

# SHALLOW BARK CANCKER OF WALNUT



Shallow cankers with dark weeping on trunk of 'Hartley' walnut.

Courtesy B. Teviotdale



'Hartley' walnut with outer layers of bark removed to reveal extent of affected tissues.

Courtesy B. Teviotdale

Status: Potential  
quarantine pathogen

**Causal organism:** *Brenneria nigrifluens*

## Host species

Several *Juglans* species including English walnut, also known as Persian walnut (*Juglans regia*), and black walnut (*Juglans nigra*) are susceptible to the disease. *B. nigrifluens* has also been shown to cause cankers on the common fig (*Ficus carica*) in Iran.

## Distribution

The disease is widespread and is found in Europe (France, Hungary, Italy, Serbia and Spain), Asia (Iran, Republic of Korea and Taiwan), North America (California and Texas, USA) and South America (Argentina).

## Occurrence in the UK

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

## Symptoms of the disease

The disease is visible on the trunks or main branches as dark brown patches, sometimes with weeping. Lesions are usually restricted to the outer bark layers and unlike deep bark canker, rarely spread to the phloem tissue.

## Control measures

**Preventative:** There are no control measures for shallow bark canker as there is no data to support that the disease causes yield losses. Some growers remove diseased tissue to try and prevent the spread of the disease.

**Curative:** None known.

