Ash die-back
Chalara fraxinea
An overview for Kent Tree Wardens – and others!
Ash

An overview for Kent Tree Wardens – and others!
Ash
Is an amazing tree,
supports some amazing wildlife,
has amazing wood,
has some nasty-looking enemies,
is being attacked by an amazing fungus, Chalara,
and needs a cunning plan!
Ash supports some amazing wildlife
Dusky thorn, photo: Amy Lewis
Ash

Has amazing wood
Ash

Has some nasty-looking enemies
Ash

Is being attacked by an amazing fungus
Chalara fraxinea
or
Hymenoscyphus pseudoalbidus
Chalara dieback of Ash

Chalara fraxinea
Chalara dieback of Ash
Ash

Needs a cunning plan
The interim Chalara Control Plan set out that the current restrictions on the movement of ash trees would remain in place and the Government committed to review this by spring 2013. The restrictions were originally imposed to prevent, as far as possible, the disease entering and spreading within Great Britain, and to provide the opportunity to identify disease free areas from which plants could be safely moved. The evidence from the survey and the modelling is that it is unlikely to be possible to demarcate disease free areas within England. Given that Chalara cannot be eradicated, the Government believes that planting of new ash should be discouraged and freeing up the movement of ash now is not consistent with this objective.
Table 1 – Priority areas (identified by Categories)

The following counties are classed as being ‘Category B’. This list will be subject to change as our understanding on the spread of disease develops:

Lincolnshire, Rutland, Norfolk, Suffolk, Buckinghamshire, Greater London, Berkshire, Surrey, Kent, West Sussex, East Sussex

English counties not in the list above are classed as ‘Category A’.

Table 2 – Grant allocation

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Category A</th>
<th>Category B</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Removal and disposal payment</td>
<td>Available on infected sites</td>
<td>Not available</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>£1000/ha</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Restocking payment</td>
<td>Available on infected sites</td>
<td>Available on infected and un-infected sites</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>£2000/ha</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
RFS welcomes £1.5 million for Chalara research but calls for more support for landowners. The research project announced on 26 March 2013 by Environment Secretary Owen Paterson will see a quarter of a million young ash trees planted in up to 25 sites, mainly in East Anglia. The young trees will be exposed and monitored in the search for resistance.
• Frequently inspect any ash trees in your care, and especially any which have been planted during the past five years.

• Exercise good plant hygiene: biosecurity is paramount in preventing the spread of the disease. Clean and disinfect footwear, tools and vehicles when moving between sites.

• Make yourself familiar with the symptoms of Chalara dieback using the pictorial guide and video guides on the FC’s Chalara website.

• Report any suspected cases to Forest Research _ I don’t bother anymore!
‘Don’t you worry, sir. I’ve had a good look at your ash trees and there’s no sign of any spreading fungal diseases.’