

HOLLY LODGE ESTATE NG 6PT - OUTSIDE 88 LANGBOURNE MANSIONS



T1 = LEYLAND CYPRESS



Richard Wassell <richard@wassells.co.uk>

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## Tree Health Service/ Enquiry number 2015/1196

1 message

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Kalantarzadeh, Mina <mina.kalantarzedeh@forestry.gsi.gov.uk>

27 January 2016 at 13:21

To: richard@wassells.co.uk

Dear Richard,

Hi. You should have received the results on the 11<sup>th</sup> but for some reason I found the report in my mailbox draft folder after receiving your e-mail this morning.

I apologise for the delay. Please find my previous e-mail below.

Thank you,

Mina

Mr Richard Wassell  
15 Morcombe House  
Wedmore Street  
London  
N19 ARD

Our Ref: 2015|1196

11 January 2016

**TREE HEALTH DIAGNOSTIC & ADVISORY SERVICE**

Dear Mr Richard Wassell,

We acknowledge the receipt of your communication on 10/11/2015 regarding the following :-  
**Cupressocyparis leylandii (Leyland cypress)**

It is to inform you that our laboratory examination and testes are finished and the results show the dieback and browning damage might not be associated with a pathogen. Both soil and foliage samples were tested, please find the details below.

The soil sample was tested by bating method to find out whether the roots are affected by any soil-borne pathogen which was negative. I examined the foliage and I tried to isolate from a few points where the browning was showing. Two different fungi grew from the sample after three weeks and a sample of each was sent to DNA analysis for identification. The results showed both are saprophytes and are unlikely to cause dieback or browning.

I consulted a colleague from our entomology department and sent the sample for examination. They found 2 juniper shoot moth and some scale insects but neither would cause the extensive browning seen. Aphids can sometimes cause browning but since aphid damage move towards bottom of trees/hedges first (unlike what is showing from the photos), therefore the damage could not be due to aphid attack either. Based on these results, we can conclude that the symptoms are unlikely to be disease related and have resulted from some kind of physical damage instead. From the photos I can see the tree is on a slop next to the road, this may suggest the possibility of soil compaction effecting the roots. If the symptoms are caused because of the temporary stress to the roots, they will not progress further. In case the symptoms develop further, all other possibilities should be checked again to find the cause. You can always send a second sample to test if you are still concerned.