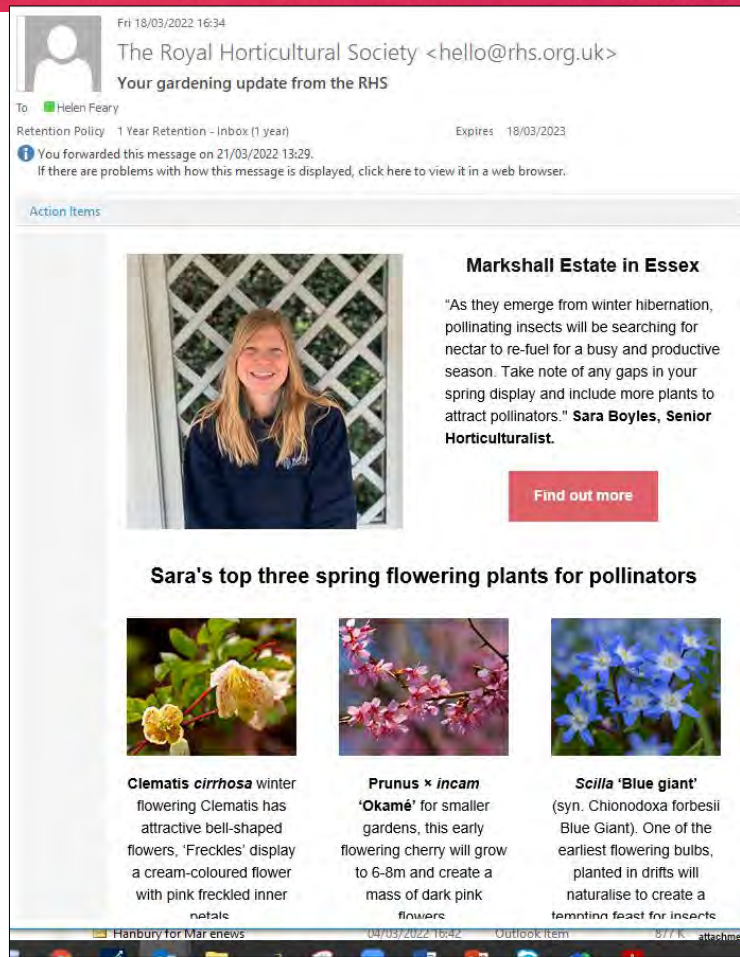
Can I make a day of it? The garden is almost 1ha (2 acres) in size, so good half-day with plant shopping. Bluebell woods open April–May. Cakes, scones and light lunches served 10am–3pm.

Regular editorial opportunities

- **Monthly E Newsletters**

  March newsletter with HG tips
- **Seasonal mailers**

  For new members



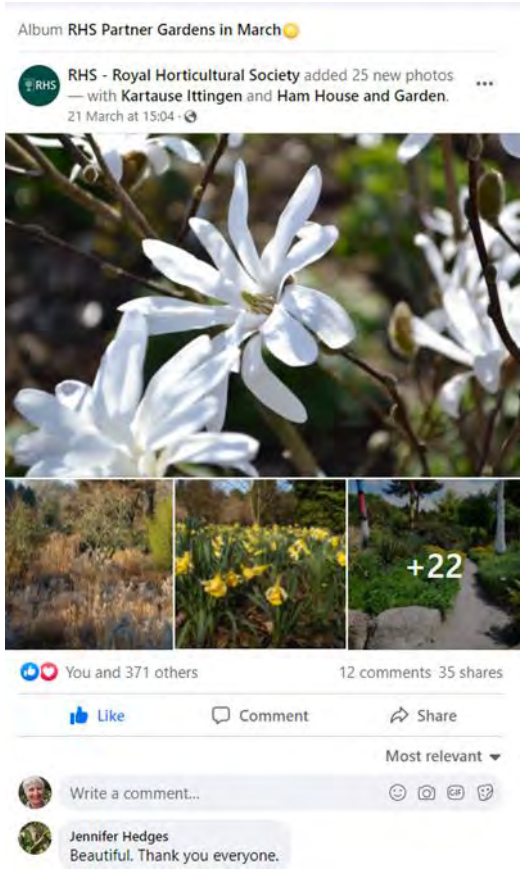
Social media opportunities

- **Monthly Facebook albums**
- **Hashtags to link to RHS content**

  #WinterGardenDays
  #SpringGardenDays
  #SummerGardenDays
  #AutumnGardenDays
  We also use #GrowAtHome
  #RHSPartnerGardens

- **Tag RHS**

  @The_RHS on Twitter and Instagram, and @rhshome will bring up RHS Facebook page



Twitter 205K

Facebook 387K

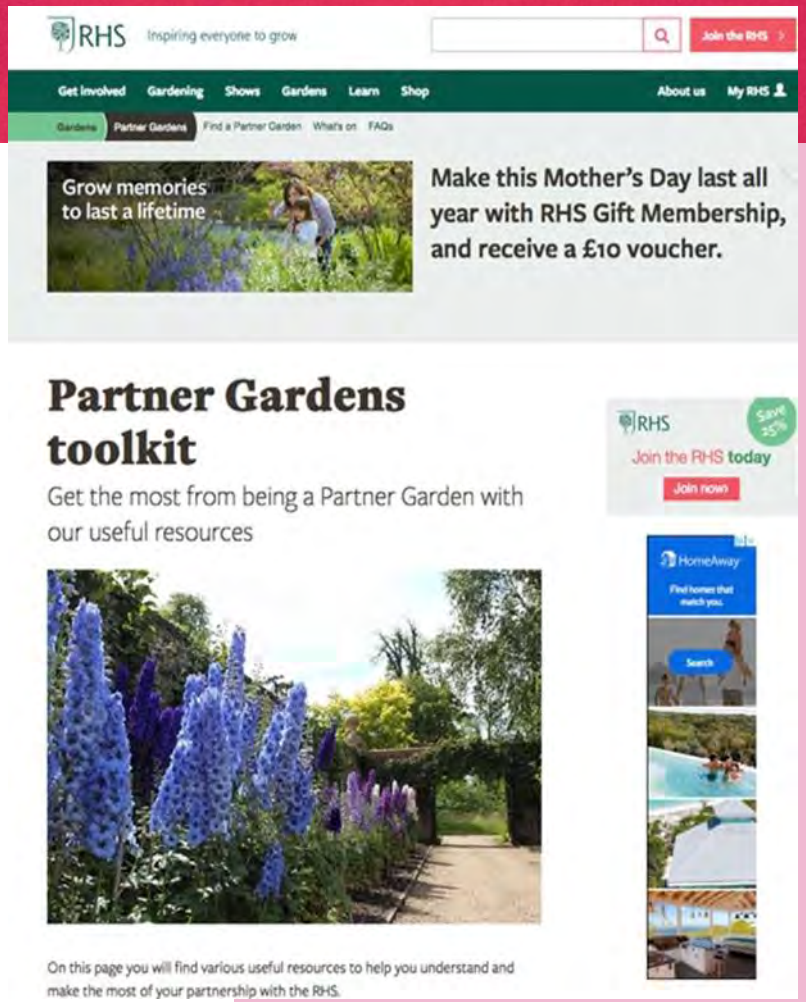
Instagram 182K

Pinterest 163K

Partner Gardens Toolkit

Partner Gardens toolkit

rhs.org.uk/pgtoolkit



RHS



Open Forum