

## Research Advisory Service

# REPORT OF TREE PROBLEM FOR DIAGNOSIS

Your Ref:

Advisory Service Ref: ADV/

**Please fill in this form as far as possible as this will greatly improve our ability to provide a quick diagnosis of the problem. Supplementary sheets are available for nursery and planting stock quality problems.**

### COLLECTING AND DESPATCHING SPECIMENS FOR DIAGNOSIS

- **All specimens:** Send enough specimens to show all stages of the disorder, from apparently healthy to severely damaged tissue. Pack and send soon after collection ensuring that the specimens are not wet and that no moisture has been added. Despatch early in the week.
- **Small seedlings:** Handle very gently to avoid damage during lifting and packing (in the case of JPP's etc, leave in the containers). Pack in a polythene bag and in a rigid container to prevent crushing. Please also refer to Supplementary Sheet A for nursery problems.
- **Planting stock:** Sample a number of bags, taking trees from the middle of any bundle. Please also refer to Supplementary Sheet B for plant quality problems.
- **Small trees:** If trees are small enough, dig them up, gently shake off loose soil (retaining it as a specimen if required) and send the whole tree. Cut it into sections if this aids packing.
- **Root, stem and branch specimens:** Include the junction between live and dead bark tissue where possible. If alive, the inner bark is whitish or pinkish when cut into with the point of a knife; if dead, it is brownish or blackish. Delicate material on bark should not be scraped off but sampled by paring off a thin piece of bark or, if the bark is dead or too hard, by chiselling a section out.
- **Soil specimens:** Take small samples of soil from near roots and stems at scattered points at various depths around affected trees to make, in total, at least a cupful. Pack in a sealed polythene bag.
- **Foliage, woody material and hard fungal fruit-bodies:** Pack separately in sealed polythene bags. If leaf fall is the problem, send some fallen leaves together with some twigs with affected leaves still attached. Cut samples of decayed wood to include the zone between decayed and sound wood.
- **Fleshy fungal fruit-bodies:** Send in dry packing material in a stout cardboard box. Please do not use polythene bag since these specimens will putrify quickly.
- **Insects:** Send insects, mites etc, in rigid, escape-proof containers with a small amount of soft tissue paper as packing. Ensure that tops are taped on.

***When you have completed the form please send it, together with a cheque (payable to "Forest Research") for the appropriate fee or tick the box on page 4 if you would like to be invoiced, to:***

**South of the Humber/Mersey line:**

Forest Research  
Alice Holt Lodge  
Wrecclesham  
FARNHAM  
Surrey GU10 4LH

Tel: 01420 23000  
Fax: 01420 23653

**North of the Humber/Mersey line:**

Forest Research  
Northern Research Station  
Bush Estate  
ROSLIN  
Midlothian EH25 9SY

Tel: 0131 445 2176  
Fax: 0131 445 5124

**Please also mark the envelope as follows if you suspect a particular cause:**

For diseases or disorders – PATH

For insect problems – ENTO

For mammal/bird damage – WILD

For herbicide damage – HERB

For cultural problems – SILV

■ CLIENT DETAILS

Enquirer:

Owner (if different):

Surname: .....

Surname: .....

First Name: .....

First Name: .....

Client No. (if known) .....

Client No (if known) .....

Address: .....

Address .....

.....

.....

.....

.....

Post town: .....

Post town: .....

County: ..... Postcode: .....

County: ..... Postcode: .....

Phone (day): .....

Phone (day): .....

Email: .....

Email: .....

Status (e.g. Tree surgeon, Private individual)

Status (e.g. Tree surgeon, Private individual)

.....

.....

■ SITE DETAILS

Forest or Wood / Shelterbelt / Hedge or Screen / Parkland Avenue / Parkland / Urban Park /  
Street Trees / Nursery / Christmas Tree Plantation / Garden / Other.

Location (including forest/wood name and compartment if applicable):.....

.....

Grid reference:.....

Area of woodland etc (or length of hedge/ screen/ shelterbelt):.....

Soil – Texture: Clay/ Loam/ Sand/ Peat/ Gravel/ Spoil – Drainage: Good/ Poor/ Waterlogged

– Reaction: Acidic/ Neutral/ Alkaline (chalk/lime)/ Unknown – pH value:.....

Slope: Level/ Slight/ Moderate/ Steep

Aspect: NW/ N/ NE/ E/ SE/ S/ SW/ W

Exposure (sheltered, exposed to N etc): ..... Elevation: .....

Previous land use: .....

.....

Ground vegetation: .....

.....

Site changes in previous 2 years: .....

■ TREE DETAILS

Species (scientific name if known): .....

Age: ..... Height: ..... Stem diameter: ..... Planting date: .....

For recent planting or nurseries: Plant type: Container-grown/ Bare rooted/ Root-ball/ Seedling/ Transplant

Supplying nursery: .....

■ **PROBLEM DETAILS:** (*Use diagrams/sketches in your replies, where appropriate*)

Description of symptoms (photographs can be helpful):

Fungal fruit-bodies/ insects present:

Distribution of symptoms on individual:

Distribution of affected trees in relation to healthy trees/plants (of same or different species):

Sketch map of site:

■ **PROBLEM DETAILS** (Continued)

Proportion of planting or number of trees affected: .....

Development of symptom/ damage: All at once/ Progressive – slow/ Progressive – fast

Date when first noticed ..... Are symptoms still developing : Yes/ No

Estimate when damage occurred: .....

Is there similar damage at other sites in area? .....

.....

If you suspect a particular cause, please state and give reasons: .....

.....

■ **MANAGEMENT HISTORY** (for nurseries use Supplementary Sheet A):

Site preparation (recent planting) and other cultural operations\*:

Operation	Date
.....	.....
.....	.....
.....	.....
.....	.....
.....	.....
.....	.....

Chemicals and fertilisers used\*:

Material	Rate	Method	Date
.....	.....	.....	.....
.....	.....	.....	.....
.....	.....	.....	.....
.....	.....	.....	.....
.....	.....	.....	.....
.....	.....	.....	.....

Date of last thinning (forests/woods): .....

■ **ACCOUNT DETAILS:**

Fee of £ ..... enclosed

Cheque/PO No: .....

OR Tick box if invoice is required

Date: .....

Office use: A35 No .....

Date passed to Accounts .....