

Survey of roadside ash trees

Surveys of roadside ash trees (*Fraxinus excelsior*) were carried out in 2019 (Report 2019-17), 2020 (Report 2020-15) and on 22nd July 2021. The map and numbers in all three reports are the same (with a few minor additions and changes).

Observations made in 2021 have been added in *italic* typeface to the comments from 2019 in plain typeface, and 2020 in **bold** typeface.

The aim of the survey was to re-assess all of the trees to find out how fast the disease was developing in infected trees, and whether more trees were showing signs of infection. Detailed and up to date information about this disease and tree management can be found on the Forestry Commission and Leicestershire County Council websites which can be accessed through links on the Carlton Parish Council website.

This survey relied on a visual inspection of each tree or close group of trees. The visual criteria adopted are illustrated overleaf.

Trees with normal foliage were assessed as healthy (A); trees with small areas of branch die-back in the crown were assessed as possibly infected (B); trees with branches in the crown showing significant die-back, with new leaf growth restricted to the base of the branch were assessed as infected (C); trees with many dead branches and limited leaf growth in the core of the tree were assessed as severely infected (D).

There are 68 ash trees or groups of trees in the list below. Two trees were missed in 2019, and one sapling was too small to be included until 2021. In 2020 and 2021 groups were assessed as a whole (68 trees/groups).

Of the 68 observations, 43 groups were assessed as healthy in 2019, and 30 in 2021 — a reduction from 63% to 44% of groups as healthy. Of the 43 groups assessed as healthy in 2019, only 30 remained healthy in 2021—a reduction of 13 or 30%.

The 3 trees suspected of being infected in 2019 and now assessed as healthy were most likely suffering from drought in 2019, rather than ash die-back disease.

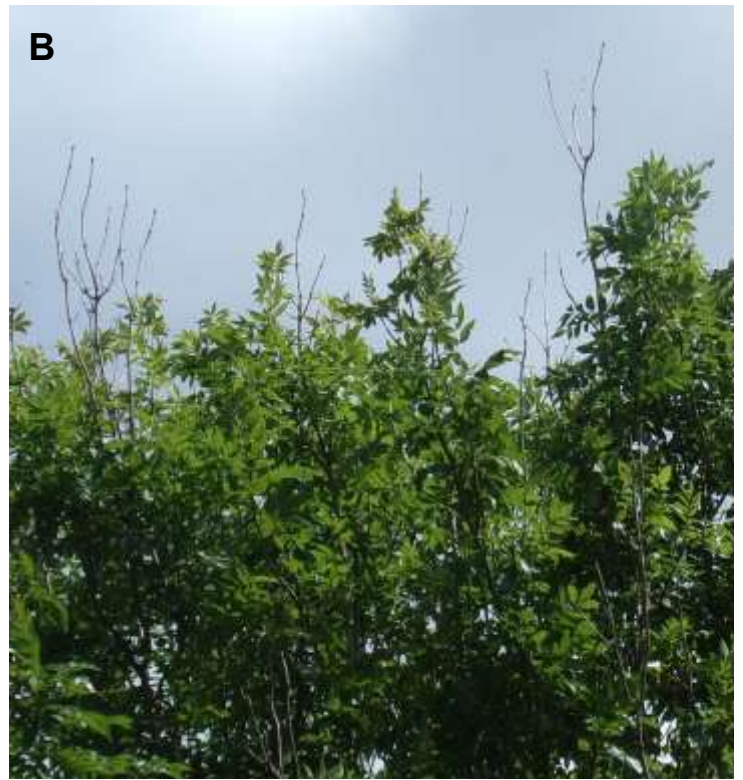
The data are summarised in graphical form at the end of this Report.

There are marked differences in susceptibility to the disease, and in the progress of the disease in different trees. Some trees very close to badly affected trees still show no signs of infection. Other trees have shown signs of infection for three years but with no increase in severity while in others the disease has rapidly progressed to severe infection. Severely affected trees have remained alive and standing for three years now, without shedding major boughs. Overall, the disease is spreading and developing in infected trees, but not as fast as was feared.

This survey will be repeated to monitor the spread of infection, the progress of the disease in infected trees, any evidence of recovery in infected trees, and any unaffected (and therefore possibly resistant) trees.



A. Healthy ash tree



B. Infection suspected

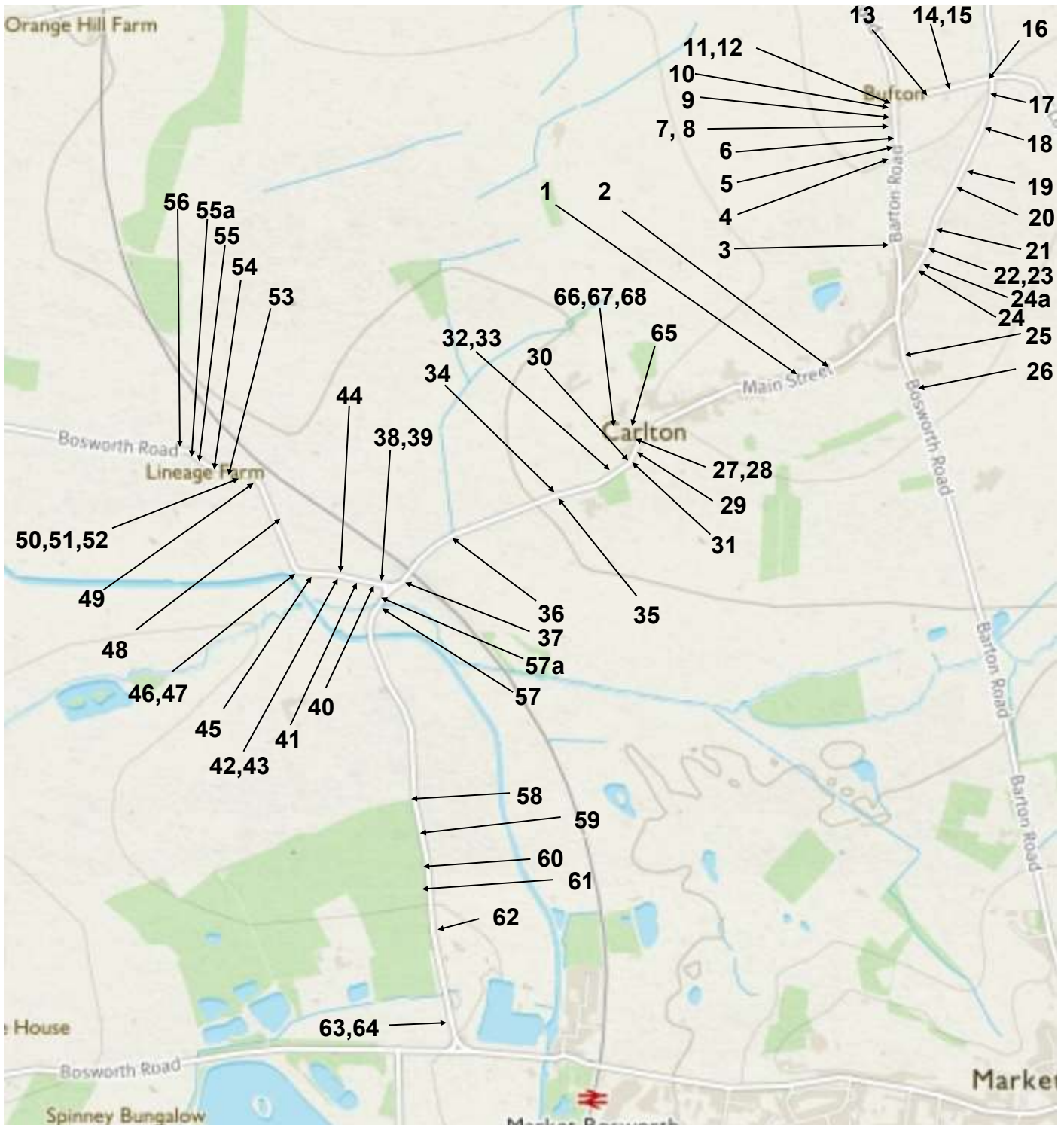


C. Infected tree



D. Severely infected tree

Location of surveyed trees



Survey of roadside ash trees

Main Street

1. Outside 65 Main St. Large mature ash subject to TPO. Appears healthy. Very small amount of branch die-back – normal for a mature tree. **No change.** *No change.*
2. Outside 71 Main St. Young pollarded ash tree shows early signs of infection. **Badly infected.** *No change.*

Barton Road

3. Pair of ash pollards in hedge to Carlton Diamond Jubilee Orchard, E side of road. Appear healthy. **No change.** *No change.*
4. Small ash in hedge, E side road. Healthy. **No change.** *No change.*
5. Young ash in hedge, E side of road. Shows first signs of infection. **No change.** *No change.*
6. Young ash in hedge, E side of road. Appears healthy. **No change.** *No change.*
7. Two partly dead sycamore, E side of road - ? squirrel damage. *Vigorous growth from trunk and lower branches.*
8. Small ash in hedge, E side of road. Healthy. **Minor die-back in crown.** *No change.*
9. Multi-stemmed ash in hedge, E side of road. Shows signs of infection. **No change.** *No change.*
10. Semi-mature ash adjacent gate to r/o Bufton Lodge, W side of road. Infected. **No change.** *No change.*
11. Mature single stem ash opposite Bufton Cottage on W side of road. Possible first signs of infection in crown. **Infected.** *No change.*
12. Group of multi-stemmed young ash, W side of road opposite Bufton Cottage. ? first signs of infection in some crowns. **No change.** *Appears healthy.*

Bufton Lane

13. Mature ash, S side of road adj field. Small amount of branch die back in crown; may be healthy. **No change.** *No change.*
14. Mature ash adjacent drive to Willowfield. Small amount of die back in crown; may be healthy. **No change.** *No change.*
15. Mature Ash, opposite bungalow, S side of road. Some die back in shaded branches but this may be normal in an old tree. **No change.** *No change.*
16. Multi-stemmed young ash at corner with Nailstone Road. Infected. **Increased amount of die-back.** *Severe infection.*

Nailstone Road

17. Spindly young ash in hedge between row of oaks, W side of road, N of field gate. Healthy. **No change.** *Becoming shaded out. First signs of infection.*

18. Mature ash, W side of road between 2 mature oaks. Small amount of die back in shaded branches; may be normal for mature tree. **No change.** *First signs of infection.*

18a. Young ash, E side of road, 20m before 30mph sign. Healthy.

19. Young ash, E side of road adjacent 30 mph sign. Healthy. **No change.** *No change.*

20. Multi-stemmed young ash, E side of road. Healthy. **No change.** *No change.*

21. Multi-stemmed young ash opposite drive to CDJO. Shows first signs of infection. **No change.** *No change.*

22. Group of young ash trees opposite no.11 Northfields on E side of road. First signs of infection in crown. **Infected.** *No change.*

23. Group of young ash opposite end of back garden of 1 Northfields, E side of road. First signs of infection. **Infected.** *No change.*

24a. Group of young ash on E side of road opposite back garden to 5 Nailstone Rd (No 3 on door). Infected. *No change (? Increased die-back).*

24. Group of young ash opposite No.5 (No 3 on door), E side of road. A few yellowed leaves; may be healthy. **Infected.** *No change (? Increased die-back).*

Bosworth Road

25. Semi-mature ash, adjacent drive to farmyard to New House Farm, E side of road. First signs of infection in crown. **Healthy.** *No change.*

26. Semi-mature ash, adjacent to road junction sign, W side of road. First signs of infection in crown. **Healthy.** *No change.*

Congerstone Lane

27. Young ash, front garden of Field View, N side of road. Healthy. **No change.** *First signs of infection.*

28. Pair of young ash near gate to Field View, N side of road. Minor die back in crown – may be infected. **Infected.** *1 badly infected and dying, other infected.*

29. Semi-mature ash, S side of road. Healthy. **No change.** *No change.*

30. Twin stemmed ash, N side of road W of front garden to Woodmill. Die back in shaded branches near base of crown – may be healthy. **No change.** *? First signs of infection.*

31. Multi-stemmed ash near electric pole, adj field entrance, S side of road. Healthy. **No change.** *No change.*

31a Leggy ash sapling between 31 and road, adj electric pole. *Badly infected.*

32. Group of 6 trees at side of small enclosure adjacent drive to Carlton Grange, N side of road. Healthy. **No change.** *No change.*
33. Pollarded ash adjacent to public footpath, N side of road. Infected. **No change.** *Badly infected.*
34. Pollarded ash, N side of road opposite Green Barn. Infected. **No change.** *No change.*
35. Young ash, Rectory Field on N side of road before village nameplate. Infected. **No change.** *No change.*
36. Young ash, Charity Lands hedge, S side of road. Healthy. **Infected.** *No change.*
37. Twin-stemmed ash, S side of road. Small amount of die back in crown. May be infected. **No change.** *No change.*

Congerstone Road

38. Young ash, NE side of road behind street nameplate. Healthy. **? First signs of infection.** *No change.*
39. Three young ash trees either side of 14' bridge height warning sign, Associated with three field maple. Minor die back at branch tips in northernmost tree; others appear healthy. **No change.** *No change.*
40. Semi-mature ash in verge on SW side of road. Shows first signs of infection. Young ash in hedge nearby also shows first signs of infection. **Badly infected.** *No change.*
41. Semi-mature ash in hedge on S side of road. Healthy. **No change.** *No change.*
42. Two semi-mature ash on S side of road and to E of gate into field. Small amount of die-back in crowns. Might be infected. **Tree nearest gate infected.** *No change.*
43. Semi-mature ash, W side of gate into field, S side of road. Die back in shaded branches – may be healthy. **No change.** *No change.*
44. PC planted young ash in verge on N side of road. Healthy. **No change.** *No change.*
45. 3 young ash trees across road from 44. Small amount of die back at branch tips. May be infected. **Westernmost of 3 infected.** *Now badly infected.*
46. Group of young ash in ditch on S side of road. Healthy. **No change.** *First signs of infection.*
47. Semi-mature ash on E side of corner and on S side of road. Crown healthy. Minor die back in shaded branches at base of crown. Probably healthy. **No change.** *First signs of infection.*
48. 2 young ash associated with oak on E side of road. Appear healthy. **First signs of infection.** *No change.*

49. Semi-mature ash on W side of road at corner. Healthy. **No change.** *No change.*
50. Semi-mature ash on S side of road. Infected. **No change.** *Badly infected.*
51. Pair of ash trees on E side of field gate on S side of road. Die-back and thin foliage in crown. Probably infected. **Infected.** *No change.*
52. Pair of semi-mature ash on W side of field gate and S side of road. Healthy. **No change.** *No change.*
53. Group of semi-mature ash between 52 and larch tree on S side of road. Healthy. **No change.** *No change.*
54. Young ash tree near to corner of Lineage Farm farmhouse. Healthy. **No change.** *? First signs of infection.*
55. Young ash, hedge in centre of front garden of Lineage Farm. Infected. **Healthy.** *No change.*
- 55a. Group of ash saplings growing up in hedge. Healthy.** *No change.*
56. Young ash, S side of road, near corner of garden. Infected. **Badly infected.** *50% crown loss.*

Carlton Road

57. Mature ash covered with ivy S side road adjacent to Carlton Brook. Infected. **Badly infected.** *No change.*
- 57a. Clump of semi-mature ash on N side road between low bridge sign and brook. ?first signs of infection.** *First signs of infection.*
58. Mature ash, W side of road. 50% crown die back. Badly infected. **No change.** *Now 80% crown loss.*
- Three big oak trees on W side road.
59. Semi-mature ash, W side of road. 50% crown die-back. Badly infected. **No change.** *No change.*
- 60. Mature ash, W side of road opposite footpath. Healthy. ?first signs of infection.** *? First signs of infection.*
61. Young ash, W side of road. Healthy. **First signs of infection.** *No change.*
62. Mature ash, W side of road adjacent power line. Healthy. **No change.** *? First signs of infection.*
63. Young ash tree - N one of a pair between Marina entrance and bus stop, W side of road. 30% crown die back. Infected. **Badly infected.** *No change.*
64. Young ash tree - S one of a pair between Marina entrance and bus stop, W side of road. 30% crown die back. Infected. **Badly infected.** *Now 50% crown die back.*

Shackerstone Walk

65. Coppiced ash at corner of West Green. Healthy. **No change.** *No change.*

Little Lane

66. 2 mature ash, W side of Little Lane. Minor die back – possibly first sign of infection. **Infected.** *No change.*

67. 3 young ash, W side of path. Healthy. **No change.** *No change.*

68. Mature ash near N end, on E side of path. First signs of infection. **Infected.** *No change.*

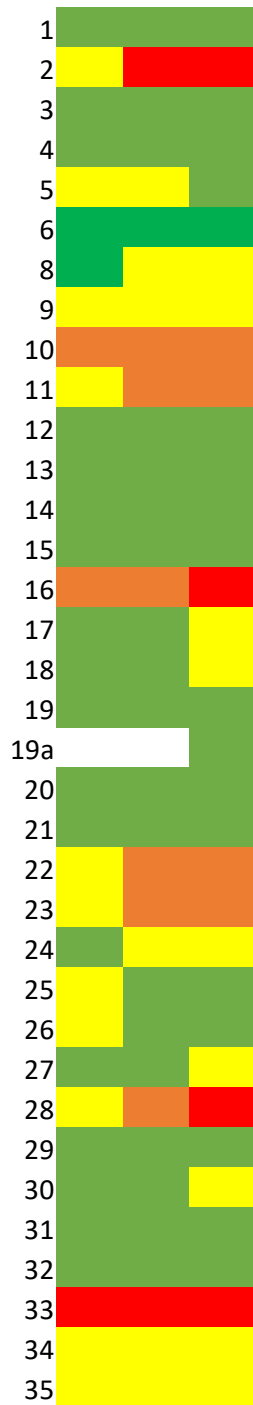
Wellesborough Road

There are no ash trees along this road within the Parish of Carlton.

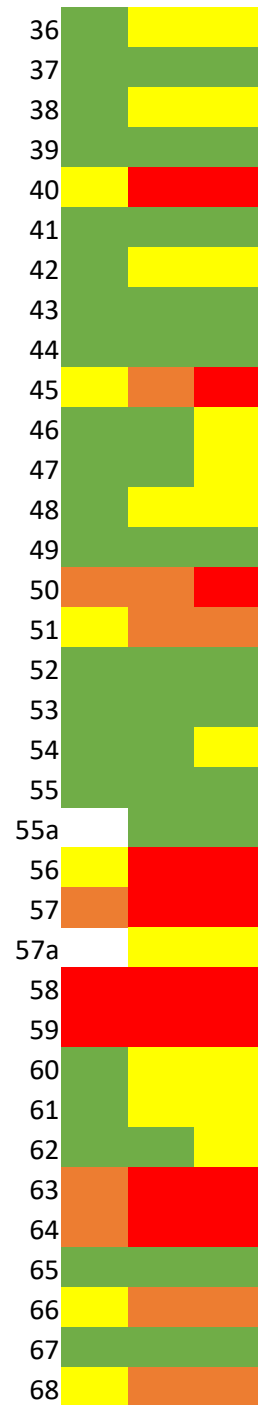
On S side of this road between Carlton Road and Far Coton Lane there are three mature ash trees with 50% crown die back. At the junction of the Wellesborough Road and Far Coton Lane there is a mature ash tree with 60% **now 80%** crown die back. This is the most severely affected tree in this area. *No change.*

Graphical summary of survey data

Tree number 2019 2020 2021



Tree number 2019 2020 2021



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