



## Survival rates in dieback-infected ash A selection of references and links

From: Dr Tean Mitchell, Plant Population Ecologist, Green Planet Media

**NB: Do not mistake leaf loss during dry weather for ash-dieback.**

**REFERENCES:** There are huge numbers of research papers now describing survival and the usefulness of pollarding where public risk needs to be mitigated.

Even in 2014 we knew that survival rates could be much higher than first expected. 1. <https://bsppjournals.onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/full/10.1111/ppa.12196>

2. By 2018 (published 2019) there was evidence to suggest survival rates (without human intervention) was between 20 and 30%.

Tim L. R. Coker, Jiří Rozsypálek, Anne Edwards, Tony P. Harwood, Louise Butfoy (2019) Estimating mortality rates of European ash (*Fraxinus excelsior*) under the ash dieback (*Hymenoscyphus fraxineus*) epidemic *New Phytologist Foundation* Plants People Planet. 1:48-58

<https://nph.onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/full/10.1002/ppp3.11#:~:text=In%20woodlands%20with%20exposure%20to,recorded%20mortality%20of%20~82%25>.

3. For research-based advice on a strategy for deciding when or how to deal with infected trees, you can watch IM Thomsen's paper about dieback from University of Copenhagen from March 2021 here <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=S9WgZggyYc0>

4. Bengtsson, V., Stenström, A., Wheeler C.P. & Sandberg, K. (2021). The impact of ash dieback on veteran trees in southwestern Sweden. *Baltic Forestry* (2021) Vol 27 (1), p 1-8 <https://balticforestryojs.lammc.lt/ojs/index.php/BF/article/view/558>

5. You can also download Bengtsson's presentation to the Ancient Tree Forum. [https://www.ancienttreeforum.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2021/10/Vikki-Bengtsson-Ash-Dieback-on-Veteran-Trees-in-Sweden\\_2021-Kompatibilitetslage-002.pdf](https://www.ancienttreeforum.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2021/10/Vikki-Bengtsson-Ash-Dieback-on-Veteran-Trees-in-Sweden_2021-Kompatibilitetslage-002.pdf)

6. <https://academic.oup.com/forestry/article/90/4/455/3749603?login=false>

7. <https://www.ltoa.org.uk/news/281-ash-dieback> Report on presentation by academic dendrologist IM Thomsen. Well worth reading as it gives a good overview of research data. IM Thomsen's work is published over many papers in learned journals.

8. A very good round up of current advice for local authorities dealing with trees in their care: <https://www.wlwest.co.uk/uncategorised/ash-dieback-disease-reporting-recovery/>

Get in touch with the Living Ash Project to help them collect vital data about the progress of the disease. <https://livingashproject.org.uk/reportatree/>. Only by saving as many trees as possible are we likely to find and preserve trees that are resistant.

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