

Squirrelpox Virus

in Our Red Squirrels

The number of red squirrels found in Great Britain today is declining. One reason for this is the introduction of a deadly virus called Squirrelpox, which is carried by the non-native grey squirrel and causes a fatal disease in reds.

Scientists at Moredun were the first to describe the genetic make up of the virus, and are now working towards developing a vaccine for squirrelpox that could help protect more red squirrels from the virus.

Squirrelpox - The Facts

- Carried by greys, infects the native red squirrel
- Causes scabs around the eyes, fingers and toes
- Nearly always fatal
- Causing Britain's native red squirrel population to decline
- Moredun are working on a vaccine.



More information can be found at:

www.moredun.ac.uk

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