

Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs

The Official Controls (Plant Health and Genetically Modified Organisms) (England) Regulations 2019

Plant health: Brown rot river demarcation notice

Plant health inspectors have confirmed the presence of *Ralstonia solanacearum* (Smith) Yabuuchi et al. in watercourses described in the first column of the tables in the annex. *Ralstonia solanacearum* (Smith) Yabuuchi et al. is the bacterium that causes potato brown rot.

The plant health inspectors were appointed by the Animal and Plant Health Agency for the purposes of the Official Controls (Plant Health and Genetically Modified Organisms) (England) Regulations 2019 ('the regulations').

The Animal and Plant Health Agency, in exercise of the powers conferred by regulation 17(2) of the regulations, gives the following notice:

Citation and amendment

1. This notice:

- a) may be cited as the 'plant health: brown rot river demarcation notice'
- b) has effect from midday on 14 August 2026

Demarcated area

2. Pursuant to regulation 17(2)(a) of the regulations, this notice:

- designates each watercourse or stretch of watercourse described in the second column of the tables in the annex as a contaminated watercourse
- demarcates the area of land within 20 kilometres of the centre of each contaminated watercourse as a zone of contamination

Prohibition on use of contaminated surface water

3. No person may use water from a contaminated watercourse to irrigate or spray potatoes or tomatoes being grown in the relevant demarcated zone without an inspector's prior written authorisation. This is pursuant to regulation 17(2)(b).

Commencement of prohibition

4. The prohibition specified in paragraph 2 applies with effect from 14 August 2026 until 14 August 2032.

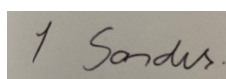
Revocation of previous notice

5. Pursuant to regulation 17(3)(e), the previous notice is revoked. This previous notice was made under paragraph 31 of Part 6 of Schedule 2 to the Official Controls (Plant Health and Genetically Modified Organisms) (England) Regulations 2019. It applied with effect from 1 March 2021.

Commencement of measures

6. The measures stipulated in this notice apply on and after midday on 14 August 2026 until further notice.

Signed



Ian Sanders

Principle Plant Health and Seeds Inspector

Annex: Description of contaminated watercourses

Table 1: River Great Ouse system (Cambridgeshire, Bedfordshire) contaminated watercourses

Watercourse	Location of contamination
River Great Ouse	From Chawston extraction point (TL170560) to Earith (TL389748).
River Ivel	From Girtford Bridge (TL164489) to its confluence with the River Great Ouse.
Bedford and River Ivel Internal Drainage Board normal channel 113, from the River Ivel, Bedfordshire	From Sandy (TL164489) to Tempsford (TL161534).

Table 2: River Nene system (Northamptonshire, Cambridgeshire) contaminated watercourses

Watercourse	Location of contamination
River Nene	From Wansford Bridge (TL075992) to the Dog in a Doublet sluice (TL272993).

Table 3: Middle Level Fenland Waterways (Cambridgeshire) contaminated watercourses

Watercourse	Location of contamination
Sixteen Foot Drain	Entire length from TL422874 to TL496994.
Middle Level Main Drain	Entire length from Cotton's Corner Bridge (TL496994) to the Sluice at Wighenhall St Germans (TF 588143).
Well Creek	From Salter's Lode lock (TF586016) to Marmont Priory Lock (TF488013).

Table 4: Middle Level Fenland Waterways (Cambridgeshire) contaminated watercourses

Watercourse	Location of contamination
New and Old Pophams Eau	Entire length from TL468004 where it joins the River Nene (old course) to Nordelph (TL554010).
Forty Foot Drain	From the bottom of the Sixteen Foot Drain (TL422874) to Welches Dam (TL469858), and from Wells Bridge at TL299881 to the bottom of the Sixteen Foot at TL422874.
Independent Internal Drainage Board (IDB): Euximoor	All channels within the boundary shown in the map in figure 1 in this annex.

Figure 1: Map of contaminated zones of the Euximoor IDB

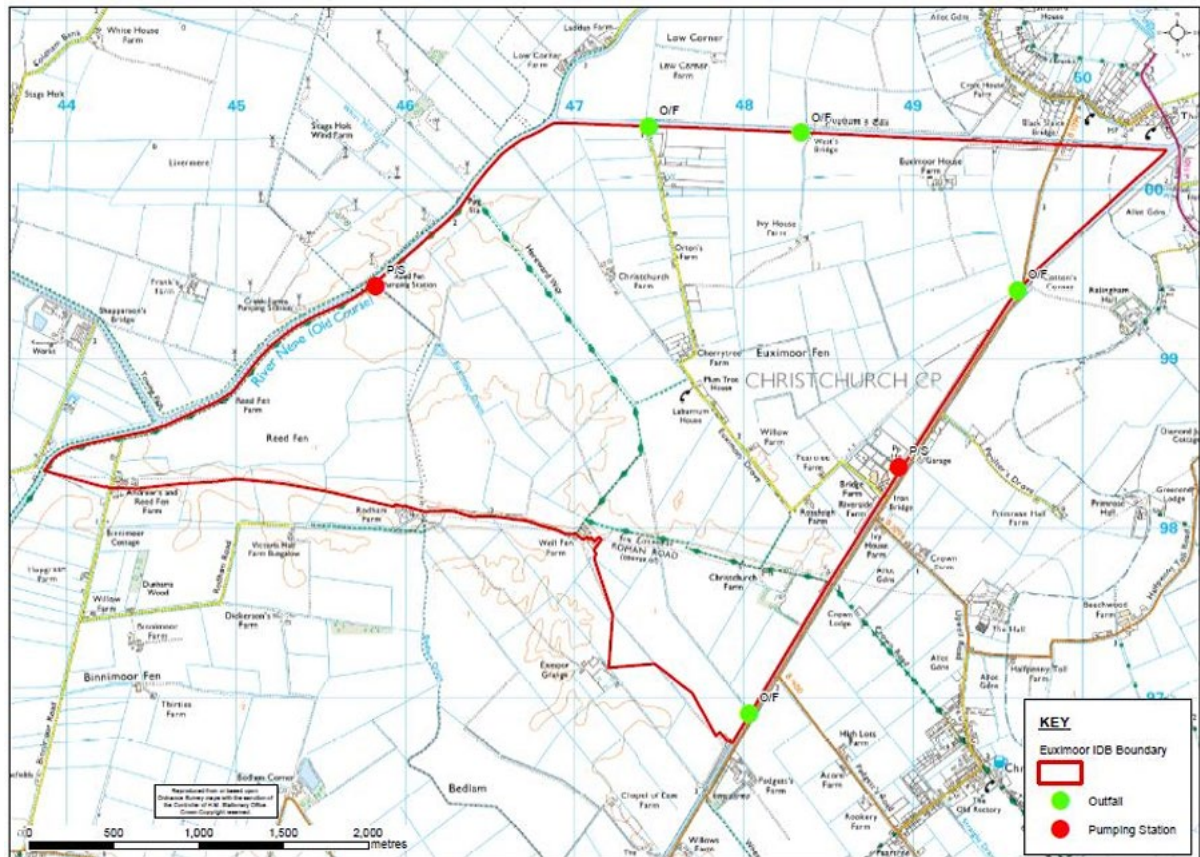


Figure 1 shows the boundary of the Euximoor Internal Drainage Board (IDB) area in the Christchurch and Wimblington area of Cambridgeshire. The boundary:

1. Starts at the junction of Popham's Eau and the Middle Level Main Drain, south of Three Holes.
2. Follows Popham's Eau south-west to Sixteen Foot Bank (B1098).
3. Follows the B1098 south-west to Padgetts Farm.
4. Continues around field boundaries near Brimstone Manor, Euximoor Grange and Well Fen Farm.
5. Follows a public footpath east towards Rodham Farm.
6. Continues north and east past Andrews Farm and Reed Fen Farm to the River Nene.
7. Follows the River Nene north-east to its junction with Popham's Eau near Low Corner.
8. Follows Popham's Eau back to the junction with the Middle Level Main Drain at the starting point.

Table 5: River Thames system (Hertfordshire, Wiltshire, Gloucestershire, Oxfordshire, Buckinghamshire, Berkshire, Surrey, Greater London) contaminated watercourses

Watercourse	Location of contamination
River Thames	From Castle Eaton (SU145958) to the Thames barrier (TQ415795).
Great Brook	Entire length.
Colne Brook	Entire length.
River Colne	Entire length.
River Lea (or Lee)	Entire length.
River Loddon	From the minor road bridge over the River Loddon between Stratfield Saye and Stratfield Turgis (SU692611) to its confluence with the River Thames.
Wraysbury River	Entire length.
Salford Stream	From TQ345482 to the confluence with the River Mole (TQ263465).
The Cut, Paley Street	From Fernhill Farm (SU931726) and Brookside Farm (SU922708) to the confluence with the River Thames (SU917786).
The Channel, Bisham	From Frogmill Farm (SU810832) to the confluence with the River Thames (SU861857).
White Brook, Cookham	From SU891864 to the confluence with the River Thames (SU905832).
River Jubilee	Entire length, from SU904829 to SU978788.

Table 6: River Frome (Dorset) contaminated watercourses

Watercourse	Location of contamination
River Frome	From East Stoke (SY872867) to its confluence with Poole Harbour.

Table 7: River Avon (Dorset) contaminated watercourses

Watercourse	Location of contamination
River Avon	From the confluence with Ditchend Brook (SU148133) to the mouth of the River Avon in Christchurch (SZ161923).

Table 8: River Trent system (Staffordshire, Derbyshire, Nottinghamshire, Lincolnshire) contaminated watercourses

Watercourse	Location of contamination
River Trent	From the footbridge at the confluence of the canal and river at Alrewas (SK171155) to the confluence with the River Humber.
Beeston Canal	Entire length from Riverside Road Lock (SK536353) to Meadow Lane Lock (SK582384).
Chesterfield Canal	From Retford Park (SK703808) to its confluence with the River Trent (SK785946).
Erewash Canal	From Steamboat Inn Lock (SK490313) to its confluence with the River Trent (SK490312).

Watercourse	Location of contamination
River Idle	Entire length, from the convergence of the River Maun and River Meden (SK703752) to the Idle's confluence with the River Trent (SK790946).
Trent and Mersey Canal	From Alrewas Lock (SK171155) to its confluence with the River Trent (SK458307), and from Bridge Farm, Church Lawton (SJ820555) to its confluence with the Middlewich Branch of the Shropshire Union Canal (SJ 706657).
River Maun	From the point at which the River Maun diverges from the River Meden (SK661721) to the Maun's convergence with the River Meden (SK703752) to form the River Idle.

Table 9: South Yorkshire Tributary of River Tees contaminated watercourses

Watercourse	Location of contamination
Old EA Beck, Smallholme and Tilts	From the confluence of The Skell and Hampole Dike (SE527099), to its convergence with the River Don, east of Thorpe in Balne (SE603109).
The Skell	From Hollins Farm (SE503128) to the Skell's convergence with Hampole Dike (SE527099) to form the Old Ea Beck River Skerne (County Durham).

Table 10: River Skerne (Country Durham) contaminated watercourses

Watercourse	Location of contamination
River Skerne	From Oxneyfield Bridge (NZ288102), Croft-on-Tees, above its confluence with River Tees to (NZ544265) at Tees Mouth.

Table 11: River Avon (West Midlands) contaminated watercourses

Watercourse	Location of contamination
River Avon	From Tiddington Village (SP221561) to its confluence with the River Severn (SO888332).

Table 12: River Severn (Gloucestershire) contaminated watercourses

Watercourse	Location of contamination
River Severn	From its confluence with the River Avon to the mouth of the Severn, namely where it joins the Severn Estuary (ST517863).

Table 13: River Culm (Devon) contaminated watercourses

Watercourse	Location of contamination
River Culm	From Cold Harbour Mill Uffculme (ST070127) to the confluence with the River Exe at Cowley Bridge (SX906955).

Table 14: River Tame (West Midlands) contaminated watercourses

Watercourse	Location of contamination
River Tame	From Sandwell Valley (SP033925) to the confluence of the Rivers Tame and Trent (SK192148).

Table 15: River Rother (Sussex) contaminated watercourses

Watercourse	Location of contamination
River Rother	From Ambersham Bridge (SU915211) to the mouth of the River Arun at (TQ0281901183).

Table 16: River Avon (Bristol Avon) contaminated watercourses

Watercourse	Location of contamination
River Avon	From Kellaways (ST9522376310) to the confluence of the River Avon with the River Severn at Avonmouth (ST5063478446).