

WHAT IS DUTCH ELM DISEASE?

[Dutch Elm Disease](#) is a fungus (*Ophiostoma novo-ulmi*) which affects the tree's vascular system creating a gummy substance called tyloses. This gummy substance cuts off the sap flow within the tree and the tree dies due to lack of hydration.

HOW IS DUTCH ELM DISEASE SPREAD?

Dutch elm disease is transmitted by a small beetle called the *Hylurgopinus rufipes*. This beetle is a brownish-red colour and its size ranges from 2.3mm to 2.9mm

The first wave of Dutch Elm Disease arrived in Europe in the 1920's and a second and more virulent strain arrived in the 1960s.

HOW WAS DUTCH ELM DISEASE INTRODUCED TO BRITAIN?

The catastrophic outbreak in the 1960's resulted from the import of unbarked and [infected elm logs](#) imported from Canada.

HOW MANY TREES HAVE BEEN LOST TO DUTCH ELM DISEASE IN BRITAIN?

It is estimated that more than [25 million adult trees](#) have been lost to Dutch Elm Disease. Sadly, it is thought that the number of mature elms that exist in Britain are less than 10,000.

[ELM ENTHUSIAST RESOURCE](#)