

**Name:****Oak polypore***Piptoporus [Buglossoporus] quercinus***UK status:**

[UK BAP Priority](#). Annex (Red Data List, ed. 2).  
8 post-1960 hectad records in FRDBI.

**London status:**

Very rare (1 recent record)

**Protected status:**

- W&CA, Schedule 8 (S.13a\*)  
'Species of principal importance for the conservation of biological diversity in England' (CRoW Act, 2000)

**Relevant London HAPs:**

Woodland; Parks &amp; green spaces; Open landscapes with ancient trees

**Citation:**

Invariably found on living or recently dead ancient oaks, such trees are often of importance for other fungi and invertebrates. This rare fungus forms stemless, cushiony brackets with a smooth, velvety (when young) upper surface. The individual brackets are up to 5 cm thick and 20 cm wide. Pores develop on the under-surface with maturity and the overall colour changes from whitish, through pale-yellow to brown. Fruiting commences in mid summer, with a peak around early August. The polypore causes a progressive brown rot of the heartwood of the host tree. In Greater London oak polypore has recently been recorded at Richmond Park. Managing authority; The Royal Parks

**Conservation priorities:**

- Targeted London-wide survey of veteran oaks
- Protect any new sites emerging from further surveys (possibly using Tree Preservation Orders) [addresses UK SAP target T1]
- Enforcement of legal protection, especially in relation to collection of fruiting bodies even for scientific purposes (a small sample for microscopic confirmation is sufficient)

**References:**

- Evans S, Henrici, A & Ing, B. 2006. *Preliminary Assessment the Red Data List of Threatened British Fungi*. BMS(JNCC)
- Fortey R. and Skeates S. 2004. Predictions occasionally are fulfilled. *Field Mycology* 5(2) 43-44
- [Fungal Records Database of Britain & Ireland website](#)
- Ing, B. 1992. A provisional Red Data List of British fungi. *The Mycologist* 6(3): 124-128.
- Green T. 2000. A rare fungus and rare trees. *Field Mycology* 1(4) 133-134.
- Legon NW & Henrici A, 2005. *Checklist of the British and Irish Basidiomycota*. RBG, Kew.

\*additionally protected from intentionally picking (which includes collecting seed); trade and possession for the purpose of trade (including all derivatives)