

# BARK CANCKER OF ALDER



*Alnus cordata* with bleeding symptoms of *B. alni* infection - Garfagnana, Italy.  
Courtesy F. Moriondo



Section of *Alnus glutinosa* stem with dark spots in the sapwood.  
Courtesy F. Moriondo

Status: Potential quarantine pathogen

**Causal organism:** *Brenneria alni*

## Host species

Black alder (*Alnus glutinosa*), Italian alder (*Alnus cordata*) and Caucasian alder (*Alnus subcordata*) are affected by the disease.

## Distribution

The disease was first reported in Italy in 1996 and there were no subsequent records until recently when it was reported as the causal agent of bark canker on Caucasian alder in Iran.

## Occurrence in the UK

*B. alni* has not been detected in the UK.

## Symptoms of the disease

Infected trees have longitudinally elongated small, dark brown cankers in the bark of stems, branches and twigs, which appear water-soaked. The lesions spread laterally as the infection progresses to reach the cambium and sometimes the first layers of wood. A dark watery liquid often oozes from small cracks in the cankers and stains the bark surface.

## Control measures

No control measures are known.

