



SUPPORT THE *HYLOBIUS* RESEARCH FUND

The large pine weevil – *Hylobius abietis* – is estimated to cause £7 million worth of damage to young trees every year and this is expected to increase. At present there is a reliance on chemicals to try to minimise this damage which presents risks to both the environment and tree planters.

The ***Hylobius* Industry Research Programme (HIRP)** co-ordinated by a partnership of private and public sector forestry bodies* has established the ***Hylobius* Research Fund** with the intention of investing £2 million over a five year period from 2022-2027 to tackle this problem. These funds will be targeted towards:

1. Developing alternatives to chemical treatments that will work in areas of high pine weevil populations.
2. Developing a viable biocontrol option.
3. Identifying a range of alternative, weather resistant, non-neonicotinoid pesticides that have low environmental impact for use as a last resort.
4. Using tree genetics to identify resistance characteristics in Sitka spruce with a view to breeding more resistant planting stock.
5. Developing an improved predictive *Hylobius* population model.
6. Creating a regularly updated guide on *Hylobius* integrated pest management, accessible to all stakeholders.

* **HIRP** partners include: Forest Research, Forest England, Forestry and Land Scotland, Natural Resources Wales, Coillte, DAERA - Forest Service, Confor, Tilhill, Scottish Woodlands, Maelor Forest Nurseries, Trees Please, Cawdor Forestry, Oxford University, RTS, Swansea University and The Scottish Forestry Trust.

The **HIRP** partnership are appealing to corporate supporters across the forestry sector, concerned individuals, private charitable Trusts and research bodies to provide funds that can be directed towards the actions identified.

A contribution to the ***Hylobius* Research Fund** will help forest owners and managers comply with the requirements of the Forest Stewardship Council's Pesticides Policy which requires allocation of resources to finding alternatives to the use of Acetamiprid. **A suggested contribution is £2.50 per Ha treated – meaning £25 for a 10Ha site or £250 for a 100Ha site.**

Funds will be managed by **The Scottish Forestry Trust** on behalf of the HIRP partnership. SFT have a 40 year track record of supporting forestry research, education and training across the UK.

For more information on how to donate please visit www.scottishforestrytrust.org.uk/hylobius-research-fund or email director@scottishforestrytrust.org.uk.