

## Monitoring for threatening plant pathogens in Northern Ireland

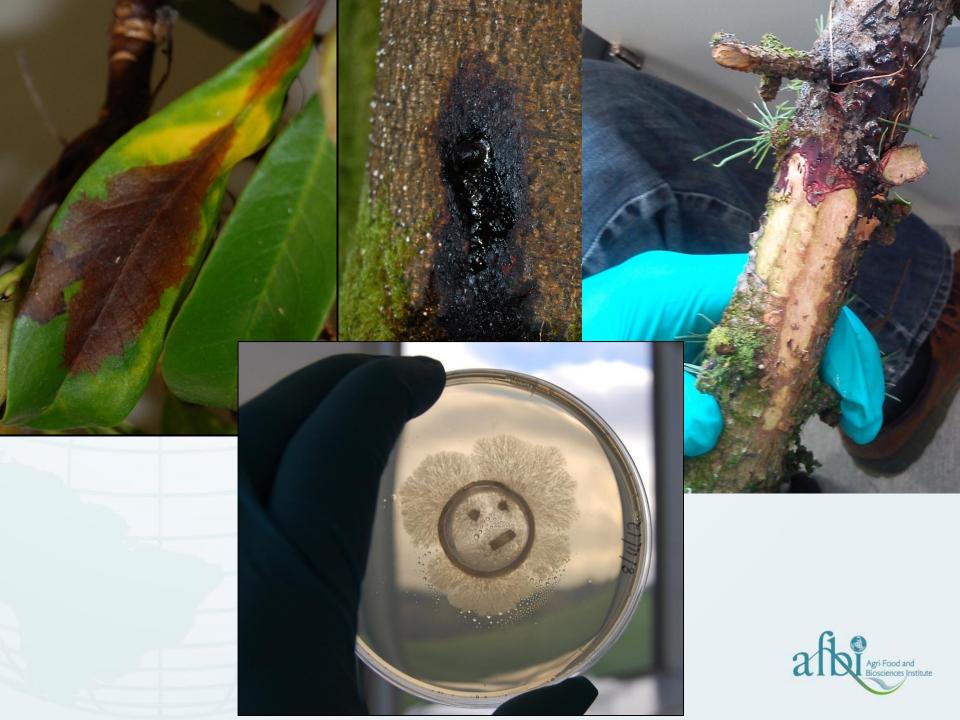
Dr Richard O Hanlon Grassland and Plant Science Branch EPPO workshop 13/12/17

www.afbini.gov.uk

## The Sudden larch death epidemic

- Pre-2010, *P. ramorum* infection in forests associated with infected Rhododendron
- Since 2010, Disease epidemic in Japanese larch not always associated with Rhododendron
- Epidemic in Japanese larch spread rapidly and over long distances
- Policy enforced removal of Japanese larch in Ireland (>300ha), Northern Ireland (>1000ha) and Britain (>17,000ha)







P. ramorum infected Japanese larch in Kilkenny ca. 2010/2011 Photo credit Food and Gerard Cahalane Forest Service

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ARMAGH

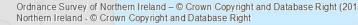
#### TYRONE

1:800,000

### FERMANAGH

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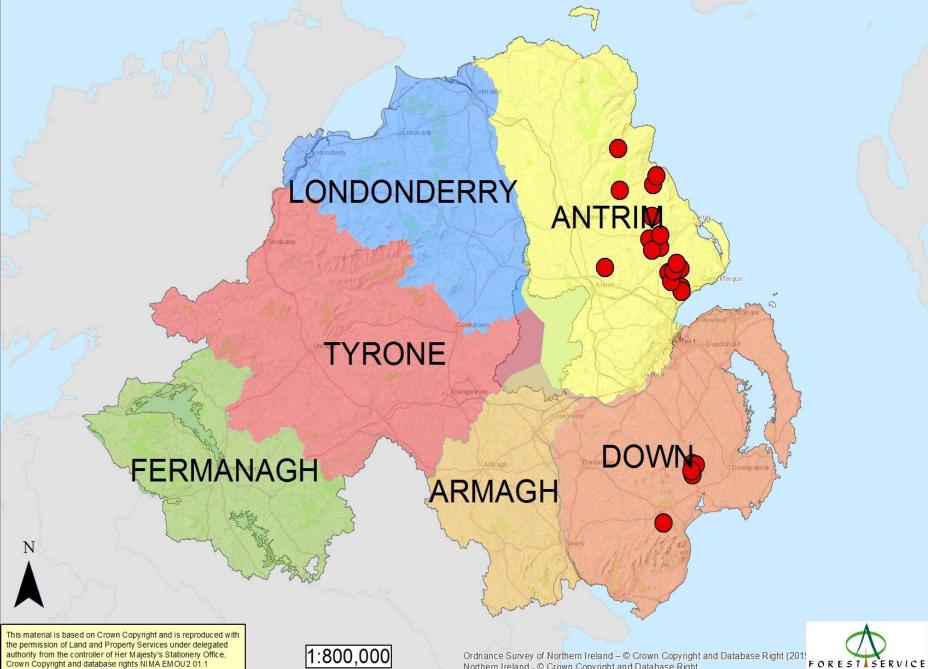
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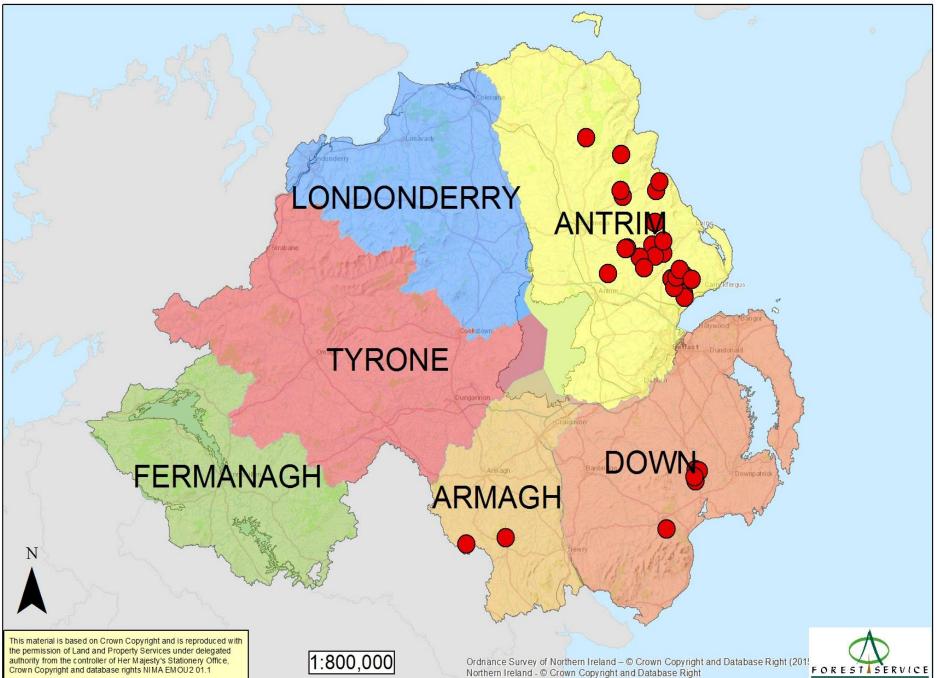
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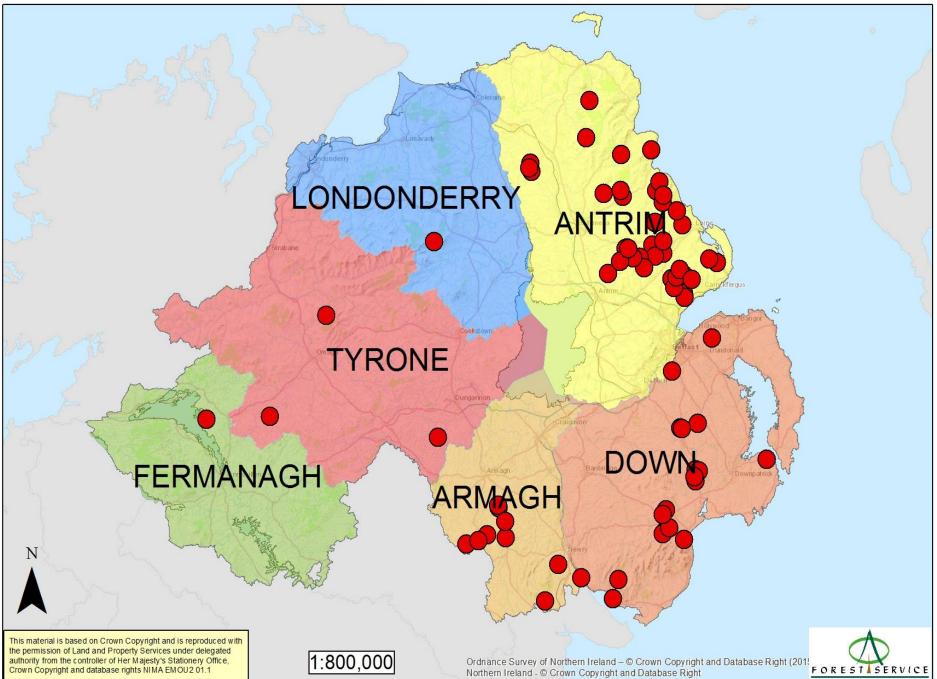
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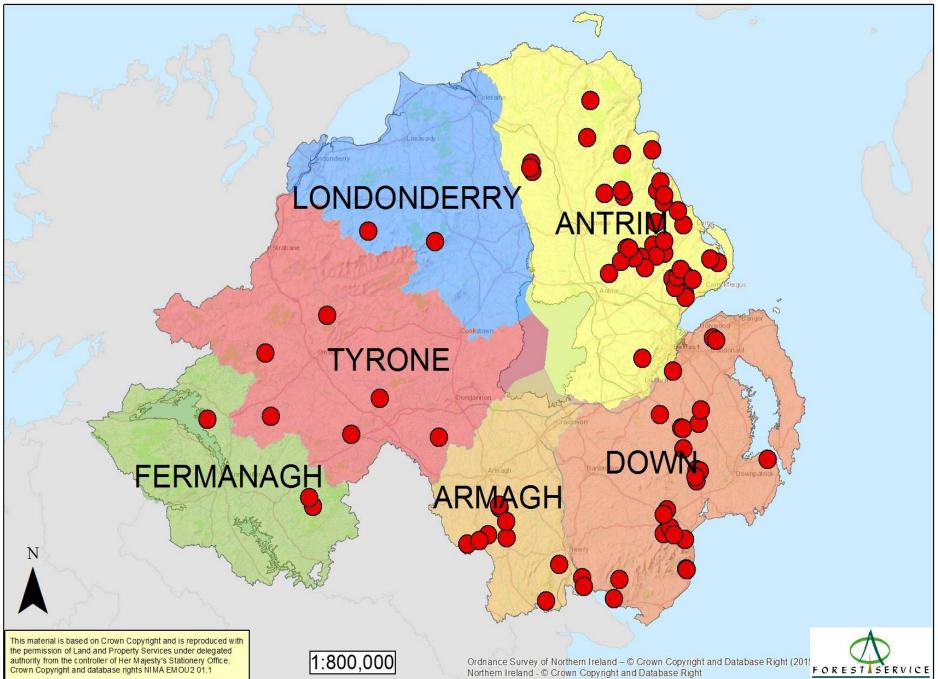


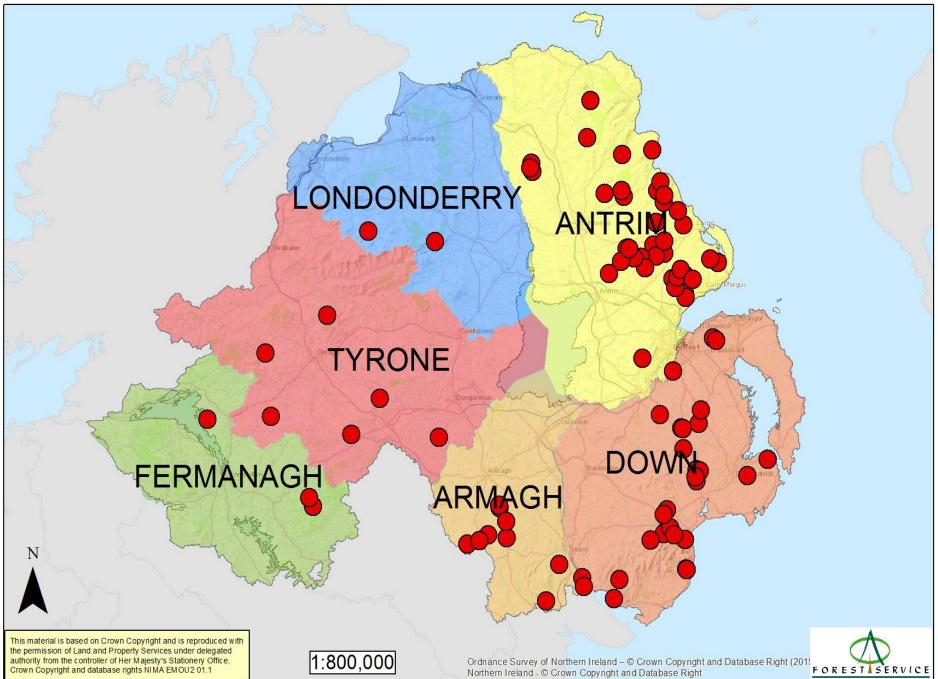


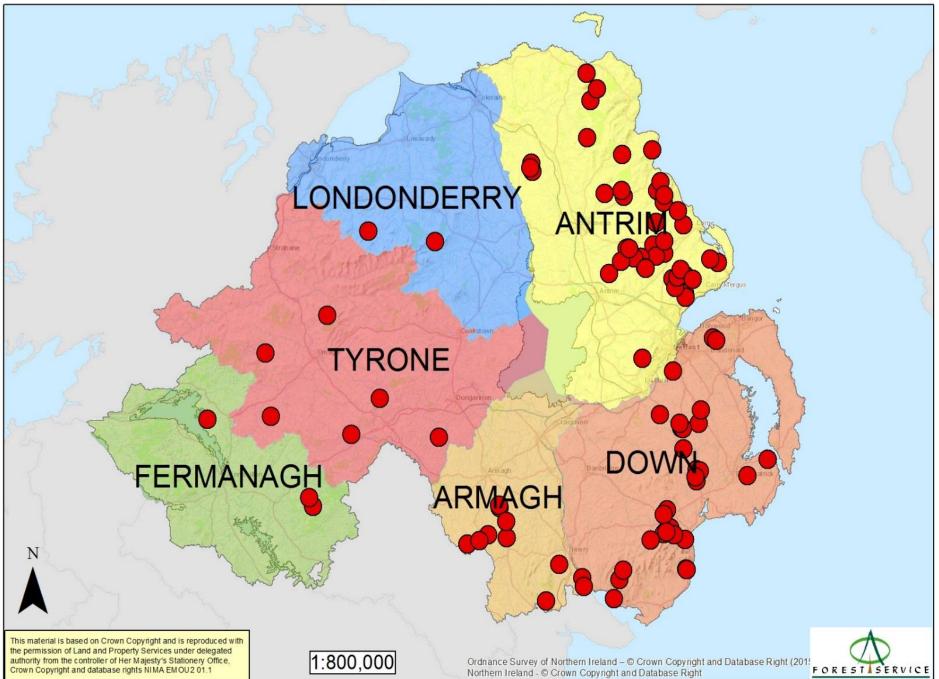
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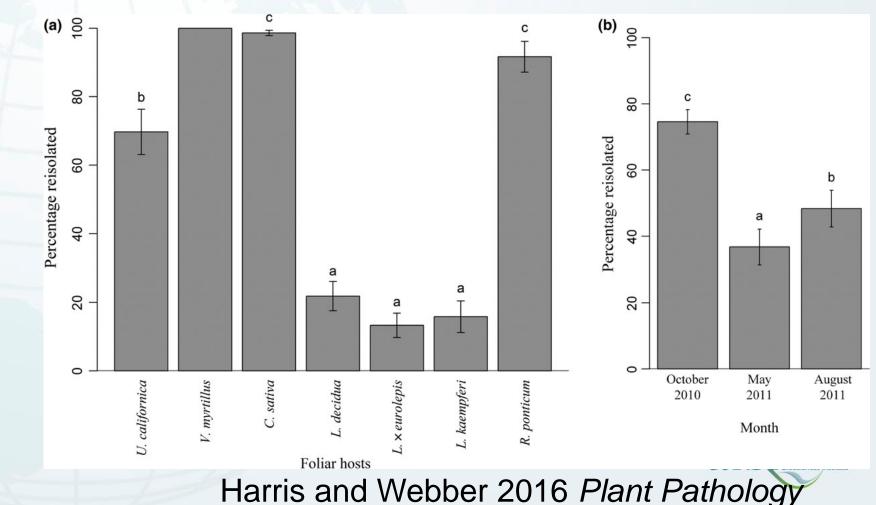




Long distance aerial spread?

## **Cryptic infection**

<20% of infected needles developed symptoms</li>
<20% reisolation rate</li>

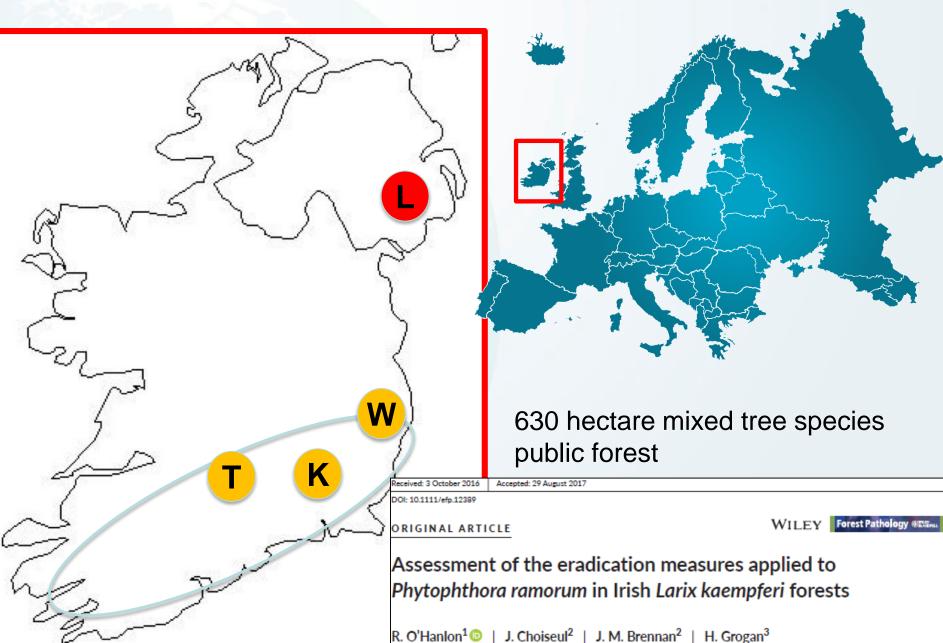


## P. ramorum samples tested AFBI

Year	Samples	No. Positive
2006	55	2
2007	317	62
2008	178	24
2009	73	3
2010	38	5
2011	77	11
2012	263	50
2013	248	156
2014	142	40
2015	95	22
2016	28	9
2017	5	1
All	1519	385

Species	Source
P. plurivora	Beech (2014)
P. gonapodyides	Water (2017)
P. chlamydospora	Water (2017)
P. lacustris	Water (2017)
	Agri-Food and Biosciences In

## The sites



#### Sites visited monthly since 05/17

- 13 rain traps sampled
- 8 streams baited
- Symptomatic and asymptomatic plant samples taken
- Samples plated onto selective media (PARP)
- Isolates morphologically examined and ITS sequenced

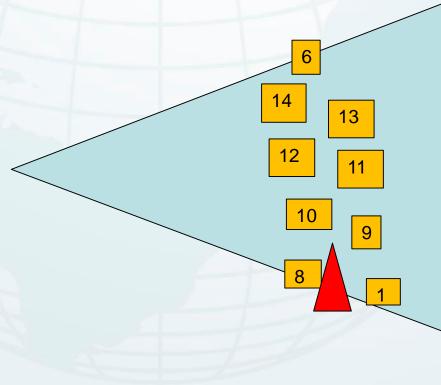
Samples	Samples ( <i>Phytophthora</i> positive %)	Taxa
Plant material	23 (17)	4 ( <i>P. cambivora, P. chlamydospora, P. gonapodyides, P. ramorum</i> , P. sp)
Low traps	44 (27)	3 ( <i>P. cambivora, P. chlamydospora, <b>P. ramorum</b>, P. spp.)</i>
High traps	40 (23)	3 ( <i>Phytopythium litorale</i> , P. sp., <i>Pythium</i> sp.)
Water baits	49 (76)	9 ( <i>P. chlamydospora, P. gonapodyides, <b>P. ramorum</b>, P. taxon oaksoil, <i>P. lacustris</i>, P. spp., <i>Phytopythium litorale, Pythium</i> sp., <i>Nothophytophthora</i> sp. )</i>

#### WATER BAIT PHYTOPHTHORA COMMUNITY



# P. ramorum 1 stream near infected ornamental Rhododendron

• 1 rainwater trap near infected *L. kaempferi* 





## Advantages

- Identify real-time spread of pathogen
- Cheap materials to manufacture
- Visible effort to stakeholders
- Stream baiting useful to focus surveys



## Disadvantages

- Not direct evidence of infection
- Time consuming
- Selective baiting host?



## **Contact details**

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