

# **Forest health threats from globalisation and climate change**



**Gillian Allard**  
Forestry Officer  
Protection and Health  
Forest Management, Conservation and  
Biodiversity  
Forest Management Team  
Forest Department, FAO

Modernising the plant health regime of the EU in view of  
globalisation and climate change

## **Contributors**

**Andrei Orlinski, EPPO**

**Hugh Evans, Forest Research Agency (Wales)**

**Kerry Britton, US Forest Service**

**Jacques Régnière, Natural Resources Canada,  
Canadian Forest Service**

**Roddie Burgess, Forestry Commission GB**

**Roberto Cenciarelli, FAO (graphic design)**

## **Threats to forests and forest products**

**Insects and diseases**

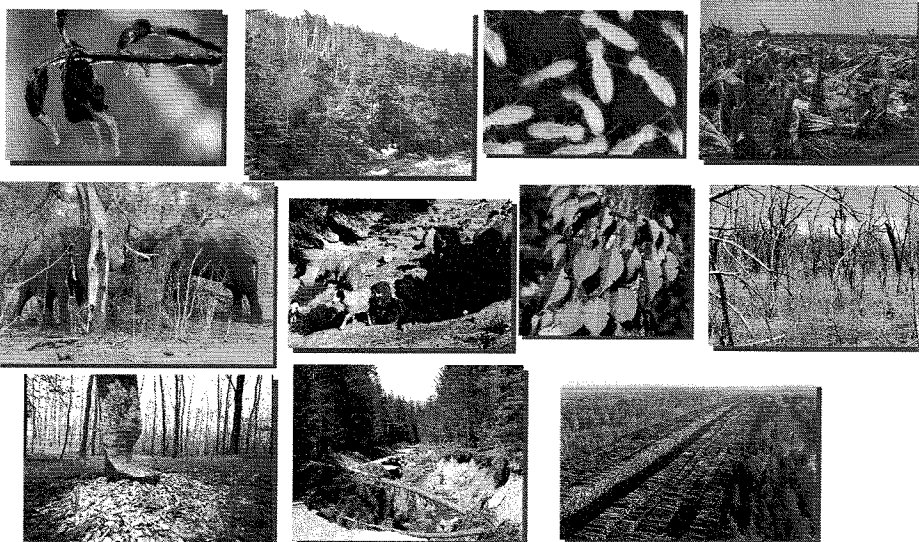
**Other biotic agents, e.g. wildlife browsing, grazing, physical damage, nematodes**

**Abiotic disturbances, e.g. air pollution, wind, snow, ice, frosts, floods, storms, drought, windthrow, earthquakes, floods, landslides, tsunami**

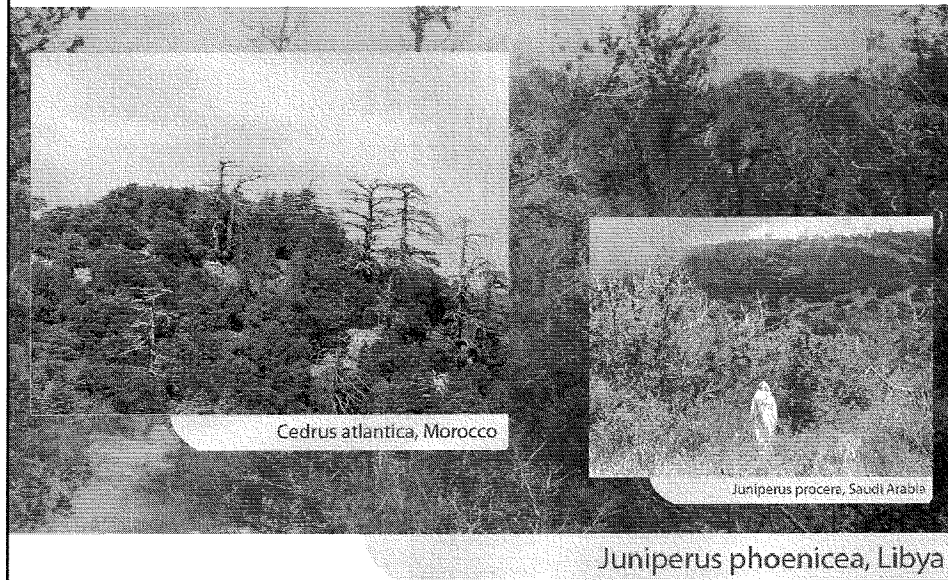
**Plants (woody invasive species)**

**Fire**

## **Forest threats**



## Diebacks



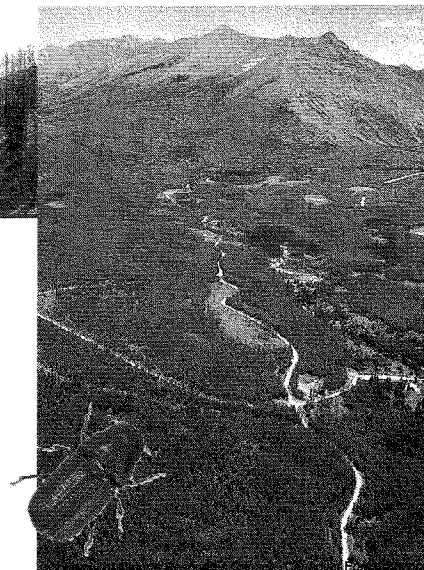
## Threats to forests

### Insect affected area:

At least 35 million  
hectares  
per year



Substantial  
environmental and  
socio-economic losses



## **Impact**

**Tree survival**

**Yield and quality of  
forest products**



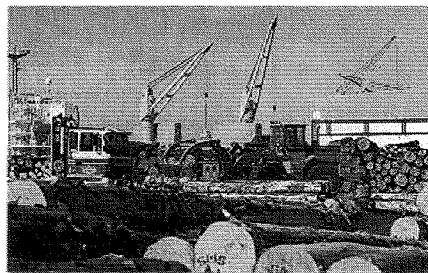
- **Cultural values of forests**
- **Wildlife habitat**
- **Species biodiversity**

## **Impact**

**Disrupt natural fire cycles**  
**Deplete water**



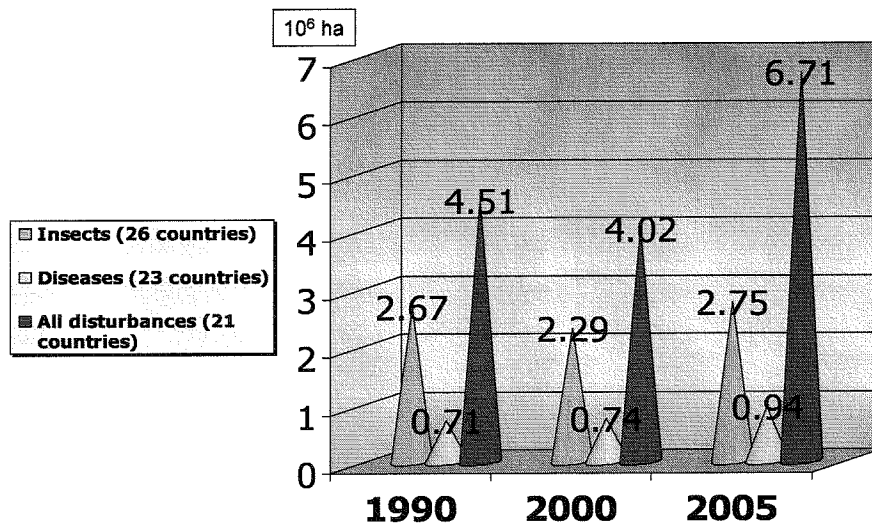
**Affect international trade  
in forest products**



**Impact livelihoods**

## Europe

Trends in area of forest annually affected by insects, diseases and all disturbances (excl. fire)



## Invasive species

An organism that is non-native to the ecosystem under consideration and ..

whose introduction will cause or is likely to cause economic or environmental harm or harm to human health

## **General traits of successful invasive species**

**Rapid growth rate**

**Efficient dispersal capabilities**

**Large reproductive output**

**Broad environmental tolerance**

## **Invasive species in forests Three levels**

- **Populations**  
Can reduce or eliminate populations of particular native species
- **Ecosystems**  
Can affect the composition and processes of entire forest ecosystems
- **Global processes**  
Can change patterns of forest cover – alter nutrient cycling, and potentially climate

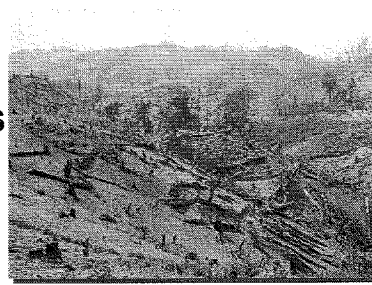
## **How global change affects pests**

**Increasing international trade**

**Changing climate**

**Changing land-use patterns**

- Deforestation
- Habitat fragmentation
- Desertification



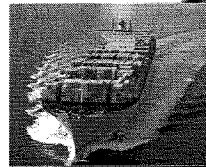
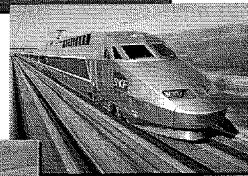
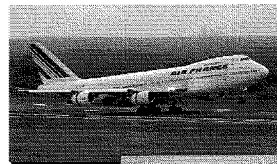
## **Causes of international pest movement**

**“The 3 T’s”**

**Travel (faster)**

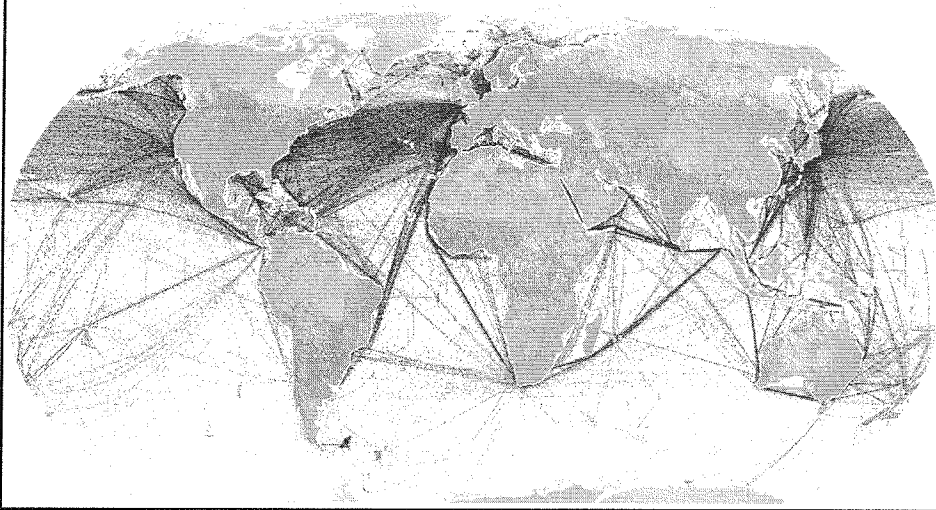
**Transport (further)**

**Trade (increased)**

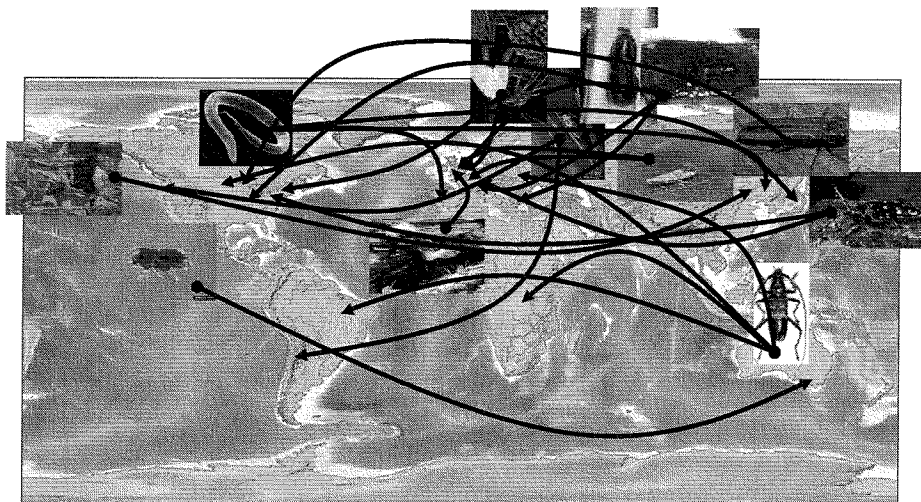


GA1

## Increasing global trade



## Increased trade moves pests globally



Slide courtesy of Hugh Evans,  
Forest Research Agency (Wales)

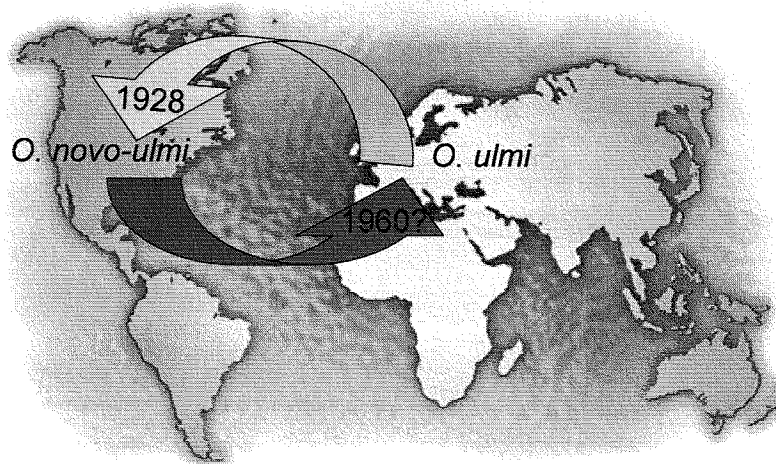


## Slide 15

---

**GA1** Allard, Gillian (FOMR); 8/02/2010

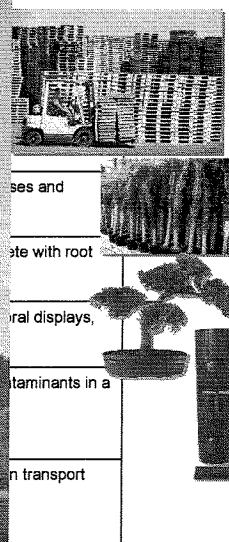
## Reinvasion - Dutch elm disease



Slide courtesy of Jacques Régnière, Natural Resources Canada, Canadian Forest Service

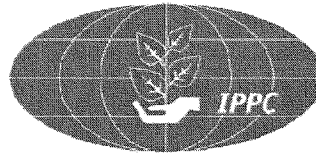
## Important pathways

Pathways	
Wood as a commodity	Rough Sawn Processed Fuel
Packaging wood	Pallets Dunnage
Plants for planting	Live balls.
Cut plants	Ornamental Christmas trees
Germplasm	Cones very
Hitchhikers	Any such



## Forestry ISPMs

Created because regulatory systems  
were overwhelmed with the increasing  
volume of international trade



### Pest introductions that resulted in ISPM No 15

**Sirex woodwasp**

Europe or North Africa ➡ Argentina, Oceania, South Africa



**Red turpentine beetle** (*Dendroctonus valens*)

North America ➡ China



**Emerald ash borer** (*Agrilus planipennis*)

**Asian longhorned beetle** (*Anoplophora glabripennis*)

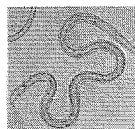
**Brown spruce longhorn beetle** (*Tetropium fuscum*)

Asia ➡ North America



**Pine wood nematode**

North America ➡ Asia



## Potential, emerging or establishing pest problems in Europe

### Pathogens

*Chalara fraxinea* – Ash dieback

*Cryphonectria parasitica* – Chestnut blight

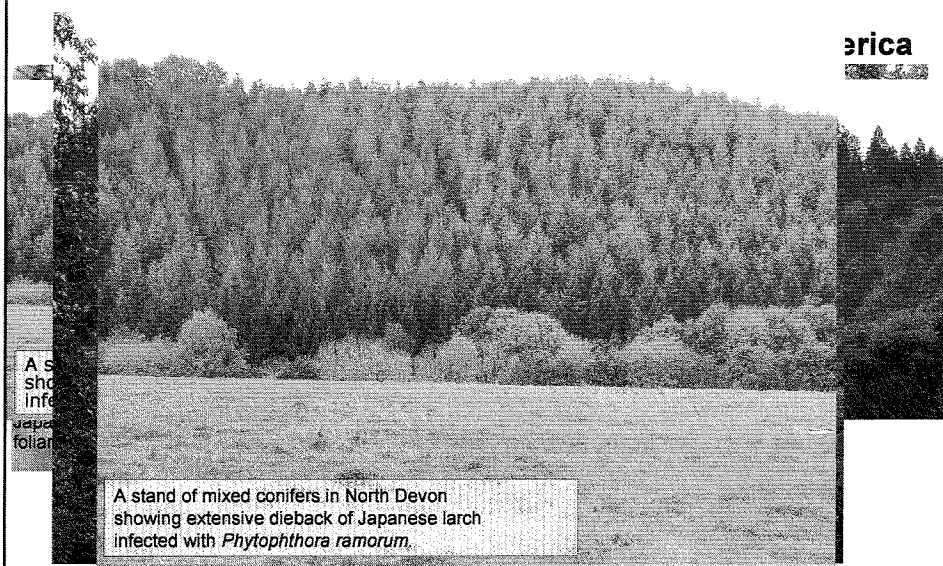
*Phytophthora kernoviae*

*Phytophthora pinifolia*

*Phytophthora ramorum* – sudden oak death



## New invasive pathogen



## Potential, emerging or establishing pest problems in Europe

### Insects

*Agrilus planipennis* – Emerald Ash Borer (EAB)

*Anoplophora chinensis* – Citrus longhorned beetle

*Anoplophora glabripennis* – Asian longhorned beetle (ALB)

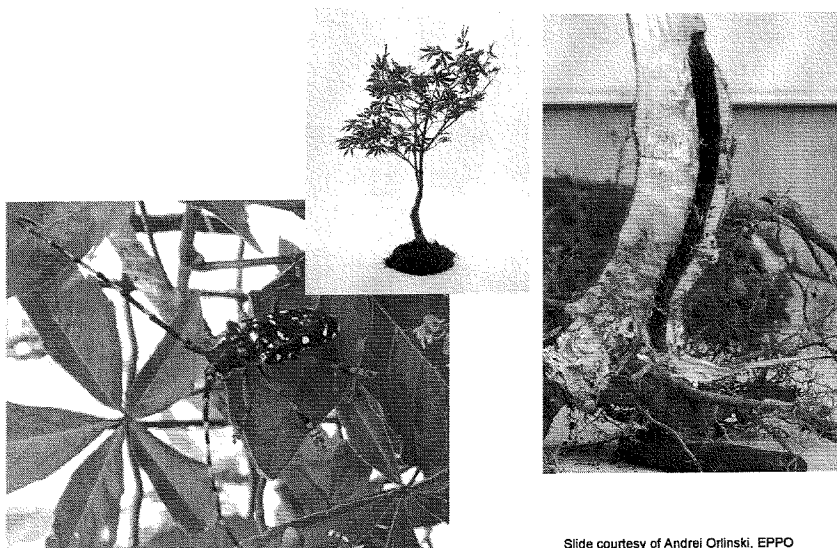
*Dryocosmus kuriphilus* – Oriental chestnut gall wasp

*Leptocybe invasa* – Blue gum chalcid

*Megaplatypus mutatus* – (Ambrosia beetle)



### *Anoplophora chinensis* imported on bonsai *Acer palmatum*

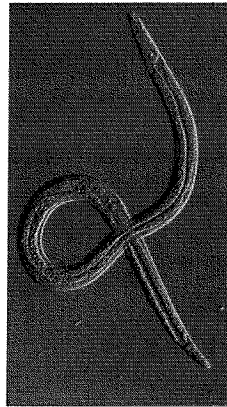


Slide courtesy of Andrei Orlinski, EPPO

## **Emerging and establishing pest problems in Europe**

### **Nematodes**

*Bursaphelenchus xylophilus*- pine wilt nematode



GA2

## **Potential costs of current trade restrictions**

**Trade in logs from Chile to Korea banned due to recent *Phytophthora pinifolia* sp.nov. on *Pinus radiata* pines**

**Impact of Asian log trade bans, triggered by a biosecurity threat, would lead to the loss of NZ\$11 billion in the present value of NZ growers' revenues (FOA, 2010).**

## Slide 26

---

**GA2** Allard, Gillian (FOMR); 16/02/2010

## **Forest-related standards currently being developed**

**International movement of wood**

**International movement of forest tree seeds**

**Forestry Surveillance**

**Criteria for treatments for wood packaging materials**

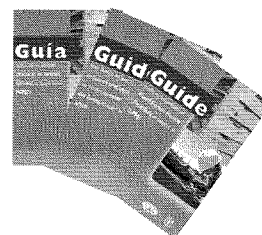
**Guidelines for treatment of wood packaging materials (as part of ISPM 15)**



## **Guide to forestry and international phytosanitary standards**

**To make ISPMs more accessible to the forestry sector**

**Plain-language guide**



**In development by FAO with international scientists, phytosanitary authorities and forest sector representatives, supported by IPPC Secretariat**



## Global impacts of climate change

Increase in temperatures



Increased stress in  
tropical /subtropical forests



Increased growing season  
in temperate / boreal forests

Sea level rise



Impact on coastal forests

Changes in rainfall patterns



Drought / flooding

Increase in concentration  
of CO<sub>2</sub> in atmosphere

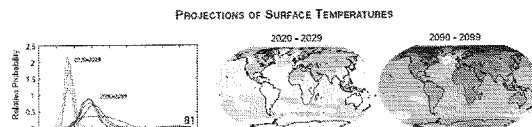


Increased tree growth

Number and severity of  
extreme events



Disturbance dynamics

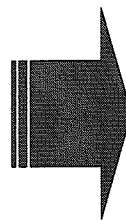


## Response of insects and pathogens to climate change

High mobility

Short generation times

High reproductive rates

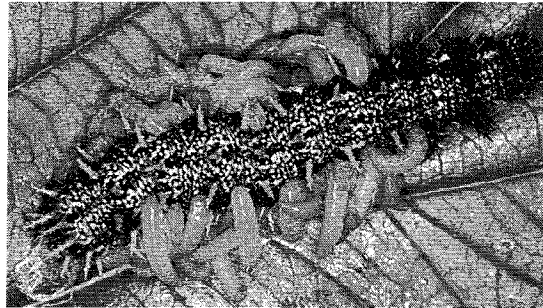


Pests respond to  
climate change  
more rapidly than  
tree populations

**May be first predictors of  
climate change in forests**

**Changed relationship between pest,  
environment and other species**

**Changes in abundance of natural enemies,  
competitors and mutualists**



**Altered host physiology and defences**

**Increased temperatures –  
the main driver of change**

**Phenology**

**Accelerated insect development rate**

**Early spring emergence**

**Community dynamics and composition**

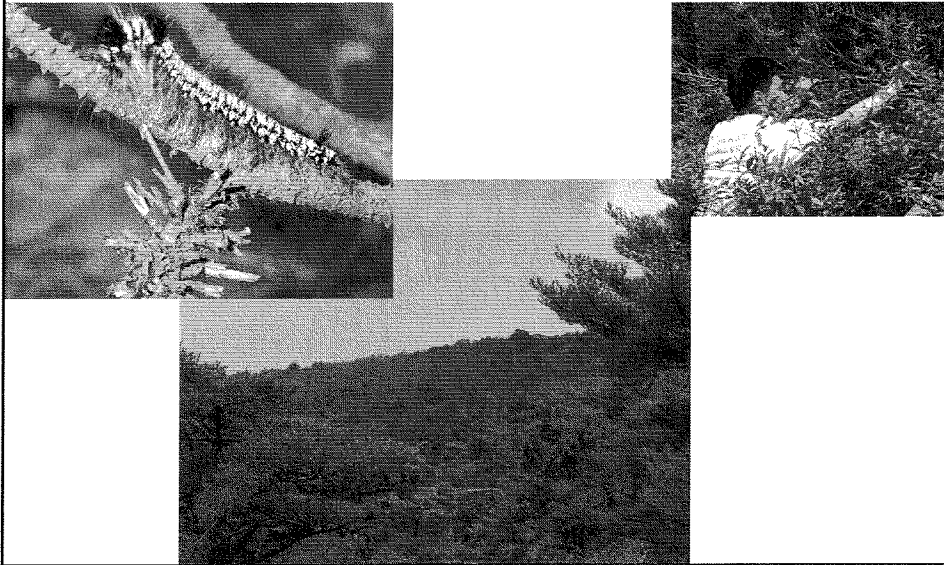
**Increased or decreased winter mortality**

**Distribution**

**Range expansion of pests**

**Extension of range of insect vectors of pathogens**

## Example of early spring emergence DPR Korea



## Consequences for pathogen distribution in Europe

### ***Phytophthora cinnamomi***

Root rot pathogen

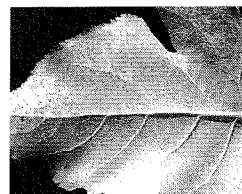
Predicted to spread into colder regions of Europe



### ***Melampsora allii-populina***

European rust pathogen

Likely to spread northwards with increased summer temperatures



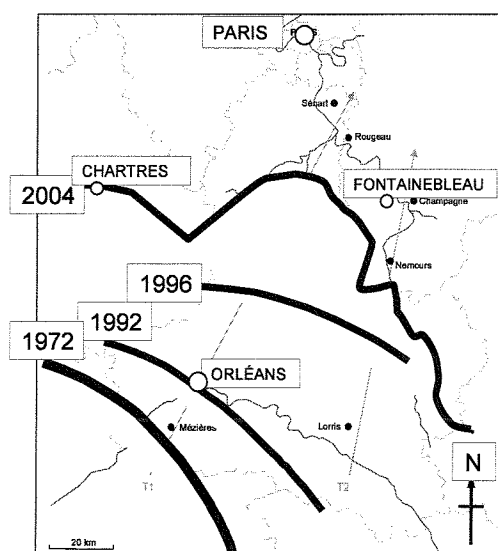
## **Consequences for insect distribution in Europe**

**Insects can rapidly follow climatic  
changes to new environments**

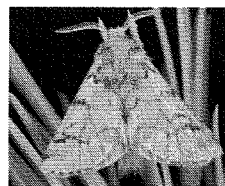
**Some could overcome geo-climatic  
barriers**

**Many indigenous species could  
become invasive**

### **Changing distribution Pine processionary moth, *Thaumetopoea pityocampa***

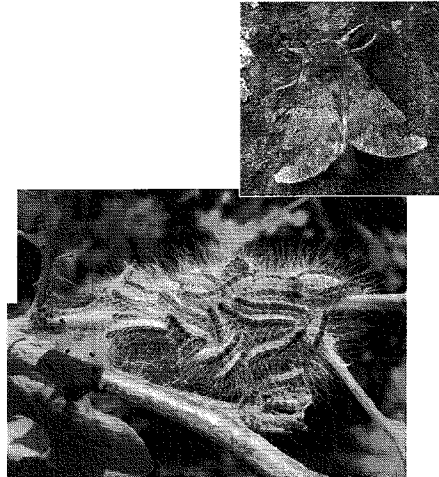
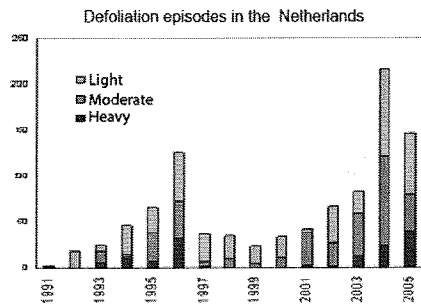


After Roques et al. 2007



Slide courtesy of Hugh Evans,  
Forest Research Agency (Wales)

## Changing distribution Oak processionary moth, *Thaumetopoea processionea*



Slide courtesy of Hugh Evans,  
Forest Research Agency (Wales)

## Effects of changes in rainfall pattern

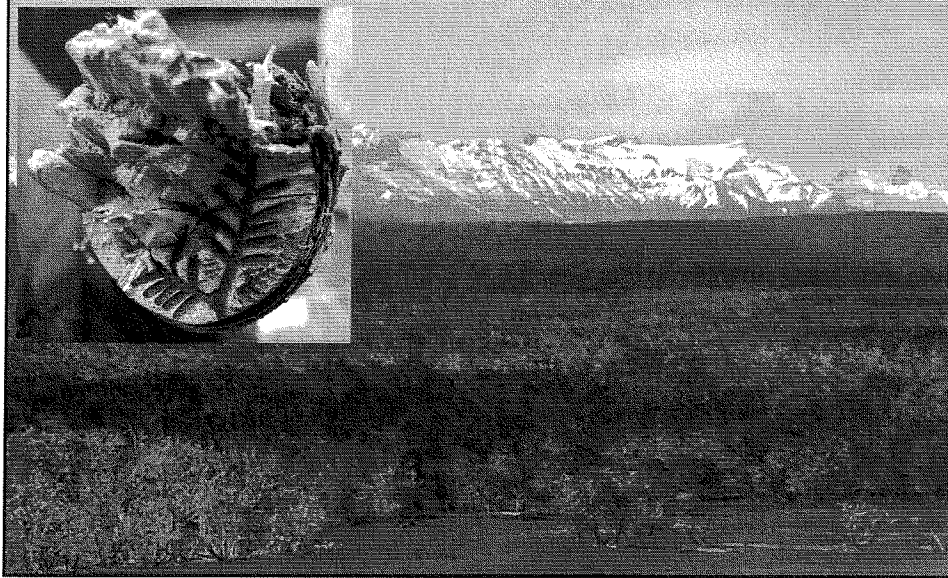
Increased mortality

Dispersal of moisture-dependent  
pathogens,  
e.g. *Mycosphaerella pini*



Drought-stressed trees may become  
more suitable to support pest  
development

## Example of flooding effects



## Effects of increased atmospheric CO<sub>2</sub>

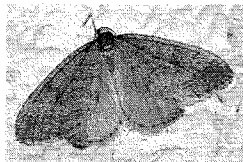
Host plant changes

Changed plant structure

Change in palatability

Increase in defensive chemicals

Winter moth *Operophtera*  
*brumata* consumes more oak



*Lymantria dispar*  
longer development time  
due to increased tannins



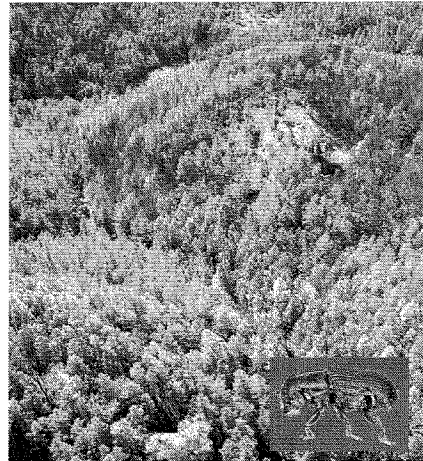
## Effects of extreme weather events

Influence tree composition, structure and functions of forests

Create an environment ripe for invasion and spread of introduced species

Facilitate expansion of the range of indigenous pests

Increase trees' susceptibility to secondary pests

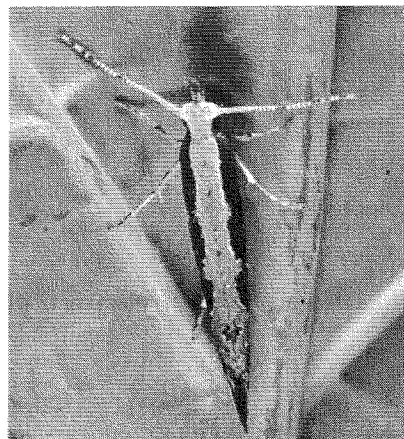


*Dendroctonus frontalis* after Hurricane Mitch in Central America (1998)

## Effects of increased warm air mass movements

Increased frequency and extent of long-distance windborne dispersal

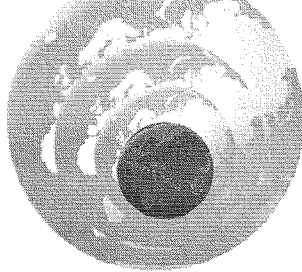
Diamondback moth found 800 km north of the population source



## **What next?**

**Complexity of interactions between forest pests and trees will make predictions about the impacts of climate change difficult**

**Global trade is continuing to increase  
the world has got smaller**



## **What needs to be done**

**Be proactive not reactive - stop it from happening!**

**Increase monitoring for new pest threats before they arrive**

**Identify new trade trends especially of plants**

**Adapt policies/legislation to rapidly respond to new challenges**





