

Dr. Joan Webber,

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Joan serves as the Principal Pathologist and Head of Tree Health Research Group. She is responsible for leading and managing research into the health of trees, with particular emphasis on recently arrived pests and pathogens.

Current Programs

Advice and Scientific Support for Tree Health Program

Program manager for Forestry Commission funded research which underpins advice on tree health issues, and includes national and international collaborative research with universities and other research agencies and institutes. The overarching aim is to improve our understanding and management of the pests and pathogens which affect trees.

Research Areas

- Detection, diagnosis and epidemiology of recently arrived *Phytophthora* pathogens including *P. ramorum*, *P. kernoviae* and *P. lateralis*
- Variation and genotyping of tree pathogens
- Pest risk analysis
- Disease management and extension.

Much of this research is undertaken in collaboration with scientists at UK-based and international organizations, including Fera, Imperial College, AFBI, University of Tuscia, University of Sassari, USDA Forest Service, University of California Davis, Taiwan Forestry Institute, Scion New Zealand and FABI (South Africa).