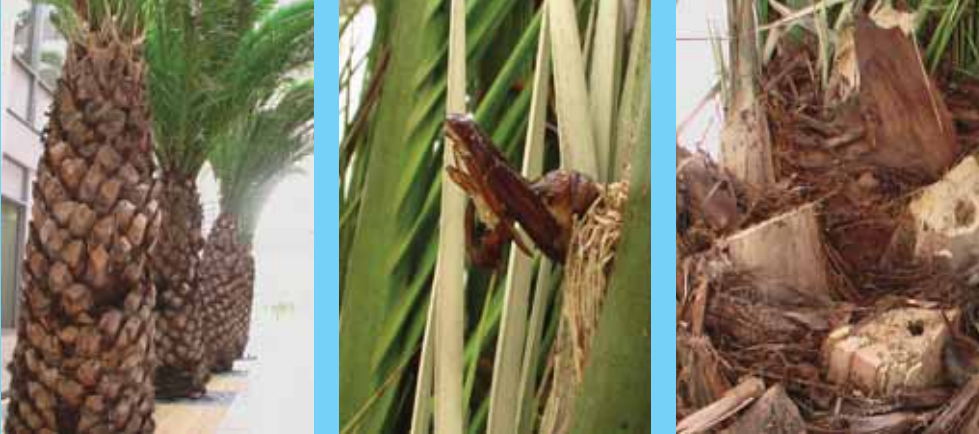


Invertebrate Pests Associated with Large and Exotic Trees Imported in the UK

The import of large tree specimens into the UK poses a significant pathway for the potential introduction of non-native invertebrate pests into the UK. The volume of imported large trees has increased markedly in recent years, with the movement of large trees being a worldwide trade.



The significant Lepidopteran pest of palm, *Paysandisia archon*, was intercepted in the UK infesting *Phoenix canariensis* from Spain in 2007. This is a pest that has become a serious threat to many ornamental palm species across Europe.

The Establishment of Exotic Pests and Climate Change

Climate change is resulting in species surviving in the UK today that would not have been expected to survive here even as little as ten years ago. Examples of these include the cottony cushion scale (*Icerya purchasi*) and the green shield bug (*Nezara viridula*), both of which have established populations in London. As the UK climate becomes warmer, the risk posed by exotic pests is expected to increase.



Icerya purchasi (cottony cushion scale – left) and *Nezara viridula* (green stink bug – right) have established populations in London, probably aided by the additional 'urban heat island' effect



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