

An update from Northern Ireland

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Department of
**Agriculture, Environment
and Rural Affairs**

Sustainability at the heart of a living, working,
active landscape valued by everyone



**An Roinn Talmhaíochta,
Bia agus Mara**
Department of Agriculture,
Food and the Marine

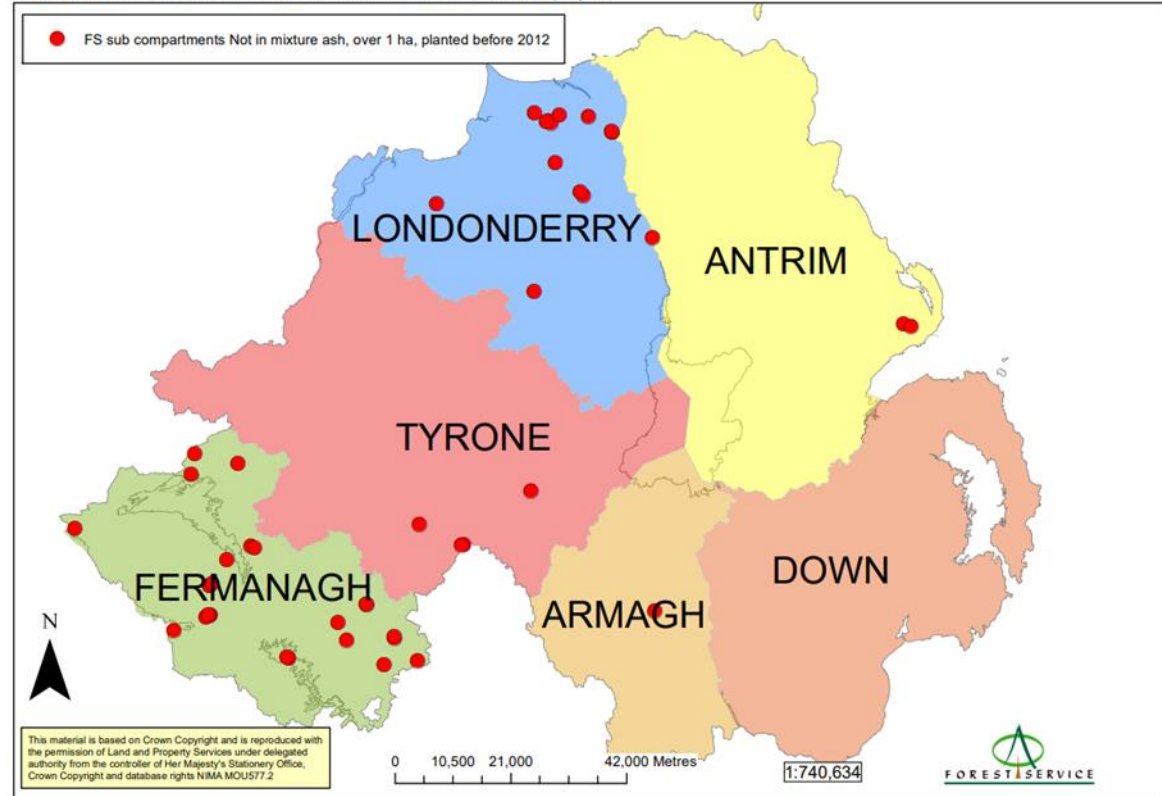
“Potential utilisation of the existing variation”

- Ash- a small proportion of trees are seen to have resistance to die-back
- *H. fraxineus* infected and uninfected trees can occur side by side
- Disease resistant phenotypes have potential for conserving the species
- Resistance to infection is inherent in the genetic make-up of these trees
- Potential for cross-breeding with *H. fraxineus* resistant Ash species
- Selection, breeding and propagation of these resistant genotypes

Forest Service (NI) Ash plantation Locations

- Survey and recording of Die-back disease
- Selection of resistant trees and GPS locating
- Location recorded to GPS database
- 3-year tree health status monitoring & recording
- Potential harvest of propagation material

29/01/25 Forest Service Estate ash sites for Ashforfuture research project

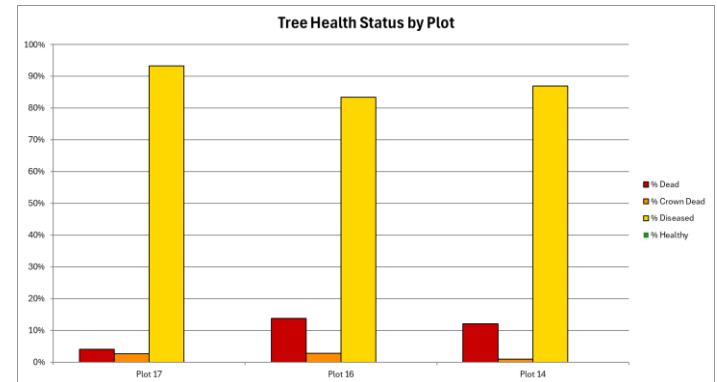
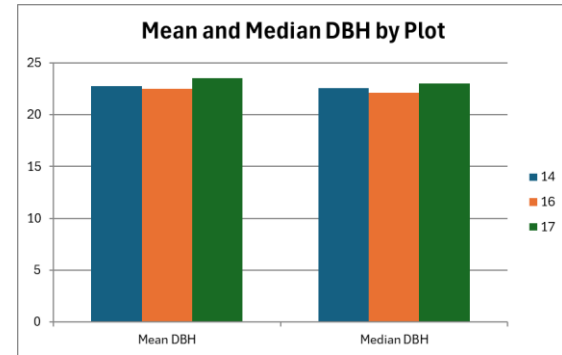


- Two 36-year-old Ash on an experimental plot at Loughgall.
- The upper stem and branches of the tree on the left show extensive disease lesions.
- The tree on the right does not show signs of infection.



Monitoring tolerant Danish ash genotypes within heavily diseased mature stands

Three replicated ash woodland plots at AFBI Loughgall

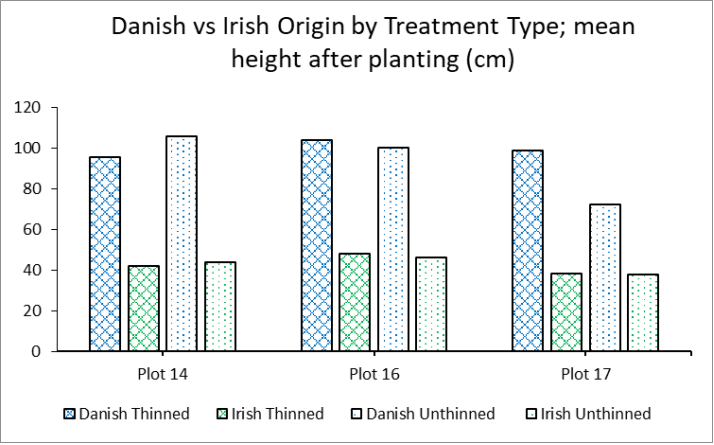
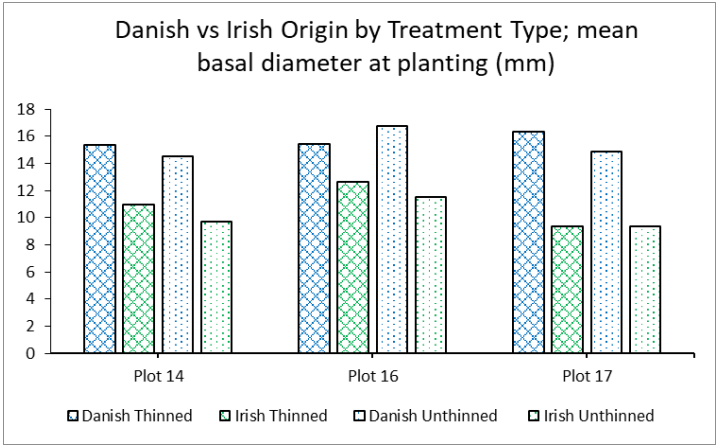


Ash tree seedlings in replicated woodland plots at AFBI Loughgall



Ash dieback-tolerant ash tree seedlings from a breeding programme in Denmark, are naturally exposed to high disease pressure from nearby mature diseased ash trees and are being monitored for disease progression and degree of tolerance.

Preliminary measurements and observations



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