



The Alternaria spore levels in 2022 were lower than the previous two years due to the very dry summer. Alternaria fungi require some rain to grow and produce spores and then some warm, dry weather to release the spores. Therefore, unusually long, dry periods eventually lead to a reduction in spore levels. Clinically significant high count days (50+ spores per cubic metre of air, daily average) occurred at Worcester for each of the three years as follows: 2020 - 57 days; 2021 – 57 days; 2022 -

45 days. Note that some people experience symptoms at lower or higher spore counts. Worcester is representative of much of inland, lowland England and South-East Wales.