

Biosecurity issues related to firewood

Dr Matt Elliot, Plant Health & Biosecurity
Scientist

Alistair Yeomans, Sylva Foundation (Scotland)

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Scotland's Plant Health Centre of Expertise

- Funded by the Scottish Government.
- I'm the Impact Officer for 2 sectors – Horticulture, Natural Environment.
- A fantastic initiative for stakeholder engagement.
- Researchers, policy makers and practitioners can propose projects for plant health issues that they are concerned about.



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Assessing long-term resilience of Scottish Sitka spruce forests to climate change and novel pests: A bark-beetle case study

Lead Author: Adam Kleczkowski



Understanding the drivers of emergence of *Curreya pithyophila* and associated impacts on Caledonian pine

Lead Author: Sarah Green



Evidenced-based impacts of severe weather events on forestry pests in Scotland: a meta-analysis

Lead Author: Kyle Miller



Improved preparedness for *Phytophthora* prevention in Scotland

Lead Author: David Cooke



Understanding an emerging health threat to Caledonian Scots pine (*Pinus sylvestris*)

Lead Author: Sarah Green



A preliminary investigation into the threat of Bronze Birch Borer (BBB - *Agrilus anxius*) for Scotland

Lead Author: Katrina Dainton

Firewood movement

- Currently carrying out a project to look at the risks posed by firewood.
- Particularly topical due to the risk posed by several *Agrilus* spp. (e.g., emerald ash borer) and other bark beetles.
- Aim is to understand the risks posed by firewood through clarifying UK firewood trade networks.
- Examining certification schemes.



The risk of firewood as a dispersal pathway for invasive forestry pests

Lead Author: Matt Elliot



A. convexicollis



Euwallacea fornicatus
(the polyphagous shot-hole borer)

Firewood movement

- Engaging with the FC to establish the extent of imports to understand the provenance of UK firewood.
- All imported firewood should be pre-notified and meet certain requirements.
- We also want to understand the level of biosecurity awareness within the firewood sector.
- Examining international firewood movement awareness raising campaigns to see what might work in the UK.

MOVING FIREWOOD
can transport forest
insects and diseases.

**BUY IT WHERE
YOU BURN IT.**

If you're a camper heading out for a trip — or just getting firewood for your stove — do nature a favor. Don't potentially transport invasive species.

Buy locally harvested firewood.
Gather on site where permitted.
Ask a park ranger or campground host about where to get local firewood.

The forest will thank you.

**DONTMOVE
FIREWOOD.org**

Forest insects and diseases kill thousands of trees every day. Keep your backyard, campgrounds and favorite places safe from these insects and diseases.

Prevention is the key. Buy firewood near where you will burn it. Don't move firewood when you travel, camp or visit another state.

Before and after images of trees killed by emerald ash borer.
Don Herms, The Ohio State University (OSU)

*Actual Size

emerald ash borer
Asian longhorned beetle
goldspotted oak borer

**DONTMOVE
FIREWOOD.org**

Learn more at <https://oda.direct/firewood>

OREGON DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
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STATE FORESTS

Oregon Don't Move Firewood Brochure 2025. Credit: Don't Move Firewood, 2025.

Pests of concern

- As part of this work, we used the UK Plant Health Risk Register to create a list of pests.
- Pathways selected were all wood and wood products.
- The used the risk score of 80 and above (non-mitigated).
- This gives us a list of 14 pests and pathogens.

Pest Name	Common name or abbreviation
<i>Ips typographus</i>	Larger eight-toothed European spruce bark beetle.
<i>Phytophthora ramorum</i>	Ramorum leaf blight; Sudden oak death
<i>Agrilus planipennis</i>	Emerald Ash Borer
<i>Agrilus bilineatus</i>	Two-lined chestnut borer
<i>Agrilus anxius</i>	Bronze birch borer
<i>Bretziella fagacearum</i>	Oak wilt; Wilt of oak
<i>Dendrolimus sibiricus</i>	Siberian conifer silk moth
<i>Thaumetopoea processionea</i>	Oak processionary moth; OPM
<i>Dendroctonus valens</i>	Red turpentine beetle
<i>Thaumetopoea pityocampa</i>	Pine processionary moth; PPM
<i>Anoplophora glabripennis</i>	Asian longhorn beetle
<i>Ceratocystis platani</i>	Canker stain of plane; plane wilt
<i>Lambdina fiscellaria</i>	Hemlock looper
<i>Atropellis piniphila</i>	Branch canker of pine

Agrilus beetles

- *Agrilus* (jewel beetles) – the largest genus in the animal kingdom (c. 3000 spp.).
- Some of the most damaging pests globally.
- Emerald ash borer (*A. planipennis*) has caused the loss of billions of ash in North America.
- Bronze birch borer (*A. anxius*) is a serious pest on birch trees in the US, frequently killing them.
- Two-lined chestnut borer (*A. bilineatus*) is a highly destructive North American pest of oak.



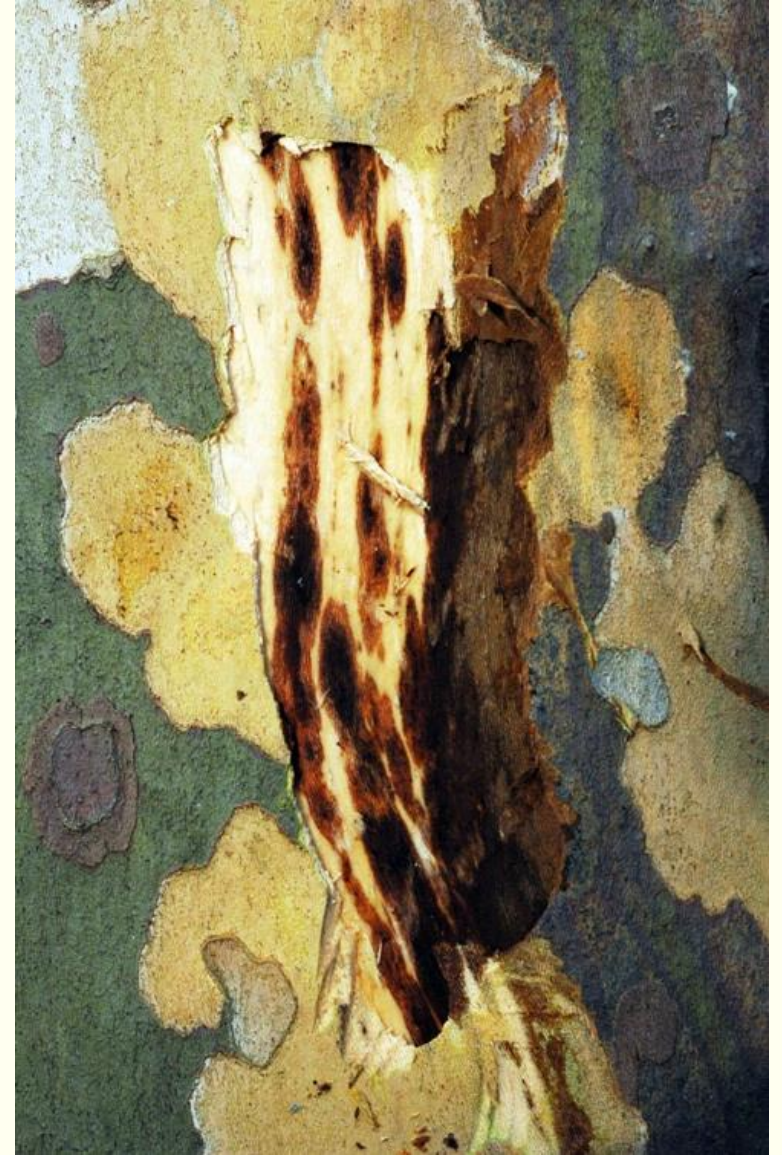
A. planipennis.
Picture, EPPO



A. bilineatus.
Picture, EPPO

Pathogens

- *Ceratocystis platani* (canker stain of plane) is a devastating fungal disease of plane trees.
- It is present in several European countries.
- Spread easily through the movement of infected cuttings, plants and wood.
- The long-lived spores can persist in soil, sawdust and on un-sterilised pruning and cutting tools.
- Causes staining of the xylem, severe wilting and chlorosis, and tree death within a short time.
- The impact in the UK's cities would be high.



C. platani lesion. Forest Research



Picture: Woodland Trust



Picture: Arbtalk

Please consider taking part in the survey



Thank you

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