

Xylella Awareness Week—Workshop 3

Horticulture trade, including nursery owners, landscapers, plant buyers and specifiers

March 4 2021, 09:30—12:45

Session Chairs: Gerard Clover (Forest Research)

Summary: *Xylella fastidiosa* is a bacterial pathogen, spread by spittlebugs, which has emerged in importance since being detected in continental Europe. This bacterial pathogen infects more than 500 plant, shrub and tree species, causing leaf scorch, wilt, dieback, and in some cases plant death. There is no known cure for the disease.

Xylella is not currently present in the UK. The BRIGIT project (www.jic.ac.uk/brigit) works to improve our understanding of the disease so that the UK is better prepared should it be introduced.

This session aims to provide an update of our understanding for horticulture trade, including nursery owners, landscapers, plant buyers and specifiers.



BRIGIT

Vector Borne Disease of Plants

Agenda

09:30 - 09:35 **Introduction to workshop & presenters**

Gerard Clover (Forest Research)

09:35 - 09:50 **What is *Xylella*?**

Anna Platoni (RHS)

09:50 - 10:05 **Where is *Xylella*?**

Ana Pérez-Sierra (Forest Research)

10:05 - 10:20 **Perspective from Industry**

Richard McKenna, Managing Director – Provender Nurseries Ltd

10:20 - 10:45 **Regulatory framework**

Dominic Eyre and Sharon Matthews-Berry (Defra)

10:45 - 11:00 **Questions and Discussion**

11:00 - 11:15 **Break**

11:15 - 11:45 **Introduction to froghoppers & leafhoppers**

Alan Stewart (University of Sussex) and Claire Harkin (University of Sussex)

11:45 - 12:00 **Questions and Discussion**

12:00 - 12:35 **Regulations, Responses, and Responsibilities**

Rehema White (University of St Andrews), Mariella Marzano (Forest Research), Chris Pollard (Forest Research) and Althea Davies (University of St Andrews).

In this session researchers will feed back preliminary results from their research exploring how inspectors, and those who grow, purchase, sell, plant and conserve plants may respond to regulatory scenarios regarding *Xylella* and how each stakeholder has responsibility for ensuring plant health. We will explore these questions with you to ensure that we minimise unintended negative consequences from and for people and plants.

12:35 - 12:45 **Questions and Answers**