Richardson's Botanical Identifications

Root identification
Vegetation surveys
Tree/Building investigations
Plant taxonomy

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Your ref: **75715-1-5-RRS**

30/01/2018

Our ref: 75/4905

Dear Sirs

25 Frognal London NW3 6AR

The samples you sent in relation to the above on 18/01/2018 (received by us on 22/01/2018) have been examined. The structure was referable as follows:

TH1, 1600mm

1 root: PRUNUS species (Cherries, Plums and Damsons, Almonds, Peaches and Apricots, Blackthorn/Sloe, as well as the shrubby Cherry-laurel and Portugal-laurel). Dead*.

1 root: TILIA (Lime). 7 further samples, not examined in detail appeared similar under low magnification. Alive, recently*.

TH1, 1800mm

1 root: the family VITACEAE (Vitis (Grape-Vine), Parthenocissus (Virginia Creeper etc.)). A further sample, not examined in detail appeared similar under low magnification. Alive, recently*.

1 root: TILIA (Lime). 5 further samples, not examined in detail appeared similar under low magnification. Alive, recently*.

TH2, 1000mm

1 root: similar in many ways to the family LEGUMINOSAE (a group of closely related trees: Robinia (False Acacia), Laburnum, Sophora (Pagoda tree), Gleditsia (Honey Locust), Cercis (Judas tree/Redbud), Albizia (Silk tree), Acacia (Mimosa), as well as such shrubs as Wisteria, Gorse and Brooms). 2 further samples, not examined in detail appeared similar under low magnification. Dead*.

1 root: essentially too immature for identification; definitely NOT a conifer. A further sample, not examined in detail appeared similar under low magnification. Dead* (note this 'dead' result can be unreliable with such thin samples).

1 sample: microscopic examination showed insufficient cells for recognition.

TH2, 1500mm

1 root: again, could well be the family LEGUMINOSAE (as listed above). A further sample, not examined in detail appeared similar under low magnification. Alive, recently*.

2 samples: microscopic examination of both showed insufficient cells for recognition.

I trust this is of help. Please call us if you have any queries; our Invoice is enclosed.

Yours faithfully

[redacted]

Dr Ian B K Richardson

* Based mainly on the Iodine test for starch. Starch is present in some cells of a living woody root, but is more or less rapidly broken down by soil micro-organisms on death of the root, sometimes before decay is evident. This result need not reflect the state of the parent tree.

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