

Look out for signs of Ash Dieback in Spring

Although the symptoms are not the easiest to spot at this time it is important to observe your Ash trees now to check for dieback.

There are many variants of Ash growing throughout the UK which come into leaf at different times. It is usually one of the last tree species to flush. If an Ash does not have any leaves on it this month it does not necessarily mean it is diseased but a healthy ash will be in full leaf by mid-June.

Some shoots on ash trees will not flush at all and others may flush normally and show signs of ill-health or dieback later. However, shoot death and dieback in Ash can have a number of causes. If in doubt seek advice.

Stay vigilant and look out for other symptoms of Chalara Ask Dieback:

- Wilting leaves in spring and early summer
- Lesions and cankers on stems, branches and shoots
- Leaf dieback with brown/black leaf stalks
- Dead or dying tops of trees during summer
- Fungi on dropped black leaf stalks between June and October

Resources

The Forestry Commission has produced a new video outlining symptoms to look for:
<http://www.forestry.gov.uk/chalara#Symptoms>

A Forestry Commission Guide is also available online

What to do if you have a diseased tree

You can notify the Forestry Commission via an online Tree Alert Form.
This can also be downloaded as a mobile app.
Both available at <http://www.forestry.gov.uk/trealert>

Contacts:

England and Wales

Chalara helpline: 08459 33 55 77 (8am - 6pm daily)
plant.health@forestry.gsi.gov.uk

Scotland

Forestry Commission Scotland: 0131 314 6156 (9am - 5pm
weekdays/ out-of-hours messaging)
fcscotlandenquiries@forestry.gsi.gov.uk