

helpline@defra.gov.uk  
[www.gov.uk/defra](http://www.gov.uk/defra)

17 March 2021

Dear Sir/Madam,

## Rapid Pest Risk Analysis (PRA) on *Monochamus guttulatus*

I am writing to seek your views on a UK Pest Risk Analysis for *Monochamus guttulatus*. A link to the rapid PRA can be found at the website given below:

<https://planthealthportal.defra.gov.uk/pests-and-diseases/pest-risk-analyses/>

**We would welcome your views and comments on the PRA and the proposals for future action.**

In submitting any comments you may wish to focus on the summary, key uncertainties and conclusion sections of the risk assessments and to consider the following:

- Are any factual corrections required?
- Your view on the appropriateness of the suggested proposals for future actions?
- Can you provide any additional information (or links to other sources of information) that may help address uncertainty identified in the assessment/management measures?
- Are there any risks that have not been adequately considered?
- Have you reviewed the risk assessment and consider that you have nothing further to add?

This review applies to the UK and is being conducted by the Department for Environment Food and Rural Affairs, with the agreement of the Scottish Government, Welsh Government and Northern Ireland Government. The objective of this consultation is to gather views from all interested sectors on the UK position to progress. We will take all comments made into account in developing the UK position.

## Background

During the creation of DEFRA's ash pest list in response to ash dieback, *Monochamus guttulatus* was identified as a potential pest of ash that could cause damage within the UK.

*Monochamus guttulatus* is a beetle pest of a wide range of broadleaved hosts in the Russian Far East, northern China and Korea. The pest causes no significant economic impact in its current distribution. The available information about the pest is very limited with very high degrees of uncertainty surrounding every aspect of this PRA.

Several broadleaved tree species in the UK could be considered at risk of this pest, as well as potential damage to the timber industry. If established, eradication from the wider environment would be difficult, but may be aided by the slow rate of natural spread expected for this pest.

## Recommendations for action

The UK Plant Health Risk Group (PHRG) review is presenting the following option regarding future action against this pest:

- **Statutory action.** The UK PRA concludes that there is still uncertainty over the impact of this pest, however there is a high possibility that should it arrive it could establish. It is a quarantine pest in plant health legislation under the listing "Monochamus spp." Given the possibility of this pest causing more damage in the UK than its native range, continued exclusion is a sensible approach in the absence of certainties over its potential impact.

All responses should be sent to [plantpestrisks@defra.gov.uk](mailto:plantpestrisks@defra.gov.uk)

Responses should be received by **9<sup>th</sup> June 2021.**

Information provided in response to this consultation, including personal information, may be made available to the public on request, in accordance with the requirements of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA) and the Environmental information Regulations 2004 (EIRs)

If you do not wish your response, including your name, contact details and any other personal information, to be publically available, please say so clearly in writing when you send your response to the consultation. Please note that if your computer automatically includes a confidentiality disclaimer, this will not count as a confidentiality request. Please explain why you need to keep details confidential. We will take your reasons into account if someone asks for the information under freedom of information legislation. However, we cannot guarantee that we will always be able to keep those details confidential.

Yours faithfully,

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