Application of Biosecurity in Arboriculture

Arboricultural ASSOCIATION
trees.org.uk

Find out more, download the NEW Application of Biosecurity in Arboriculture Guidance Note at:

www.trees.org.uk/Biosecurity

GUIDANCE NOTE 2
APPLICATION OF BIOSECURITY IN ARBORICULTURE
Principal Authors: **Simon Cox** and **James Roberts**
The Arboricultural Association
www.trees.org.uk

POLICY COMMITMENTS

- Understand legislative requirements
- Aspire to build resilience
- Contract specifications
- Resource
- Disseminate information
- Don't underestimate the cost of ignorance

BIOSECURITY RISK ASSESSMENT

- Plant Health Risk Register
- Routine 'Keep it Clean'
- Pest or Pathogen specific
- Own practice
- Contractors / Staff
- Consider others

PROMOTE TREE HEALTH

- Reduce stresses
- Take remedial action (mulching, watering, etc)
- Inspections – consider Pests & Pathogens
- Tree pit design
- Aftercare of newly planted trees
- Use Professionals

BUILD RESILIENCE

- The right tree in the right place
- Expand suitable species used
- Size and origin of stock
- Avoid monocultures
- Plan for future climate
- Refer to guidance (Forestry Commission/TDAG)

USE GOOD SUPPLIERS

- Consider source of services and products
- Meets your commitments/ standards of practice
- Favour local sources
- Develop supplier relationships
- Undertake audits and site inspections
- Request evidence to support statements
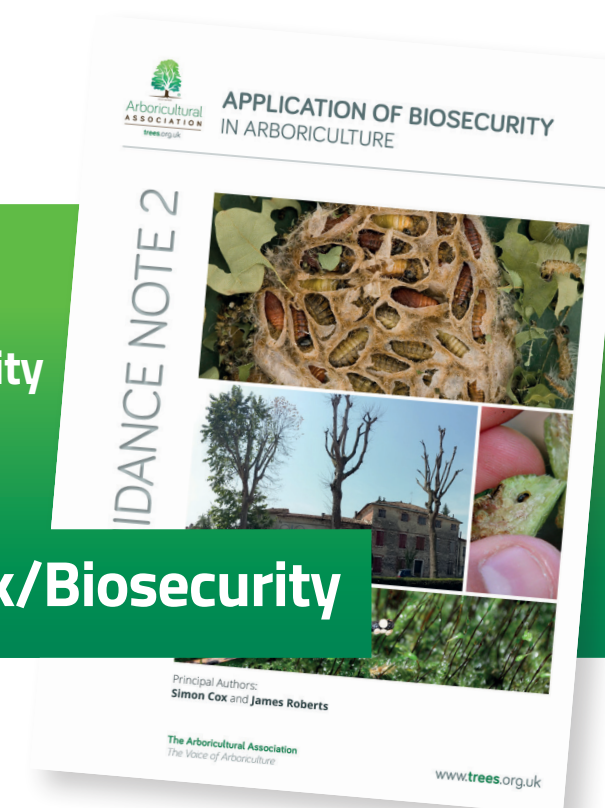
RESPONDING TO AN OUTBREAK

- Contingency planning
- Define roles and responsibilities
- Eradicate / Contain / Adapt
- Record keeping
- Established support network
- Liaise with Plant Health Authority

LEARNING & EDUCATION

- AA's Guidance Note 2: *Application of biosecurity in arboriculture*
- Forestry e-learning biosecurity training
- Pest & Pathogen information (Observatree, Plant Health Authority)
- Sources of additional information (AA, LTOA, etc)
- Plant Health Professional Register
- Experience sharing and case studies

Learn your pathways

KEEP IT CLEAN

Don't give pests and diseases an easy ride

- PPE & Climbing Equipment
- Movement of live plants
- Boots & clothes
- Movement of organic material*
- Vehicles
- Tools & machinery

*Organic materials include plant material, timber, woodchip and firewood.

There are many invertebrates like mites and nematodes, bacteria, phytoplasmas, water molds, plants (mistletoes) and viruses that can cause damage and need to be avoided through biosecurity measures.

Learn how to report signs of dangerous tree pests and diseases.

Cases of ill health found in trees across the UK and Ireland should be reported through:

For the UK the Forestry Commission's TreeAlert which can be found at: **www.forestry.gov.uk/ treealert**

In Ireland and Northern Ireland use TreeCheck which can be found at: **www.treecheck.net**

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