THE FORESTRY COMMISSION

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

The Plant Health (Sweet Chestnut Blight No. 3) Notice

A plant health inspector appointed by the Forestry Commissioners for the purposes of the Official Controls (Plant Health and Genetically Modified Organisms) (England) Regulations 2019 ("the Regulations") has confirmed the presence of *Cryphonectria parasitica* (Murrill) Barr on premises in the county of Devon within Teignbridge District and South Hams District.

The Forestry Commissioners, in exercise of the powers conferred by regulation 17(2) of the Regulations, give the following notice:

Citation and amendment

1. This notice –

   a) may be cited as the Plant Health (Sweet Chestnut Blight) (Demarcated Area No.3) Notice; and

   b) with effect from midday on 17th November 2026, revokes and replaces the Plant Health (*Cryphonectria parasitic*a) (Demarcated Area No.2) Notice made at 08:15 on 19th August 2026.

Demarcated area

2. Pursuant to regulation 17(2)(a) of the Regulations, areas in the ceremonial counties of Devon and Cornwall within East Devon District, Exeter District (B), Teignbridge District, Torbay, South Hams District, City of Plymouth, West Devon District and the parliamentary constituency of South-East Cornwall within the boundary described in Annex 1, and shown depicted on the map in Annex 2, is demarcated.

Restriction on felling or killing trees of the genus *Castanea* without prior notification

3. Pursuant to regulation 17(2)(b) of the Regulations, a person must notify the Forestry Commission in advance in writing of their intention to fell or kill (either by ring-barking, chemical injection or application, mechanical means, biological control or arboricultural intervention) any trees of the genus *Castanea* within the demarcated area.

Prohibitions on the movement of material within or outside of the Demarcated area

4. Pursuant to regulation 17(2)(b) of the Regulations -

a) No person may move out of the demarcated area specified in this notice any of the following relevant susceptible materials including -

   i. any wood of the genus *Castanea*, unless authorised in writing by an inspector;

   ii. any plants for planting of the genus *Castanea,* other than seeds, that have originated in the demarcated area or resided within the demarcated area for more than 48 hours.

b) No person may move within the demarcated area specified in this notice, unless authorised in writing by an inspector, any wood of the genus *Castanea*, other than in the form of wood packaging material or dunnage, which –

   i. retains all or part of its bark or sapwood;

   ii. is in the form of chips, waste wood, logs, billets, twigs, faggots or is in other similar forms;

   iii. any isolated bark of the genus *Castanea*.

Interpretation

5. For the purposes of paragraph 4a above, relevant susceptible material means the following material that has originated within the demarcated area -

   i. any wood of the genus *Castanea* other than in the form of wood packaging material or dunnage;

   ii. *Castanea* in any form of chips, waste wood, logs, billets, twigs, faggots or is in other similar forms;

   iii. any isolated bark of the genus *Castanea*;

   iv. any trees of the genus *Castanea*, including felled or fallen trees;

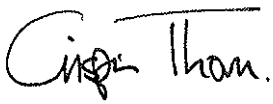
   v. any plants for planting of the genus *Castanea*,

For the purposes of paragraph 4aii, the terms plants and planting are defined as within Regulation (EU) 2016/2031.

Commencement of measures

6. The measures stipulated in this notice, apply on and after midday on 17th November 2026 until further notice.

Signed



Crispin Thorn
Secretary to the Forestry Commissioners, 10th November 2026

ANNEX 1

The extent of the boundary includes the Unitary Authorities[1] of Torbay and City of Plymouth. It also includes the Districts[1] of Teignbridge, Exeter, South Hams, East Devon, and West Devon. The South East Cornwall Parliamentary Constituency[1] is also included. These boundaries were accessed on 23 July 2026.

The boundary starts at the River Tamar at SX44026116, before following the coastline from Plymouth to SY33229135 to the South West of Lyme Regis. Through this the extents of the City of Plymouth Unitary Authority and Torbay Unitary Authority are included in their entirety.

From here it follows the East Devon District boundary north. It continues along the boundary until it meets the Teignbridge District boundary at SX88239500 on Rowhorne Road.

It then follows the Teignbridge District boundary West, encompassing Exeter District in the process. It follows the Teignbridge District boundary until it meets the West Devon District at SX77519073.

From here it follows the West Devon District boundary Northwest. It continues until the River Carey meets the River Tamar at approximately SX35098533. From here the boundary follows the River Tamar south to SX39257310. It then follows the South East Cornwall Constituency boundary south, before continuing around the entirety of the constituency.

It continues around to the mouth of the River Fowey at SX12835225. From here it continues East around the coastline until it meets the River Tamar at SX44026116.

Appendix: Boundary Data Sources

The boundary described in this document has been derived from the following dataset. Superscript reference numbers in the main text correspond to the sources listed below.

1. **Unitary Authorities, Districts, Westminster (parliamentary) constituency**
   Ordnance Survey, Boundary-Line dataset.
   Available at: Boundary-Line | Data Products | OS

ANNEX 2

Map of demarcated area

