



Horticultural  
Development  
Company

# New Project

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## HNS 168

Rosaceous trees: Evaluation of  
treatments for control of replant  
diseases

**Project Number:** HNS 168

**Title:** Rosaceous trees: Evaluation of treatments for control of replant diseases

**Start and end dates:** 1 July 2008 to 30 June 2011

**Project Leader:** Dr Tim O'Neill, ADAS

**Project Co-ordinator:** John Adlam, Dove Associates

**Location:** ADAS Boxworth – Plant pathology laboratory facilities, greenhouses for bioassays  
Commercial fruit and ornamental tree production sites (Worcs)  
Commercial tree nursery (Hants) for soil samples.

## **Background and project objectives**

Replant diseases of field-grown trees are complex soil-borne problems probably caused by fungi and Actinomycete bacteria. Annual losses of marketable output of rosaceous trees in the UK to replant diseases are estimated to be around £1 million. Following a recent review of these diseases (HNS 152), it is proposed that experimental work on this topic is directed to control options, especially those that are less expensive to implement, and including biological options perceived to be more sustainable than broad-spectrum soil biocides. Sorbus (rowan) will be used as the test species as it is reported to react severely to replant disease. This project will: (1) seek to develop a seedling bioassay to determine replant disease risk in Sorbus through a pre-plant soil test, (2) investigate the efficacy of various biological and nutritional soil treatments to control replant disease in Sorbus.

Further information

Email the HDC office ([hdc@hdc.org.uk](mailto:hdc@hdc.org.uk)), quoting your HDC number, alternatively contact the HDC at the address below.

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