



European
Commission



DG Health and
Food Safety

Euromphyt Interceptions ANNUAL REPORT 2015

***Europe Direct is a service to help you find answers
to your questions about the European Union.***

**Freephone number (*):
00 800 6 7 8 9 10 11**

(* The information given is free, as are most calls (though some operators, phone boxes or hotels may charge you).

More information on the European Union is available on the Internet (<http://europa.eu>).
Cataloguing data can be found at the end of this publication.

Luxembourg: Publications Office of the European Union, 2016

Electronic version:
ISBN 978-92-79-53486-7
doi: 10.2875/535621
Catalogue number: EW-02-15-962-EN-N

Paper version:
ISBN 978-92-79-53485-0
doi: 10.2875/406541
Catalogue number: EW-02-15-962-EN-C

© European Union, 2016

Reproduction of the texts of this report is authorised provided the source is acknowledged. For reproduction or use of the artistic material contained therein and identified as being the property of a third-party copyright holder, permission must be sought directly from the copyright holder.

EUROPHYT *Interceptions*

**European Union Notification System for Plant Health
Interceptions**

Annual Report 2015

Executive summary

EUROPHYT - Interceptions is the plant health interception, notification and rapid alert system for the EU Member States and Switzerland, managed by the European Commission. This report presents key statistics on the 2015 notifications and provides analysis of trends in interceptions based on annual figures from the period 2011-2015. Furthermore, the report this year focuses exclusively on Third Country (TC) import risks, given their overall higher plant health threats to the EU.

In 2015, EUROPHYT - Interceptions received a total of 7,180 notifications about consignments intercepted by Member States and Switzerland due to non-conformities with EU requirements, of which 6,762 were of TC origin. The 2015 total was slightly up on the 2014 level. The non-EU Alert List and Commission expert working group on Response to Emerging Risks from Imports (RERI WG) have both been instrumental during 2015 with regard to the timely identification of risks from TC imports, and possible actions, necessary to address these risks. In addition to these activities, the development of the EUROPHYT-Outbreaks module commenced in 2015 and is anticipated to offer enhanced data management and plant health overview towards more integrated assessments of both import risk and outbreak management.

A total of 2,136 notifications were due to the presence of harmful organisms (HOs) (down from 2,408 in 2014). Non-compliance of wood packaging material with international phytosanitary requirements (ISPM 15) (2,607), and documentary problems (lacking, inappropriate phytosanitary certificate) (1,805), both increased during 2015, up 30.4% (from 1,999) and 1.4 % (from 1,780), respectively, over the previous year.

Seven TCs were responsible for the majority of interceptions with HOs during 2015, each having more than 90 interceptions, namely, Ghana, Uganda, Laos, Bangladesh, Kenya, Uruguay and Thailand. More than 80% of all notifications from these countries were accounted for by eleven Member States.

In the case of goods from TCs, 31.6% of the interceptions were due to the presence of HOs, 38.6% due to non-compliance of wood packaging material (WPM) with ISPM 15, and 26.7% attributable to documentary problems (with 3.1 % to other issues).

For interceptions due to the presence of HOs, the main TC commodities intercepted were fruit and vegetables (72.3%), WPM (13.2%), cut flowers (5.1%) and planting material (2.4%).

*Seven commodities accounted for 68.9% of the interceptions on fruit and vegetables: peppers (*Capsicum spp.*), Citrus *spp.*, mango (*Mangifera spp.*), eggplant (*Solanum melongena*), basil (*Ocimum spp.*), bitter gourds (*Momordica spp.*) and serpent gourds (*Luffa spp.*). Infestations with non-European fruit flies and white flies were the most common. *Capsicum* and Citrus *spp.* both recorded marked increase in interceptions during 2015, mostly attributable to high numbers of *Thaumatotibia leucotreta* (false codling moth) interceptions, exclusively from Africa, due to the change in its regulatory status (on *Capsicum*) and an acute spike in interceptions of Citrus black spot from Uruguay. All the other commodities exhibited a downwards trend in 2015, in particular, mango, attributable to emergency measures taken against India in 2014.*

Other improvements in the incidence of HO interceptions for fruit and vegetables from TCs during 2015 included Ghana, Dominican Republic and South Africa, following Commission initiated bi-lateral dialogue, action regarding TCs non compliances and/or plant health audits.

There were 2,725 interceptions of WPM recorded in 2015, up from 2,178 in 2014, mainly due to inappropriate or absent ISPM 15 marks. Similarly, with respect to HO interceptions, where the main sources were China, India and Vietnam, there was an increase in 2015 to 281 from a relatively steady baseline over previous years of approximately 240 per annum (many on ISPM 15 marked materials). This increase was almost exclusively attributable to wood/bark insects, in particular Sinoxylon spp. (augar beetles) by Germany (mainly from India (despite a clear downward trend with fruit and vegetable interceptions), and to a lesser extent China, which recorded an overall reduction in HO associated interceptions over 2014). Overall, longhorn beetles recorded a downward trend during 2015 (despite a small increase in interceptions of Anoplophora and Monochamus spp. during the year).

As regards cut flowers, the most important commodities during 2015 were, in descending order of interception numbers, orchids, Rosa spp., Gypsophila spp., Solidago spp., Eryngium spp. and Chrysanthemum spp. Leaf miners (Liriomyza spp.), Spodoptera spp., Thrips spp. and Bemisia spp. continued to be the most prominent intercepted pests on cut flowers (primarily from Thailand, Israel and Morocco).

Bemisia tabaci (non-European populations) was the most intercepted HO with planting material.

Nine HOs, considered not present or previously recorded from within the EU territory were intercepted for the first time in 2014.

The main trends were an overall decrease in total number of HO interceptions and an increase in WPM interceptions for both HO presence and non-compliance with ISPM 15.

Species level designation of HOs in the notifications increased slightly to 52.5% of all taxonomic designations in 2015. This should be actively encouraged for the more informed operation of EUROPHYT - Interceptions as a rapid alert system, but also, equally important, in supporting Commission measures with respect to plant biosecurity risks from TC imports.

Despite ongoing efforts by Member States, delays in EUROPHYT- Interceptions notification times has remained largely static at nine working days for all notifications, and 11 working days for those related to HO notifications. These figures remain far from the two working days stipulated in EU legislation.

Acronyms

CH	Switzerland
CIS	Commonwealth of Independent States
EFSA	European Food Safety Authority
EPPO	European and Mediterranean Plant Protection Organisation
EU	European Union
EUROPHYT-Interceptions	The EU notification and rapid alert system dealing with interceptions for plant health reasons of consignments of plants and plant products imported into, or traded within, the EU
HOs	Harmful organisms
ISPM	International Standard for Phytosanitary Measures
MSs	EU Member States (are also, except United Kingdom, referred to individually in tables and figures of the report by their two-letter ISO code)
NPPO	National Plant Protection Organisation
PC	Phytosanitary Certificate
RERI	Response to Emerging Risks from Imports
TCs	Third countries, i.e. non-EU countries, other than Switzerland (are also referred to individually in tables and figures of the report by their two-letter ISO code)
TRACES	Trade Control and Expert System
UK	United Kingdom
WPM	Wood packaging material

Table of Contents

1. Introduction.....	2
1.1 EUROPHYT <i>Interceptions</i>	2
1.2 Support to risk management decisions.....	2
1.3 Modifications and changes with regards the 2015 annual report.....	3
1.4 Objective/Aim.....	3
2. Notifications.....	4
2.1 Reasons for interceptions.....	4
2.2 Member States and Third Country Notifications.....	5
3. Interceptions of consignments imported from Third Countries.....	6
3.1 Type and origin of the consignments.....	7
3.2 Intercepting MS.....	10
3.3 Interceptions with harmful organisms.....	10
3.4 Interceptions for reasons other than presence of harmful organisms.....	14
4. Key Commodities – further analysis and considerations.....	16
4.1 Planting material.....	16
4.2 Fruit and vegetables.....	16
4.3 Cut flowers.....	20
4.4 Wood packaging material.....	21
5. Harmful organisms encountered in EUROPHYT for the first time in 2015.....	24
6. Species level identification – needs and challenges.....	24
7. Period of notification.....	27
8. Conclusions.....	28
Annex.....	32

1. Introduction

1.1 EUROPHYT *Interceptions*

EUROPHYT- *Interceptions*¹ is an on-line web-based rapid alert system for plant health interceptions in the European Union (EU), originally established according to the provisions of Commission Directive 94/3/EC of 21 January 1994².

The basis for EUROPHYT – *Interceptions* is the obligation for EU Member States (MSs) (and Switzerland) to rapidly notify harmful organisms (HOs) and other plant health risks found during import controls. Notifications of such interceptions are in turn disseminated EU wide and to the National Plant Protection Organisation (NPPO) of the country of export. Similarly, interceptions made in intra-EU trade of material that does not meet EU phytosanitary requirements, are also subject to notification and dissemination.

Since its inception, EUROPHYT- *Interceptions* has been hosted, managed and continuously developed by a dedicated team within the European Commission's Directorate-General for Health and Food Safety ensuring day-to-day monitoring and management of the system and database, as well as co-ordinating on-going system maintenance and upgrades. As well as performing a range of periodic reporting functions³, EUROPHYT- *Interceptions* personnel provide a dedicated helpdesk to deal specifically with official queries and to provide on-going support to both MSs and non-EU National Plant Protection Organisation stakeholders.

1.2 Support to risk management decisions

In addition to its function as a rapid alert system, the EUROPHYT- *Interceptions* database has increasingly served as the basis for an effective risk assessment and risk management policy support tool, finding increasing use in widening policy spheres. For example, the European Food Safety Authority (EFSA) has direct on-line access to the EUROPHYT - *Interceptions* database to support their pest risk assessment activities. Principal amongst these approaches has been the development and launch of the Non-EU trade Alert List in November 2014. The Alert List ranks TC trades and HO interceptions based on a set of specific criteria over a rolling 12 month period. The Alert List is updated monthly, covering the preceding 12 months, and as such, gauges trends in plant health risks on an on-going monthly basis, i.e. it effectively provides an indication, and on-going overview, of trends with regard to certain phytosanitary risks for the EU from imports. The Alert list acts as a

¹ The rapid alert system for plant health interceptions formerly known as EUROPHYT has, since November 2015, been renamed EUROPHYT - *Interceptions* to distinguish it from EUROPHYT - *Outbreaks*, a parallel system for notification of outbreaks of both regulated and non-regulated HOs on MS territory, under Commission Implementing Decision 2014/917/EU.

² Commission Directive 94/3/EC of 21 January 1994 establishing a procedure for the notification of interception of a consignment or a harmful organism from third countries and presenting an imminent phytosanitary danger. OJ L 32, 5.2.1994, p. 37.

³ Monthly and annual data extracts are published on-line, along with other EU plant health related information at http://ec.europa.eu/food/plant/plant_health_biosafety/index_en.htm.

risk management tool to the Commission and to the Expert Working Group on the Response to Emerging Risks from Imports (RERI WG), which provides expert advice to the Commission on risk management. The Alert List is published each month on the DG Health and Food Safety website: [Non-EU trade alert list - European Commission](#) and is therefore accessible to all TC NPPOs, traders and stakeholders, etc., to encourage relevant parties to deal with such risks at source. The Alert List, published in January 2016 (i.e. covering the entire 12 month reference period for 2015), is given in Table 8.1 of the Annex.

In addition to the import interception notifications which are automatically generated and immediately sent to the competent authorities of the country of origin, the Alert List provides a transparent overview that constitutes the main basis for EU interaction with the country of origin for achieving increased compliance with the EU's phytosanitary import requirements.

1.3 Modifications and changes with regards the 2015 annual report

Consistent with the continual development of EUROPHYT - *Interceptions*, a number of modifications and changes to the approach and content of the annual report have been introduced this year. With respect to data analysis for 2015, data has been extracted based on notification rather than interception date (as used in previous reports). This change was introduced to better reflect a more accurate annual review of trends within the reporting period. Furthermore, extraction of data from the database based on notification date brings this activity into line with the Alert List. All the data presented in the timeframe (2011-2015) of the current analysis presented in this report have been extracted and compared based on notification date.

Given that the principal plant health risk to the EU arises from non-EU countries (or Third countries), a second major change to the annual report is the exclusion of detailed analysis of intra-EU interceptions. Despite this, some key statistics for interceptions within the EU over the reference period are given in section 2 (Fig. 2.1 and Table 2.1 of the Annex).

1.4 Objective/Aim

Although the EUROPHYT - *Interceptions* database is used in support of risk management and other policy support activities, this report aims to provide an annual overview of the highlights and most pertinent interceptions during 2015⁴. Furthermore, it evaluates, where relevant, the overall and principal trends over the period 2011-2015 within the context of EU actions or measures taken.

⁴ All public data of EUROPHYT - *Interceptions*, including those in this annual report, are prepared in line with Regulation EC (No) 45/2001 on the protection of individuals with regard to the processing of personal data.

2. Notifications

EUROPHYT – *Interceptions* received an overall total of 7,180 notifications, covering all non-conformities, during 2015, approximately 6.5% higher than that recorded for 2014, and reversing a slight downward trend observed over the period 2012 to 2014. Of this figure, 6,762 originated from TC consignments, whilst the remaining 418 represented interceptions from intra-EU trade, representing an approximate 4.2% and 42% increase over the previous year, respectively. **Figure 2.1** gives an overview of the number of interceptions for TCs and MSs over the period 2011 to 2015.

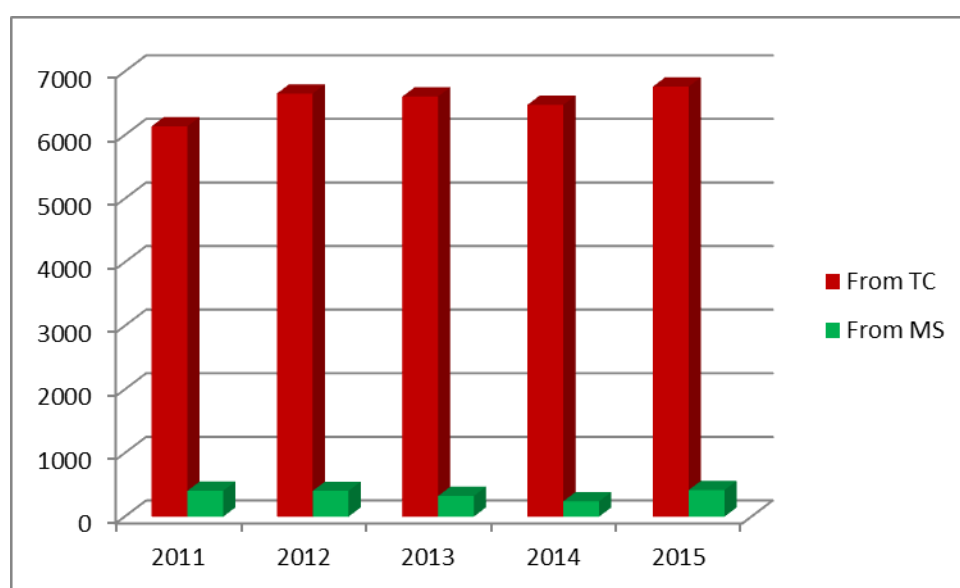


Fig. 2.1. Total number of notifications to EUROPHYT – *Interceptions* (2011-2015) recorded from TCs and intra-EU trade for all reasons (see also Table 2.1 of the Annex).

2.1 Reasons for interceptions

Fig. 2.2 gives a comparative breakdown of the relative contributions of the differing non-conformities for the interceptions recorded for 2015 for TCs, with a comparative evolution over the reference period 2011-2015. The basic data are provided in the Annex (Table 2.2)⁵

The three principal reasons for interceptions from TCs, for 2015 are (in descending order of incidence): Non-compliant WPM, HOs and absence of, or non-conforming, phytosanitary

⁵ In this report the totals always refer to the number of intercepted consignments in that particular category. If there was more than one reason of interception in the case of a consignment (e.g. presence of a harmful organism and absence of phytosanitary certificate) or more than one HO was intercepted, the interception is counted separately in each of the relevant categories, however only once concerning the overall number of interceptions. Consequently the totals may be lower than the sum of subcategories. Furthermore, some sub-categories include more than one reason for interception, depending on the comparison of the data table, and therefore, there could be slight differences in numbers reflected in different data tables and/or figures.

certificates (PCs) (including non-conforming PCs and problems with additional declaration(s)). Although HO interceptions fell approximately 11.3% since the previous year, WPM, non-compliant with ISPM 15, increased approximately 23.3% to 38.6% of the total number of all TC interceptions, representing a considerable increase over 2014. Similarly, the figure for the absence of, or non-conforming, PCs increased by approximately 5.3% over the previous year, representing 26.7% of the total number of all TC interceptions in 2015.

In general, issues related to PCs, as a whole, have remained largely constant between 2014 and 2015, with only a slight reduction with issues related to declaration problems.

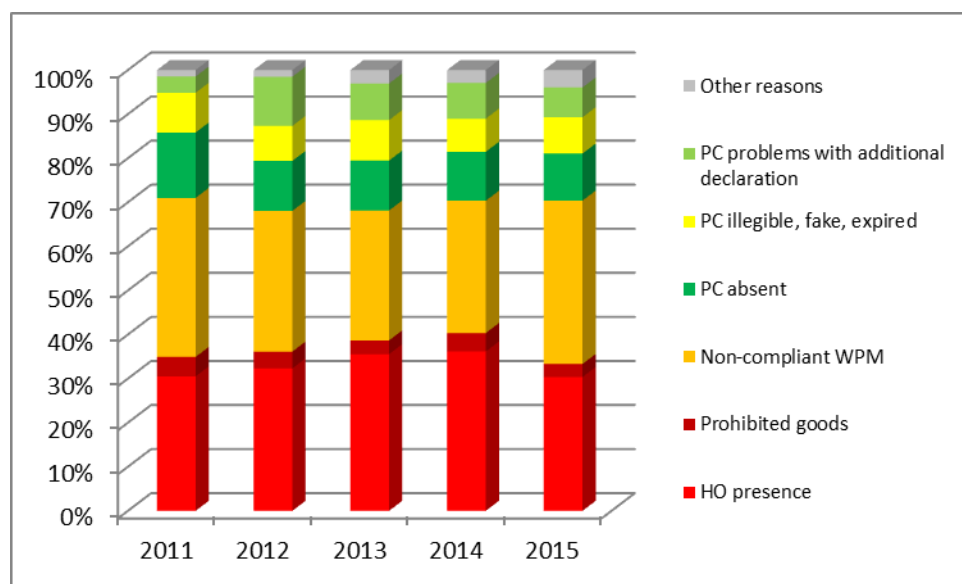


Fig.2.2. Reasons and evolution of interceptions of consignments from Third Countries over the reference period 2011-2015.

2.2 Member States and Third Country Notifications

In the reference period 2011 to 2015, eleven MSs referred to in **Fig. 2.3** were responsible for over 85% of all notifications reported to EUROPHYT - *Interceptions*. Of these eleven MSs, the UK, DE and LV reported 1,371, 1,020 and 932 interceptions, respectively, in 2015 (together accounting for approximately 46.3% of the total number of all interceptions). The UK thus remains the MS with the highest number of reported interceptions. DE recorded a marked increase in interceptions during 2015. LV recorded a large and very marked increase in interceptions, largely due to WPM interceptions from Russia and neighbouring Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS), following a year-on-year reduction since 2011. NL and FR, both large importing MSs, continued a negative trend over preceding years, with a further considerable drop in 2015.

Figures for both ES and CH represent a relatively stable slightly oscillating pattern, but with a slight overall negative trend for ES. BE recorded a strong rise in 2015, continuing a general upward trend.

With regard to the number of interceptions relative to the estimated volume of imports of regulated articles⁶, ES, BE and IT, although exhibiting increases in interceptions over the previous year, represent relatively low numbers of interceptions (Table 2.3 of the Annex), whereas AT and LT appear to intercept consignments in relatively high numbers with regard to their relatively lower estimates of imports.

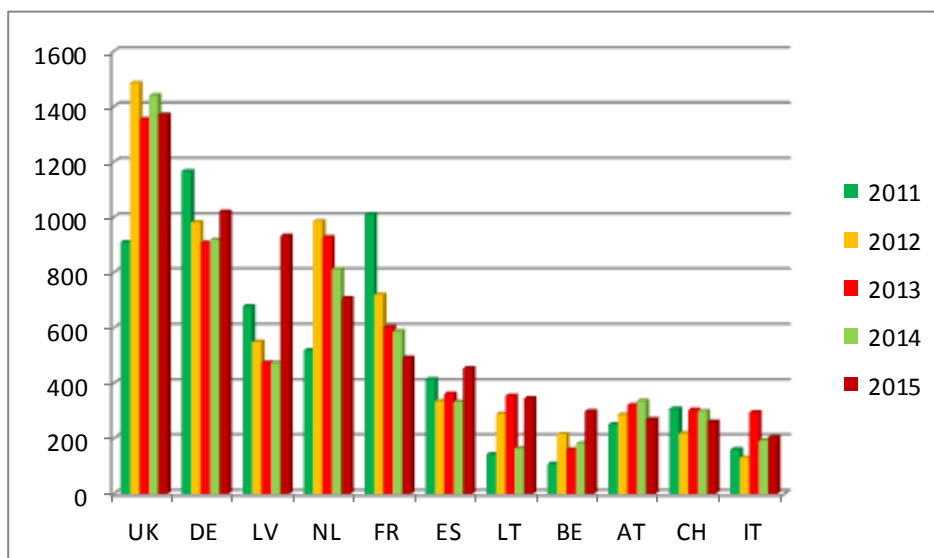


Fig. 2.3. MSs with the overall largest number of notified interceptions in the period 2011-2015.

3. Interceptions of consignments imported from Third Countries

Key points

There were a total of 6,762 interceptions from third countries. These may be broken down as follows:

- WPM (treatment): 2,607 (38.6%)
- Presence of Harmful Organisms: 2,136 (31.6%)

⁶ Regulated articles as described by Council Directive 2000/29/EC, subject to specific requirements, such as phytosanitary certificates and mandatory import control.

Currently no exact information is available at EU level on the volume of imports, subject to phytosanitary controls. EUROSTAT data provides only indicative information, as the customs codes (TARIC) only to a limited extent correspond to the regulated articles, defined by the EU plant health legislation as subject to phytosanitary controls.

- Absence of, or non-conforming, phytosanitary certificates: 1,805 (26.7%)
- Other reasons: 3.1%

For interceptions due to the presence of HOs, the main commodities intercepted were fruit and vegetables (72.3%), Wood packaging material (13.2%), cut flowers (5.1%) and planting material (2.4%):

- The main countries of origin of intercepted fruit and vegetables with HOs were Ghana, Uganda, Laos and Bangladesh. (see **Fig. 4.3** and Table 4.3 of the annex).
- The main countries of origin of intercepted wood packaging material with HOs were China, India and Vietnam (see **Fig 4.7** and Table 4.7 of the annex).
- The main countries of origin of intercepted cut flowers with HOs were Thailand, Morocco and Israel (see Section 4.3).
- The main countries of origin of intercepted planting material with HOs were the USA, China, Israel and Costa Rica (see Section 4.1).

3.1 Type and origin of the consignments

In 2015, MSs reported 6,762 interceptions of consignments from TCs (for all reasons), of which 4,756 concerned plants and plant products (including planting material, seeds, fruits and vegetables, cut flowers, ware potatoes, wood/bark, and other plant products), and 2,136 objects (WPM and other objects)⁷. Although the overall share between classes of product has remained largely similar over the last 5 years, the total number of interceptions for the different classes of all plants and plant products has reduced in 2015, with the exception of ware potatoes, wood/bark and WPM. The latter two have increased (by approximately 36.6% and 20%, respectively). The trends can be seen in **Fig. 3.1.** and Table 3.1 of the Annex.

In 2015, WPM overtook fruit and vegetables as the commodity class with the largest number of notifications for all reasons. This reversed a trend that consistently saw fruit and vegetables as the commodity class with the largest number of interceptions, but which recorded the first reduction in interceptions in 5 years in 2015 (down approximately 11.5% on the previous year). Cut flowers recorded a second year reduction in interceptions, with approximately 34.5% fewer interceptions than in 2014.

⁷ Plants, plant products and objects as defined by Article 2 of Council Directive 2000/29/EC.

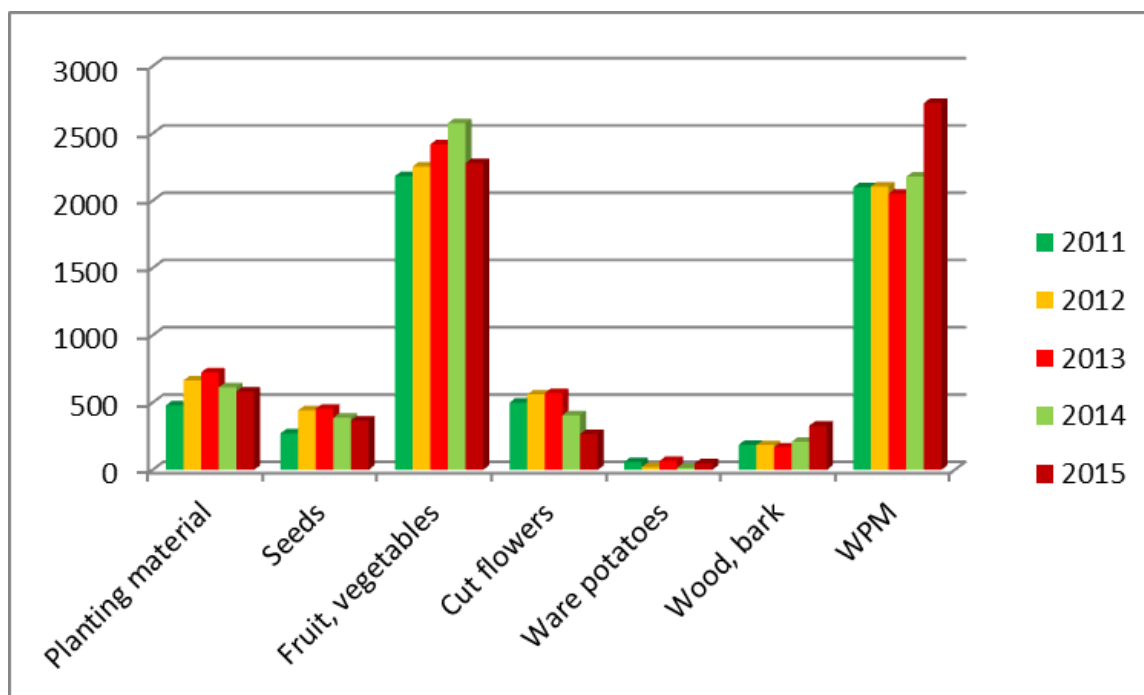


Fig. 3.1. Type of intercepted commodities from Third Countries (2011-2015).

EUROPHYT - *Interceptions* recorded interceptions from 155 different exporting TCs in 2015 (up from a total of 123 in 2014). As in the previous three years (2013 and 2014), the largest number of TC interceptions originated from Russia (RU) – responsible for approximately 18% of the total of all interceptions from TCs. In 2015, Russia is followed by, in descending order, the USA (US), China (CN), Thailand (TH), Ghana (GH), India (IN), Turkey (TR), Kenya (KE), Bangladesh (BD), Uganda (UG), and most strikingly during 2015, Laos (LA). (see **Fig. 3.2** and Table 3.2 of the Annex). Taken together, these eleven countries accounted for approximately 61.3% of all TC interceptions in 2015.

A number of significant changes to the ranking of the most prominent TCs with respect to their respective number of interceptions (for all reasons) took place during 2015. As mentioned, Russia remains in first position and furthermore, interceptions have increased by approximately 45.2% since 2014, largely due to non-compliant WPM. US follow second, also exhibiting a modest increase in interceptions, and then China showing an approximate 17.2% decrease, the first reduction observed over the current reference period (the overall ranking for both was largely due to WPM issues).

Increased interception from Thailand has pushed it into fourth place (despite on-going bi-lateral communication to help maintain previous downward momentum, interceptions have increased 23.4%), ahead of Ghana, where despite various EU actions, the total number of interceptions decreased only slightly in 2015 (approximately 11.5%, towards the end of the year). This can be explained by the date of implementation of emergency measures banning import of a range of commodities from Ghana which came into effect only in October 2015. India has exhibited a sustained downward trend with respect to the number

of interceptions since 2013, although the fall in 2015 was very modest (approximately 6.3%). This trend can be largely attributable to the EU import ban (Commission Decision 2014/237/EU) on mango and other frequently intercepted fruits and vegetables (*Colocasia* spp., *Momordica* spp., *Solanum melangena* and *Trichosanthes* spp.) from India during 2014. The ban on mango was replaced in February 2015 with a requirement for appropriate measures to ensure freedom from harmful organisms, but remained in place for the other commodities. A spike in the notifications of *Abelmoschus* spp. (okra) contributed to the total number of interceptions from India for 2015, suppressing the overall downward trend.

The presence of Turkey (TR) continues to largely relate to documentary issues (not to the presence of HOs); whilst Kenya (KE) has recorded a small downward trend despite increased interceptions of *Thaumatotibia leucotreta* (false codling moth). Unilateral internal measures by Bangladesh with regards to three critical commodities (*Amaranthus* spp., *Trichosanthes* spp. and *Citrus* spp.) has contributed to the reversal of a previous upward trend in interceptions, but numbers still remain relatively high. In tenth position, Uganda has exhibited increasing year-on-year interceptions since 2012. This continued in 2015 despite a brief implementation of unilateral internal measures (from May 2015) on export of all commodities with an EU notification history (principally *Thaumatotibia leucotreta* on pepper). Laos, despite eleventh position, is of particular concern as the level of interceptions increased 98% during 2015, with a wide range of commodities. (see **Fig. 3.2** and Table 3.2 of the Annex).

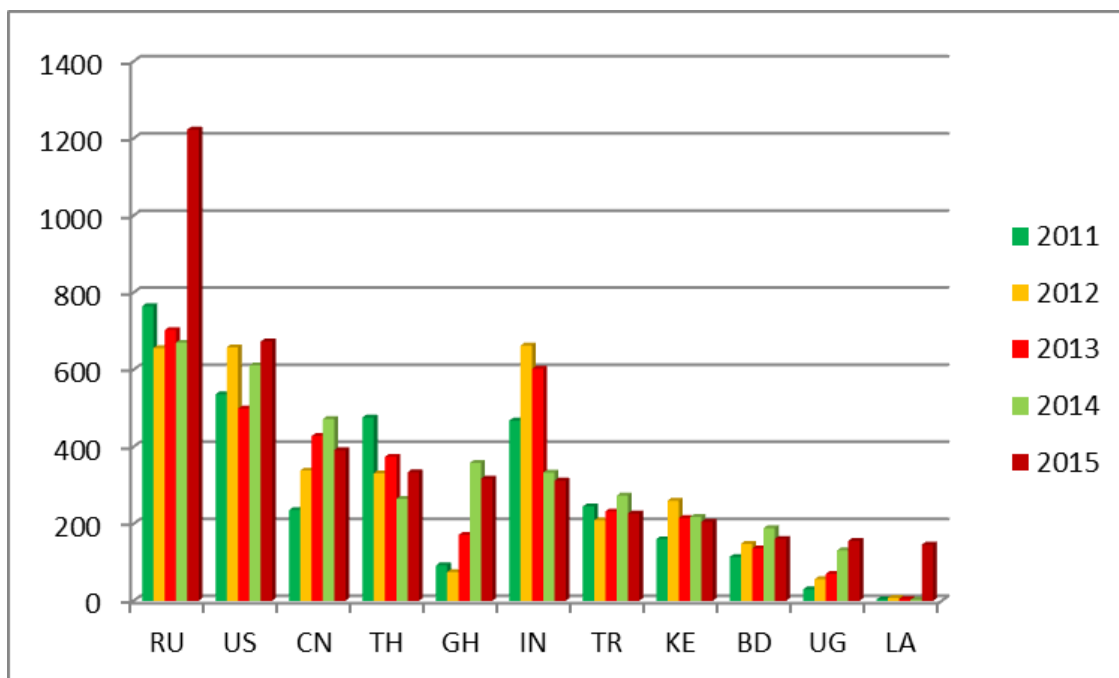


Fig. 3.2. Third Countries with the highest number of interceptions (all reasons) (2011-2015).

3.2 Intercepting MS

In 2015, 18.1% of interceptions of consignments from TCs were made by the UK, followed by DE (14.9%), LV (13.7%), NL (10.3%), FR (7%), ES (5.2%), LT (5.1%), BE (4.2%), AT (4%), CH (3.8%) and IT (2.9%) (see **Fig. 2.3**, and Table 2.3 of the Annex for the total number of interceptions).

3.3 Interceptions with harmful organisms

2,136 notifications of consignments intercepted from TCs in 2015 concerned HOs (11.3% lower than in 2014, and continuing a general downward trend from 2012), of which 1,847 represented consignments of plants and/or plant products (14.9% lower than in 2014). Conversely, 299 interceptions were attributable to objects⁸ (19.8% higher than in the previous year) (see **Fig. 3.3** and Table 3.3 of the Annex).

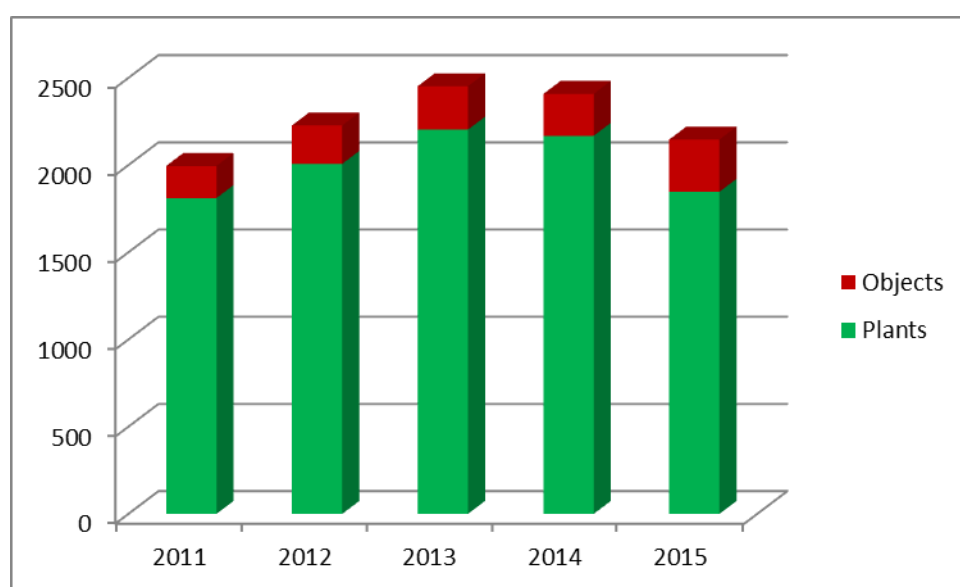


Fig. 3.3. Consignments from Third Countries intercepted with harmful organisms (2011-2015).

This data was further subject to review and reporting regarding monthly trends, through analysis of the non-EU trade Alert List. With respect to 2015, **Fig. 3.4** represents the total numbers of HO interceptions, on an annual rolling basis, captured under the criteria used in the construction of the non-EU trade Alert List, showing the trend over the 2015 reference period. Although a distinct overall negative trend is observed, the increases observed around mid-autumn can be primarily attributable to increased *Phyllosticta citricarpa* (Citrus black spot) interceptions, largely from South America, in particular Uruguay, and the additional numbers of false codling moth interceptions from Africa. The non-EU trade Alert List for 1 January 2015 to 31 December 2015, covering the reference period of this report, is given in Table 8.1 of the Annex.

⁸ Defined as any other material or object, other than plants or plant products, capable of harbouring or spreading pests, e.g. WPM.

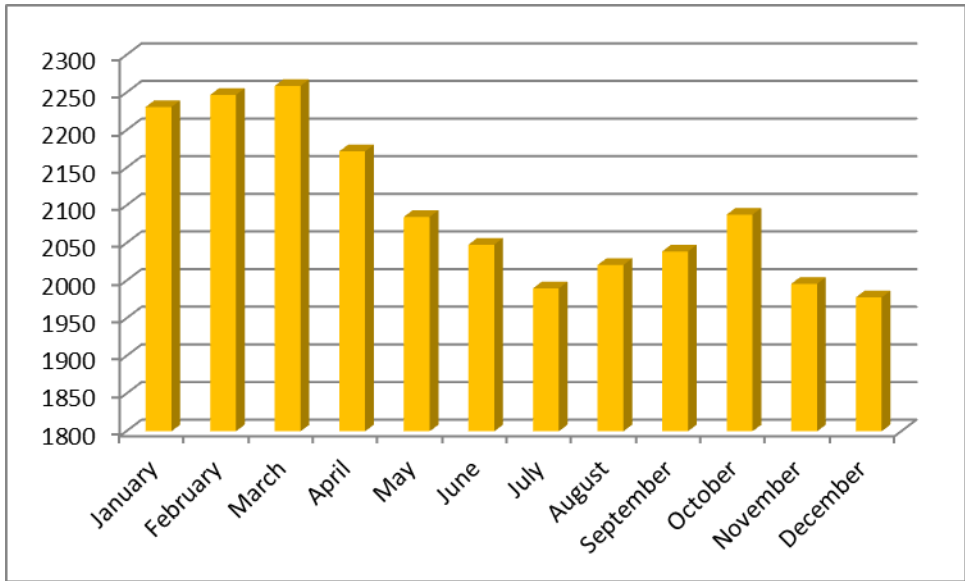


Fig. 3.4. Graphical representation of the total number of HO interceptions on the non-EU trade Alert List in 2015 (month-on-month evolution of interception totals for the previous 12 month periods) (see also Table 8.1 of the Annex).

With regard to the breakdown of data for HO interceptions for 2015, approximately 85% of consignments involved fruit and vegetables, followed by WPM (15.2%), cut flowers (6%) and planting material (4.1%). Seeds and wood/bark registered only a very slight increase over the previous year (see **Fig. 3.5.** and Table 3.5 of the Annex). Although largely reflecting the pattern and trends for all notifications as given in Fig. 3.1, in particular with regard to fruit and vegetables, and cut flowers, the principal difference is highlighted with WPM for which HO interceptions account for approximately only 10% of all WPM notifications (the rest of which is related to documentary related issues and non-compliance with special requirements, etc.). However, there has been a year-on-year increase in HO interceptions from WPM, with an approximate 16% increase over 2014 (and approximate 35% increase overall since 2011). Fruit and vegetables, cut flowers, and planting material each recorded a fall in interceptions in 2015 by approximately 13%, 34.7% and 29.2%, respectively.

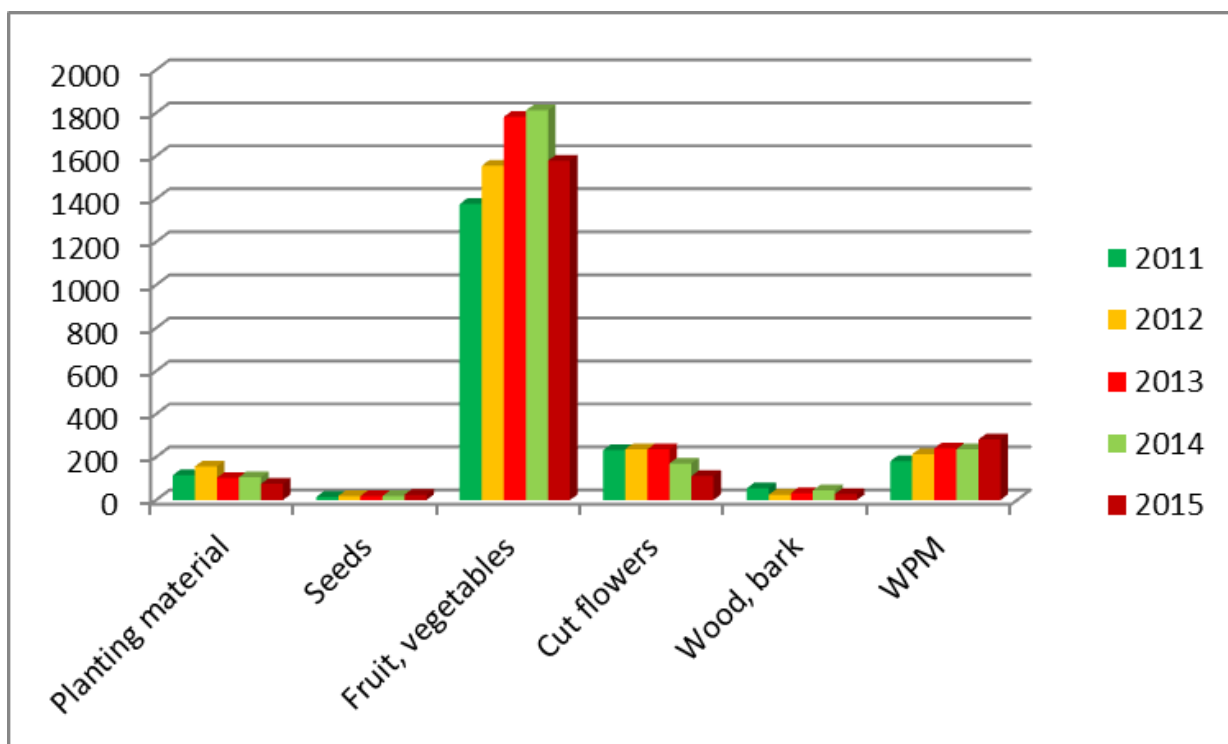


Fig. 3.5. Type of consignments from Third Countries, intercepted with harmful organisms (2011-2015).

The TCs with the highest number of interceptions of HOs in 2015 are given in **Fig. 3.6** (see also Table 3.6 of the Annex). Uganda, Laos, and Uruguay each exhibit a clear and consistent upward trend. Similarly, but less pronounced, India and Thailand exhibit slight increases in HO interceptions over the previous year despite falls since 2013 and 2012, respectively.

Ghana, China and Bangladesh each had an overall reduction in HO interceptions, compared to 2014. With regard to India, where an overall slight downward trend in interceptions was noted in section 3.1, there was a slight increase on the previous year in the interceptions with HOs. This occurred despite Commission Implementing Decision 2014/237/EU, which restricted the import of mango (*Mangifera* spp.), *Momordica* spp., eggplant (*Solanum melongena*), *Trichosanthes* spp. and leaves of *Colocasia* spp. to tackle the introduction of the main HOs for which these plants are hosts: fruit flies (Tephritidae), thrips (Thripidae) and white flies (*Bemisia tabaci*). These emergency measures did have an impact on the number of interceptions of the involved HOs and commodities. However, HO interceptions of WPM continued at an increased level, primarily in DE of *Sinoxylon* spp. (augar beetles). The reduction in interception figures for Ghana can be attributed to emergency measures introduced against it late in 2015. With respect to Uganda, proposed forthcoming changes to the status of *Thaumatotibia leucotreta* (false codling moth) on *Capsicum* spp. resulted in increased checks and increased interceptions for 2015, as well as for 2014. The prominent

record for Uruguay in 2015 is almost exclusively due to 70 interceptions of *Phyllosticta citricarpa* made during the autumn. This situation has since been addressed by Commission Implementing Decision (EU) 2016/715 in parallel with an audit. Laos recorded an extremely pronounced peak in interceptions in 2015. At the same time, interceptions from Cambodia, which previously recorded high levels of interceptions, reduced dramatically, particularly with respect to fruit and vegetables (see **Fig. 4.3**).

All TCs that continued to exhibit high numbers of interceptions during 2015 will be subject to on-going evaluation, including via the RERI WG, with possible further action(s) and/or measures as deemed appropriate.

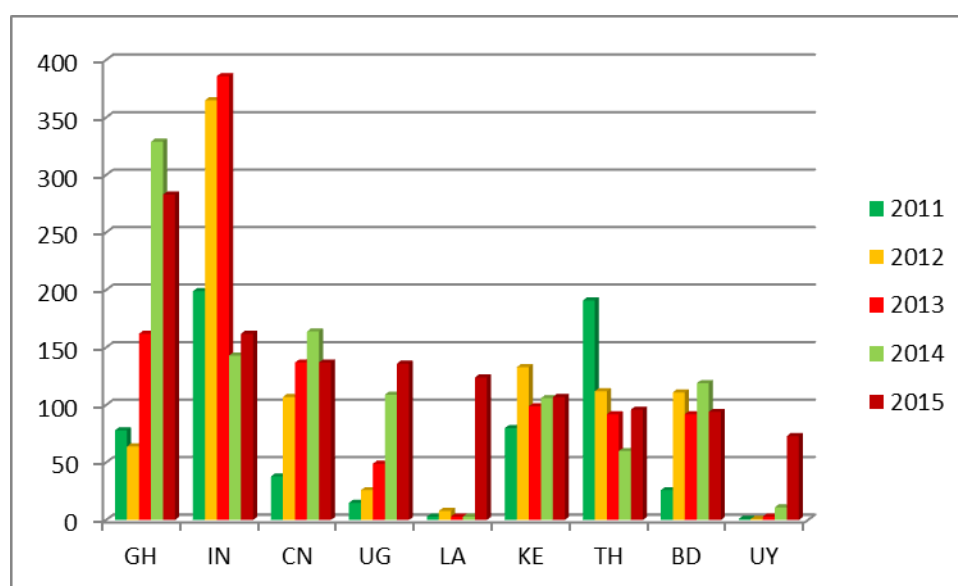


Fig. 3.6. Third Countries with the highest number of interceptions with harmful organism (2011-2015).

In 2015, the MS with the greatest number of HO interceptions from TCs was the UK (982 interceptions or 45.8%), followed, in descending order, by NL (307, or 14.4%), DE (237, or 11.1%) and FR (190, or 8.9%), with the eleven MS highlighted in **Fig.3.7** being responsible for over 80% of all TC HO interceptions in 2015. Overall, both the UK and NL continued a downward trend in interceptions recording an approximate 9.3% and 15.7% fall from the previous year, respectively, while DE recorded an increase (19%), as did ES (6.3%), BE (48.4%), AT (36.9%) and IE (23.1%). By contrast, FR, CH and IT reported a fall of 9.1%, 48.1% and 40.5%, respectively. Irrespective of the observed trend, the number of HO interceptions by SE (125), appears relatively high, while interceptions by IT (44), ES (143), BE (120) and CH (66), appear relatively low in relation to their geographical and international trade positions (**Fig. 3.7**; and Table 3.7 of the Annex).

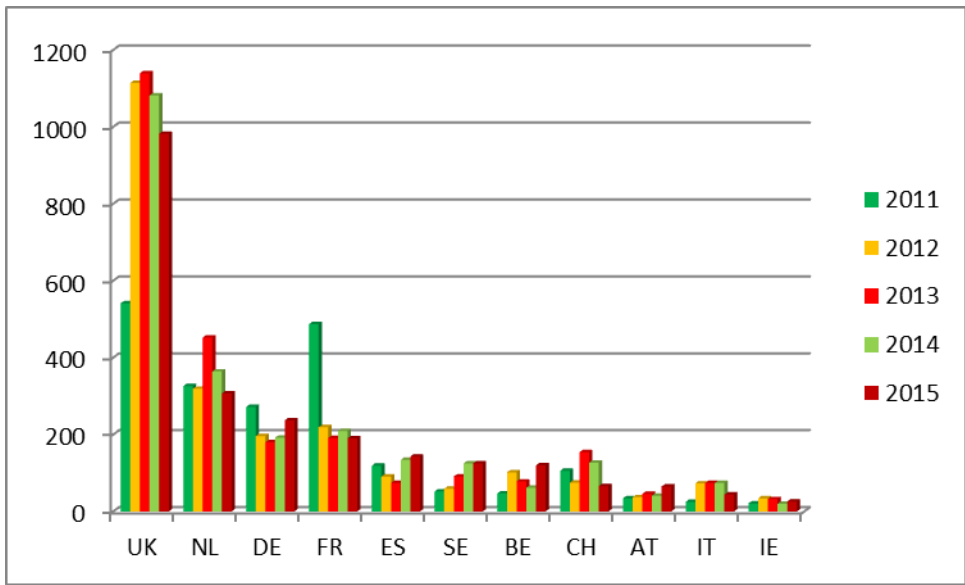


Fig. 3.7. Member States intercepting the highest number of consignments with harmful organisms (2011-2015).

3.4 Interceptions for reasons other than presence of harmful organisms

A total of 4,702 notifications of consignments imported from TCs, intercepted for reasons other than HO presence, were recorded in EUROPHYT - *Interceptions* during 2015, representing an overall increase from 2014 of approximately 11.3%. Of this total, 2,068, which is similar to 2014, involved plants and plant products. The overall increase is largely attributable to WPM and other objects, with 2,634 notifications in 2015.

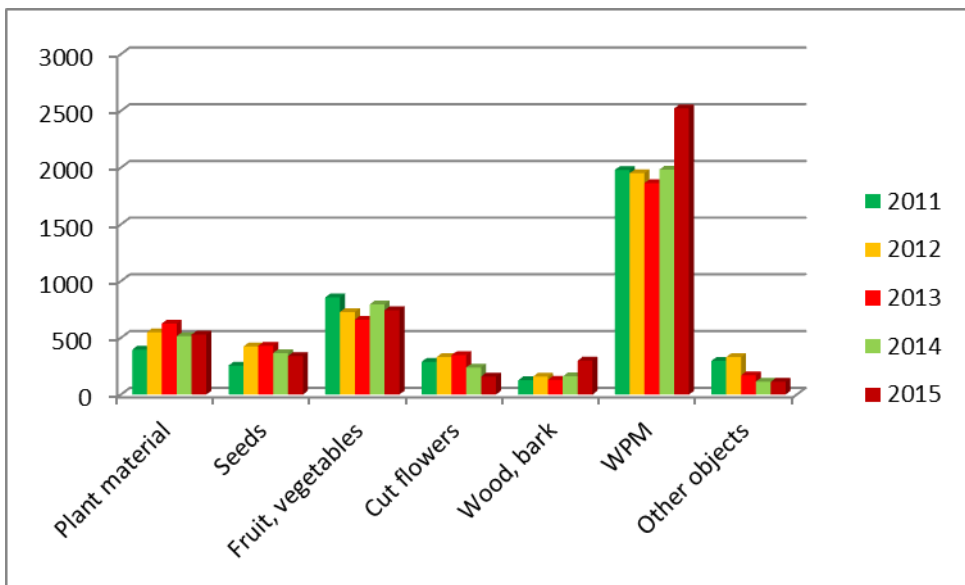


Fig. 3.8. Share of the major commodity groups in interceptions due to reasons other than the presence of HOs (2011-2015).

Of the plants and plant products, fruit and vegetables accounted for the largest number of interceptions (743), which have remained largely static since 2012 (see **Fig 3.8**). Cut flowers (159), seeds (339), and other objects, each exhibited a slight reduction in the number of notifications from 2014. Planting material and wood/bark are the other two principal classes recording a slight increase over 2014 (see also Table 3.8 of the Annex).

As in previous years, WPM was intercepted for not meeting the requirements of ISPM 15 (mark missing, illegible, or inappropriately marked, etc.). Consignments, other than WPM, were primarily intercepted due to the absence, or various inappropriateness, of phytosanitary certificates, including inadequate or missing additional declarations.

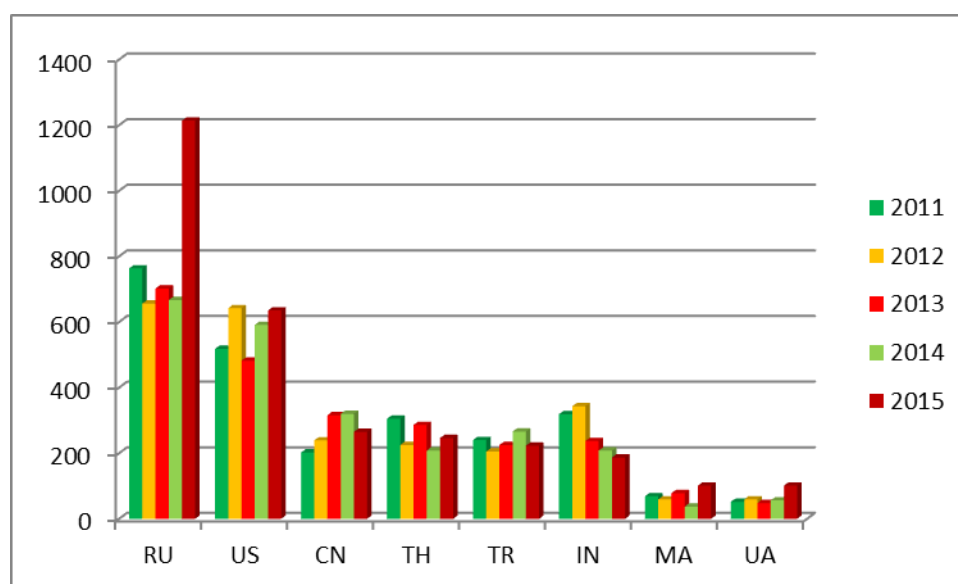


Fig. 3.9. Third countries with the highest number of interceptions for reasons other than presence of harmful organisms (2011-2015) (and see Table 3.9 of the Annex).

As regards the TCs involved, the eight countries, referred to in **Fig. 3.9**, were responsible for approximately 62.5% of interceptions not attributable to the presence of HOs (each having 100 or more such interceptions) during 2015. Russia was responsible for 25.5% of all consignments intercepted due to reasons other than the presence of HOs (up 45.1% on the previous year), followed by the USA (13.4%, and up 6.9% on the previous year), China (5.6%, down by 17.2% on the previous year, and reversing an otherwise consistent upward trend since 2012), Thailand (5.2%, 15.4% up on the previous year), Turkey (4.7%, up 16.2% down on the previous year), India (3.9% and down 10.1% on the previous year), Malaysia (2.1%, and down 63.4% on the previous year), and Ukraine (also 2.1%, and up 44.6% on the previous year). Further analysis of the WPM interceptions is given in section 4.4.

4. Key Commodities – further analysis and considerations

4.1 Planting material

From a consideration of risk, planting material remains the most critical and high risk pathway for the introduction of HOs into the EU. Consequently, all vegetative material for planting as well as seeds of certain plant species from TCs are regulated. In 2015, EUROPHYT - *Interceptions* received notifications of 948 consignments of planting material (including seeds) from TCs (see Table 3.1 of the Annex).

However, as in previous years, HOs were detected in 10.5% of the total number of intercepted consignments of planting material (including seeds), representing predominantly cuttings, other material not yet planted, as well as seeds. As in previous years, the absence of a PC remained the main reason for interceptions (412); followed by cases where the PC did not contain the required additional declaration or was inadequate (134), with only 77 representing interceptions of prohibited plants or plant products.

The total number of intercepted consignments of planting material from TCs rose slightly over the period 2012-2013, falling back to 1,000 in 2014 and 948 in 2015.

The number of interceptions due to a missing, or inappropriate additional declaration, has remained largely constant since 2014, following a spike in figures for 2012 and 2013 (attributed to the start of the NL programme to systematically check the conformity of declarations with EU requirements) with the reduction since 2013 largely attributable to an improved conformity by TCs. The majority of the intercepted plants for planting continue to be cuttings, not planted plant parts and seeds. A taxonomically wide range of different plant species were intercepted, but generally with only a few interceptions of each (for most species, less than 10 interceptions).

There was a marked reduction for some HOs intercepted frequently in previous years (e.g. *Bemisia tabaci*, viruses and nematodes, etc.), and overall a 20% decrease in planting material interceptions with HOs (see Table 3.5 of the Annex).

China and the US (primarily Pyralidae in seeds of *Helianthus* spp.) were the two TCs exporting the highest number of consignments of planting material intercepted with HOs.

4.2 Fruit and vegetables

In 2015, EUROPHYT - *Interceptions* received 2,178 notifications of fruit/vegetable consignments from TCs. 1,577 of which were intercepted due to the presence of HOs. Fruit/vegetables have consistently been the commodity group where the majority of HO interceptions occur (72.3% in 2015). The other reasons for interception in 2015 were absence of PCs (180), missing or inappropriate additional declaration (120), and incomplete PC (87).

In 2015, the total number of fruit/vegetable interceptions from TCs decreased by 10.1% from 2014 and those with HO decreased by 14.3% (Table 4.1 of the Annex).

In 2015, 68.9% of the fruit/vegetable interceptions with HOs from TCs related to seven plant species or group of species, all of which are regulated. Most of the interceptions were with peppers (*Capsicum* spp.) (400), *Citrus* spp. (193), mango (*Mangifera* spp.) (135), eggplant (*Solanum melongena*) (111), basil (*Ocimum* spp.) (92), bitter gourds (*Momordica* spp.) (78) and serpent gourds (*Luffa* spp.) (55) (**Fig. 4.1** and Table 4.1 of the Annex). All commodities exhibited a negative trend over preceding years, in particular mango, which to a large extent is attributable to measures taken in India and Pakistan (see below). *Capsicum* and *Citrus* spp. both recorded a marked increase in interceptions, mainly attributable to *Thaumatotibia leucotreta* (false codling moth) interceptions throughout 2015, primarily from Africa, and an acute spike in interceptions of Citrus black spot (*Phyllosticta citricarpa*) from Uruguay (70 in 2015).

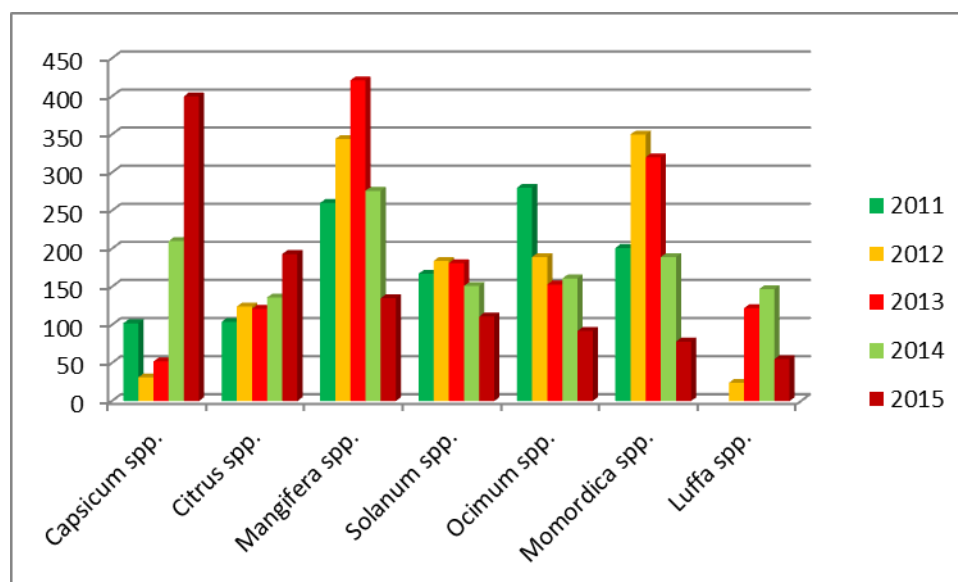


Fig. 4.1. Fruit and vegetable species with the highest number of harmful organism interceptions from TCs (2011-2015).

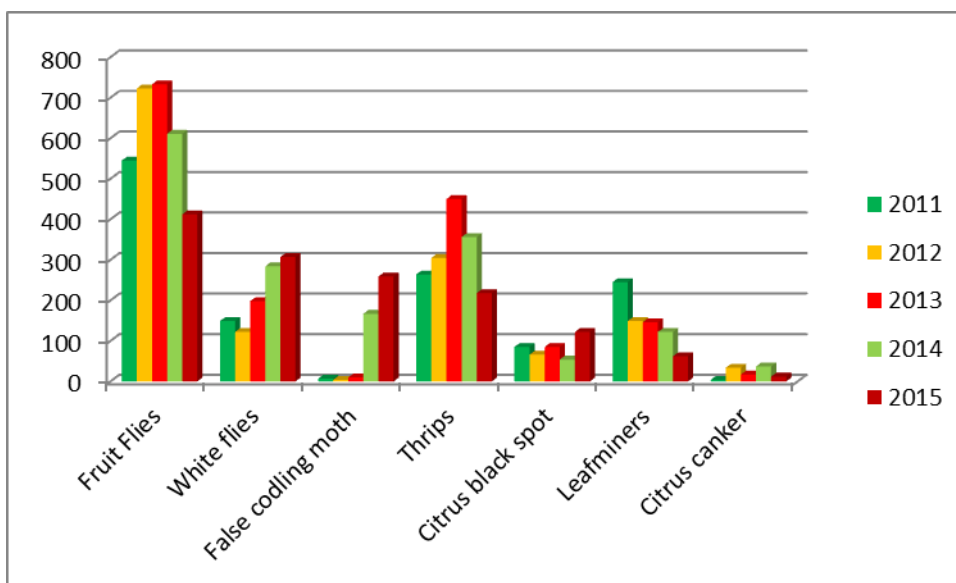


Fig. 4.2. Harmful organism groups intercepted with fruit and vegetables from TCs (2011-2015).

As in previous years, the principal HO groups intercepted with fruit/vegetable consignments in 2015 were insects, Citrus black spot and Citrus canker (*Xanthomonas axonopodis* pv. *citri*) as highlighted in **Fig. 4.2** (and see Table 4.2 of the Annex). Also, as in previous years, non-European fruit flies (Tephritidae) remained dominant, although showing a steady downward trend (particularly on mango and guava (*Psidium* spp.), as did thrips (218), mainly associated with eggplant. Leaf miners (*Liriomyza* spp.) also recorded a downward trend in interceptions, primarily on celery. The most common HO on basil was white fly (*Bemisia* spp.) which continued an upward trend, as did *Thaumatotibia leucotreta*, largely associated with pepper from across West Africa, as well as Kenya and Uganda.

While Citrus canker notifications fell in 2015, Citrus black spot surged, primarily due to increased interceptions from South America, in particular and exceptionally Uruguay, from where 70 interceptions were recorded in 2015. In addition to audit missions to the various exporting countries, revised EU emergency measures for Citrus black spot, now including Uruguay, have been published (Commission Implementing Decision (EU) 2016/715 of 11 May 2016).

Reduced numbers of interceptions due to HOs were noted from Ghana, Bangladesh, South Africa and India (see **Fig. 4.3** and Table 4.3 of the Annex). The trend for India is attributable to the emergency measures from 2014 (Decision 2014/237/EU) which were amended for mango in February 2015 (Commission Implementing Decision (EU) 2015/237) but maintaining a ban for other commodities as described in section 3.1.

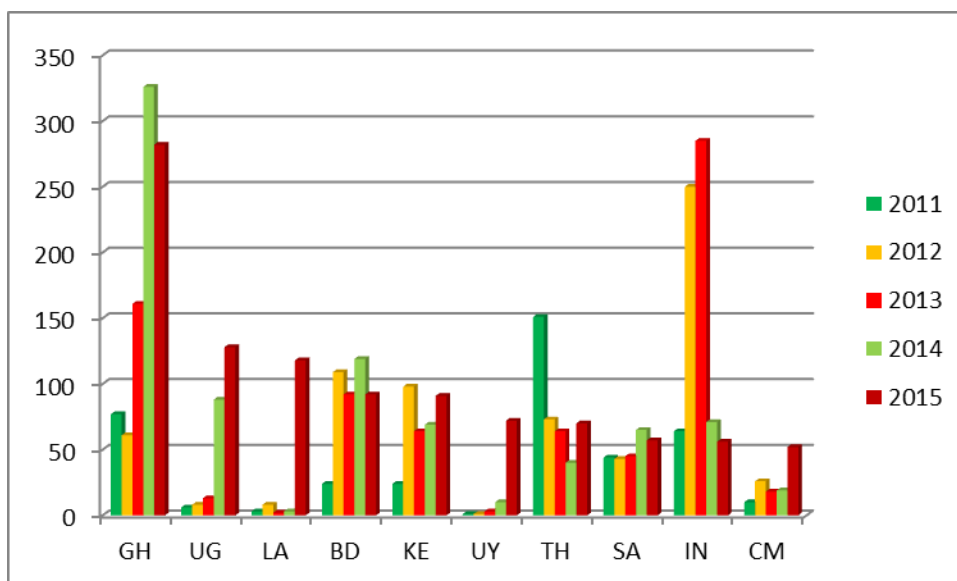


Fig. 4.3. Interceptions of fruit and vegetables from TCs due to HOs (2011-2015).

These measures, although specifically applied to India, appeared to have a wider regional impact, in particular on Pakistan (see **Fig. 4.4**), which unilaterally introduced pre-export treatments of mango, in line with those required of India under the emergency measures. The trends for South Africa follow on-going communication from the Commission with regards to concerns over the number of Citrus black spot interceptions, whilst for Ghana this appears correlated to the application of emergency measures with respect to the reliability of various commodity related export systems. The Dominican Republic (see Table 4.4 of the annex) also recorded a marked decrease in HO interceptions largely as a result of Commission communication and an audit during 2014.

In a wider context, considerable improvements were observed in the 2015 data with fruit and vegetable interceptions for all reasons from India, Pakistan, Sri Lanka and the Dominican Republic, but also, to a lesser extent, Ghana and Bangladesh (see **Fig. 4.4**, and Table 4.4 of the annex). Cambodia, which had large year on year increase in interceptions since 2011, recorded a drastic reduction in interceptions in 2015 (down to 14 in 2015 from 286 in 2014), compared to its neighbour Laos which recorded a dramatic increase to a total of 137 interceptions in 2015 (up from an average of four over the previous four years).

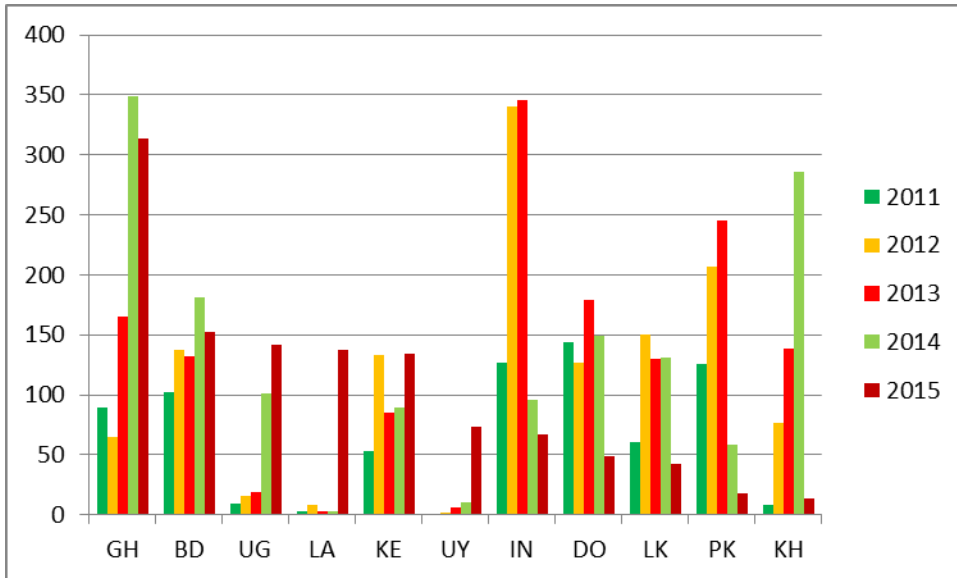


Fig. 4.4. Interceptions for all reasons of fruit and vegetables from TCs (2011-2015).

4.3 Cut flowers

In 2015, EUROPHYT – *Interceptions* received notifications of 266 consignments of cut flowers from TCs, a considerable drop over previous years. HOs were intercepted in 111 cases (41.7%), representing a year-on-year downward trend since 2012. The other reasons were absent or incomplete PCs (fairly static at 43.9% despite a spike in 2013), prohibited plants (26.5%) and missing or inadequate additional declarations (16.5%, representing a downward trend over the reporting period). Cut flowers were responsible for 5.2% of all interceptions with HOs from TCs in 2015. In the period 2011-2015, six types of cut flowers – orchids, *Rosa* spp., *Gypsophila* spp., *Solidago* spp., *Eryngium* spp. and *Chrysanthemum* spp. accounted for the vast majority of the interceptions with HOs. With the exception of orchids, there was a fall in the number of interceptions for each of these cut flower types in 2015. The return of orchid interceptions to 2012 levels, despite Thai control measures, is worrisome. (**Fig. 4.5** and Table 4.5 of the Annex).

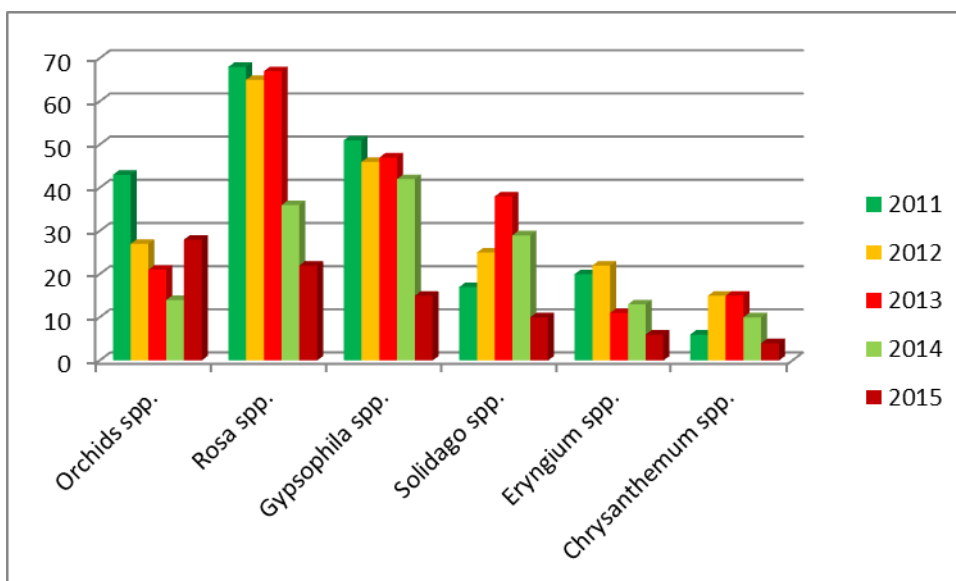


Fig. 4.5. Cut flowers with the highest number of harmful organism interceptions from TCs (2011-2015).

Most cut flower consignments intercepted in 2015 with HOs were exported from Thailand (19 – mainly orchids), Morocco (16), Israel (14 – mainly *Gypsophila* spp.), Kenya (12 – mainly *Gypsophila* spp. and *Eryngium* spp.), Colombia (11) and Ecuador (11 – mainly *Gypsophila* spp.). Certain TCs, which previously were regarded problematic with respect to HO interceptions on cut flower consignments, namely Zimbabwe, Uganda and Ethiopia, recorded marked decreases in 2015. NL was the MS with the highest number of interceptions of HOs on cut flowers in 2015.

The main HOs intercepted in 2015 were leaf miners (50) (*Liriomyza* spp.) *Thrips* spp. (38), white flies (*Bemisia* spp.) (21) and *Spodoptera* spp. (20). Both leaf miners and *Spodoptera* spp. interceptions decreased considerably from 2014 (almost halved), whereas thrips interceptions almost doubled, largely attributable to Thai orchid interceptions.

4.4 Wood packaging material

The EU legislation in force requires the treatment and marking of WPM originating from TCs⁹ according to the provisions of the international standard ISPM 15. It is not obligatory for MS to systematically inspect WPM used for the transport of goods. Taking into consideration the very large number of consignments where WPM may be present, it is only feasible and technically possible to check a proportion of the WPM in trade. The only exception is WPM with certain types of products from China, where since 2013 harmonised

⁹ As well as from the areas of PT and ES demarcated for *Bursaphelenchus xylophilus* (but not dealt with here).

control rates are applied¹⁰. Since the checks cover only a very small part of the imported WPM, the real risk presented by non-compliant WPM, and especially WPM infested with HOs is likely to be much larger than indicated by the interception figures.

In 2015, EUROPHYT - *Interceptions* received 2,725 notifications of intercepted WPM in imported goods from TCs, a marked increase over previous years from the reference period 2011-2015 mainly due to increased interceptions for wood crates and pallets, but also a doubling in the incidence of interceptions for dunnage over the previous year (see **Fig. 4.6.** and Table 4.5 of the Annex). The principal reason for interceptions was the absence of or inappropriate ISPM 15 mark.

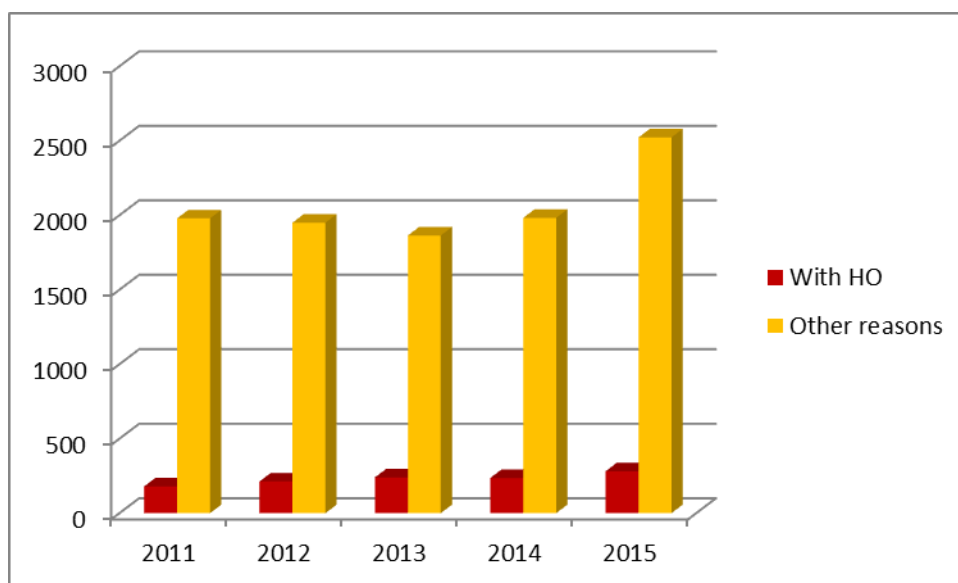


Fig. 4.6. Wood packaging material interceptions from Third Countries (2011-2015).

HOs were detected in 281 cases (the highest over the reference period). This increase is primarily attributable to the interceptions by Germany of *Sinoxylon* spp. (augar beetles) from India and, to a lesser extent, from China, the two most prominent TCs with respect to HO interceptions. Although China leads in the total number of HO interceptions from WPM for 2015, slightly down on 2014, India has risen, despite successes with regard to reducing those attributable to fruit and vegetables (see section 4.2). A breakdown of the main TCs responsible for HO from WPM is given in **Fig 4.7.**

¹⁰ Commission Implementing Decision 2013/92/EU on the supervision, plant health checks and measures to be taken on wood packaging material actually in use in the transport of specified commodities originating in China. OJ L 47, 20.2.2013, p. 74

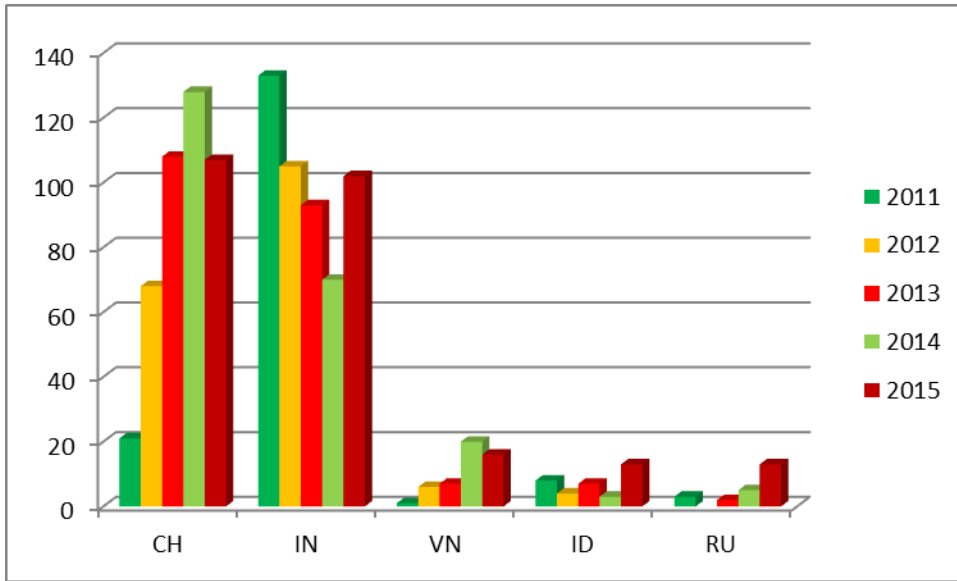


Fig 4.7. The principal TCs responsible for interceptions of HOs from WPM (2011-2015).

Of the HO interceptions, there was a significant and increasing number of wood and bark insects, principally *Sinoxylon* spp. Longhorn beetles, despite some small increases in interceptions of *Anoplophora* spp. and *Monochamus* spp., recorded an overall drop in 2015. Although *Bursaphelenchus xylophilus* (pinewood nematode) showed an overall drop in 2015, albeit from an already low background, other *Bursaphelenchus* spp. recorded an increase reflecting, a small, yet consistent upward trend over the reference period (**Fig. 4.8** and Table 4.8 of the Annex).

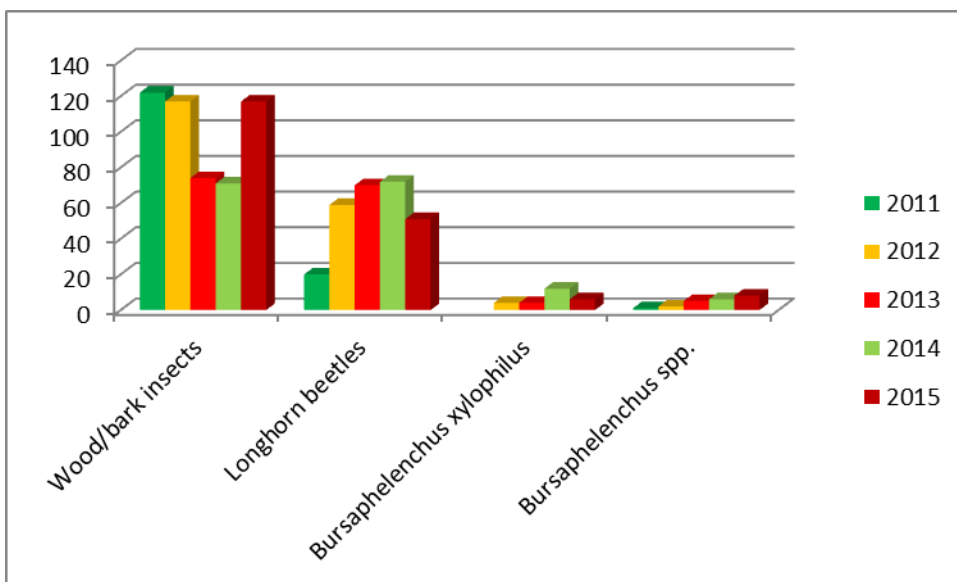


Fig. 4.8. Harmful organisms intercepted in wood packaging material from Third Countries.

5. Harmful organisms encountered in EUROPHYT for the first time in 2015

Previously unrecorded HOs are recorded in the EUROPHYT - *Interceptions* database via the normal notification process for the first time each year. Although new to the EUROPHYT - *Interceptions* database, such novel entries do not necessarily represent a new incidence or unknown risk of a particular biological entity to the EU territory.

In 2015, 87 new database entities were recorded in EUROPHYT - *Interceptions*, reported at varying taxonomic levels (41 to species, 35 to genus, and 10 to family level) of which 12, predominantly insects, can be considered as previously not present or recorded in the EU. These are:

Xylopsocus capucinus

Helicoverpa assulta

Heterobostrychus brunneus

Rhabditis sp.

Gryllus sp.

Xylella fastidiosa subsp. *sandyi*

Sternochetus sp.

Leptoclossus clypealis

Coccotrypes cyperi

Xiphinema incognitum

Spodoptera dolichos

Frankliniella platensis

As in previous years, interceptions with new and hitherto un-encountered species from plant health import checks and controls could represent unidentified, or overlooked, plant health risks to the EU. As such, interceptions of novel species require attention.

6. Species level identification – needs and challenges

Accurate and reliable species identification is a fundamental requirement for effective and appropriate phytosanitary risk management in line with international fora and agreements. Failure to diagnose EU regulated HOs as such can undermine, or weaken, official EU responses to on-going or persistent threats. Despite EU wide diagnostic capacity, full and accurate identification at species level is not always reported. In 2015, HO notifications reported at species level increased to 52.5% (the highest over the preceding four years), largely due a reduction at genus level reporting to the lowest share since 2011 (12.9%) and to a lesser extent family level designation (at 29.4%). A higher taxonomic designation, i.e. above family level, and the least taxonomically informative, was reported in 5.2% of HO notifications, see **Fig. 6.1.** (and Table 6.1 of the Annex). Overall the trend has been encouraging and the Commission intends to help maintain this overall positive trend through further discussion and awareness raising with MSs, as well as technical

modifications to the EUROPHYT – *Interceptions* system’s interface where reporting of HO entities at or above genus level will require justification as part of the reporting process.

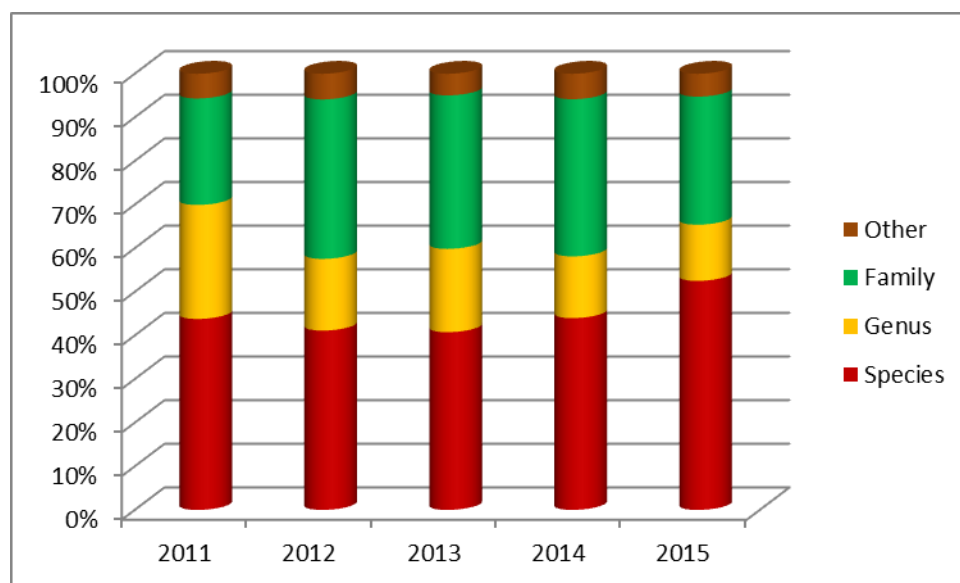


Fig. 6.1. Level of harmful organism identification (2011-2015).

In 2015, 149 different species or other categories of HOs were reported. These can be grouped as follows (in descending order); insects (90.6%), fungi (6.3%), nematodes (1.7%), bacteria (1.1%) and virus and virus like organisms (0.4%), see **Fig 6.2** (and Table 6.2 in the Annex). Insects continue to dominate the total share of intercepted HOs from TCs. Despite a large increase in the notifications for *Thaumatotibia leucotreta* and wood and bark insects in 2015, there was an overall downward trend since 2011. This is largely due to the reduction in fruit fly interceptions, in turn due to EU action against fruit fly host material (e.g. Mango), and. The increase in fungal notifications is almost exclusively due to an increased number of notifications for *Phyllosticta citricarpa*, particularly the 70 interceptions recorded from Uruguay over the citrus export season. The contraction in bacterially related notifications is primarily related to a decreased number of interceptions of Citrus canker on *Citrus*.

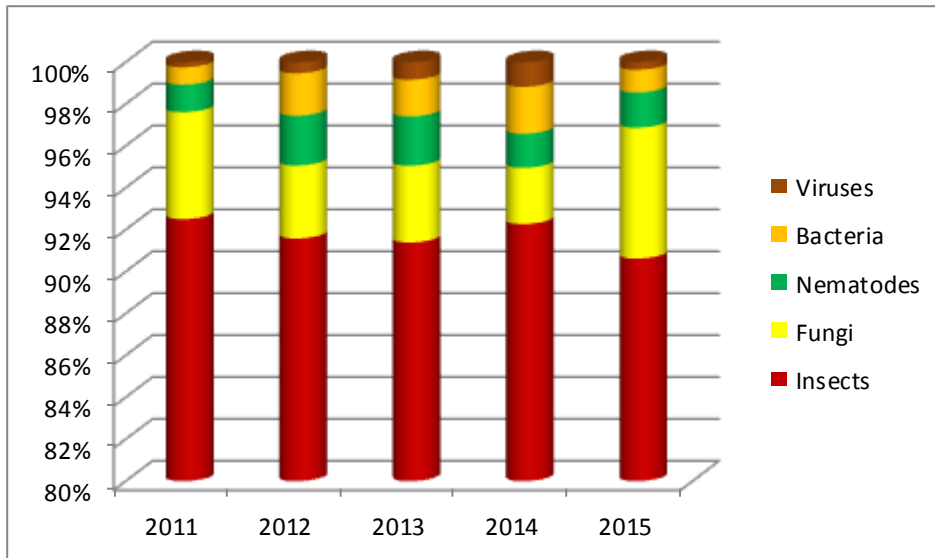


Fig. 6.2. Share of harmful organism groups in the interceptions from TCs (2011-2015).

Despite the reduction in fruit fly interceptions (dropping by 32.8% from 2014), fruit flies were still the most commonly intercepted HO grouping in 2015. Other main insects/insect groups intercepted include white flies, thrips, *Thaumatotibia leucotreta*, wood and bark insects, leaf miners and longhorn beetles. Thrips, leaf miners and longhorn beetles each recorded a fall in interceptions from the previous year, following a general upward trend. As for fruit flies, the fall in thrips interceptions can largely be attributed to successful action against host material from mainly India and Pakistan. White flies, wood/bark insects and false codling moth each exhibited an increase in interceptions over the previous year, continuing a general upward trend. Indeed, false codling moth increased dramatically from 10 in 2013 to 259 in 2015; this is, by and large, a reflection of the fact that all MS commenced controlling peppers (which is one of the hosts of this pest) from 1st October 2014 when this commodity became regulated. Citrus black spot exhibited a dramatic increase in interceptions during 2015, largely due to an increase in notifications of South American consignments, most notably from Uruguay, whereas Citrus canker recorded a marked decrease in 2015 (down from 38 to just 12 interceptions). Interceptions attributable to other HOs were largely static over the reference period and recorded at 368 (see **Fig. 6.3.** and Table 6.3 of the Annex).

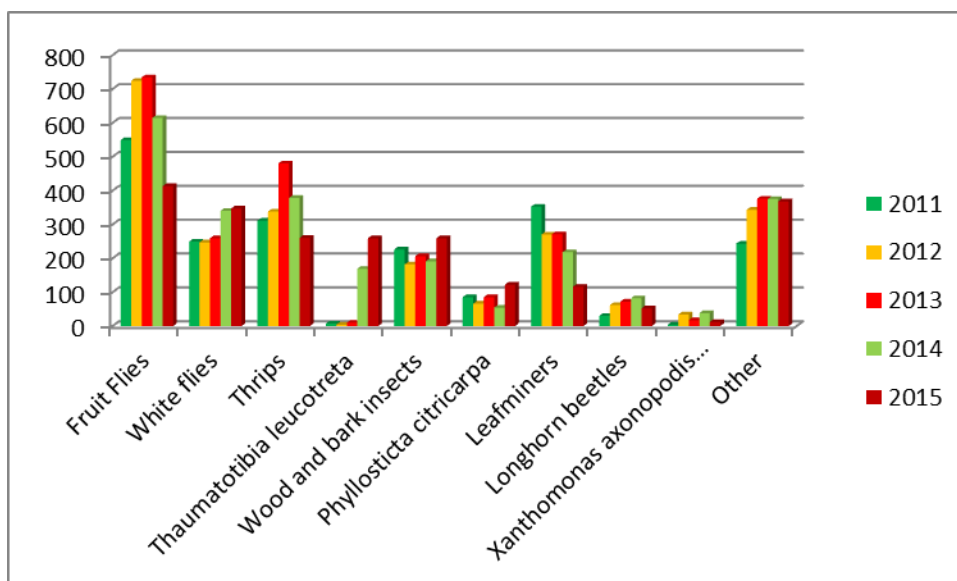


Fig. 6.3. Share of most prominent HO groups from interceptions recorded over the reference period 2011-2015.

7. Period of notification

A notification period of no later than two working days after the date of interception is laid down in Article 2 of Commission Directive 94/3/EC. Despite the rapid alert aspect of the system, this timeframe has continued to present technical and administrative challenges to MSs. Improvements to the EUROPHYT - *Interceptions* interface, and considerable efforts by MS users of the system have led to overall improvements in reporting period over the years. However, the average reporting period¹¹ remains in excess of the two days stipulated (see **Fig 7.1**) and 2014 and 2015 even saw a reversal of the improvements with respect to notifications with HOs. In 2015, the average reporting period for all notifications, and those exclusively for HOs, was 9 and 11 working days, respectively (in 2011 it was an average of 14 and 19 days, respectively). As observed in previous years, it is unclear why the reporting period for HOs generally has been longer than that taken for all notifications, in particular as any diagnostic laboratory intervention is taken into account in the recording.

¹¹ The reporting period is, in practice, defined as period between the date of interception and date of submission, except where laboratory analysis is required. In this case it is the period between the laboratory results date and date of submission.

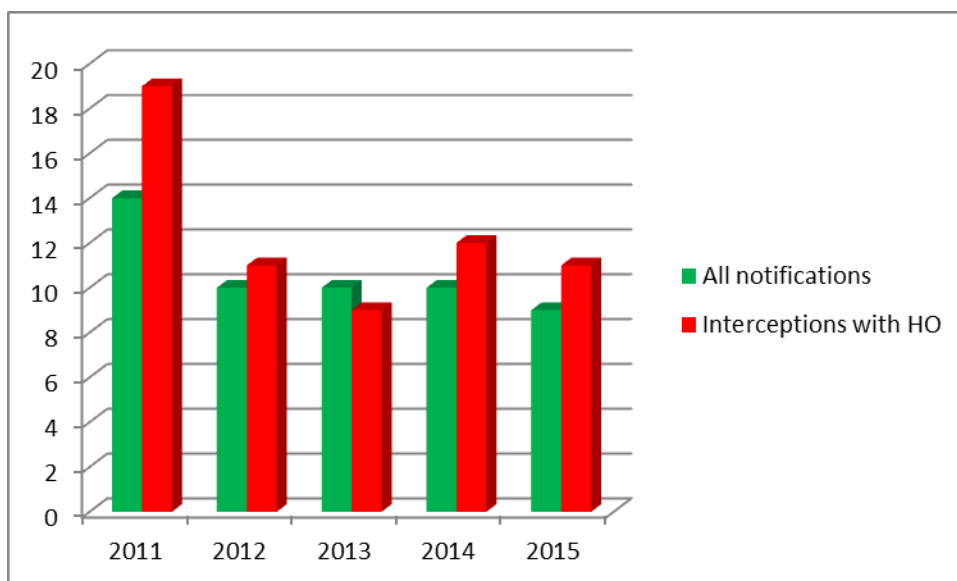


Fig. 7.1. Average notification period for all MSs (all notifications, and those exclusively attributable to HOs) over the reference period 2011-2015.

Broad variation exist in the number of days required by MSs to report their notifications, and in 2015 the delays ranged from 2 to 32 working days (see Table 7.1 of the Annex), with the majority of MSs still outside the required two-day notification timeframe. Such delays have a direct negative impact on the rapid alert function of EUROPHYT - *Interceptions*.

8. Conclusions

EUROPHYT - *Interceptions*, as the EU rapid alert system for plant health interceptions from trade, continues its central role in alerting MSs and the European Commission to plant health risks, as and when they are intercepted during import controls across the Union. Continuous technical upgrades and developments over the past, largely based on user feedback and suggestions from the EUROPHYT - *Interceptions* annual meeting, have further enhanced the systems towards improved user operation and overall system efficiency and effectiveness as a rapid alert tool to tackle plant health risks quickly. With over 6,500 notifications added annually, the EUROPHYT - *Interceptions* database, now with more than 100,000 notifications collated over 21 years, represents a valuable repository of trade interception data. In conjunction with other data sets, particularly on trade volumes and routes, EUROPHYT - *Interceptions* data can be used to analyse and evaluate plant health risk patterns and trends, and to help monitor changes, as part of plant health risk management approaches in MSs and across the Union, as well as to support policy decisions and action(s). In this respect, monitoring of such changes and trends can assist gauge the impact(s) of such decisions and actions (e.g. emergency measures). Here, further technical advances towards EUROPHYT - *Interceptions* and TRACES inter-operability, with

the added advantage of putting current notification rates in context of trade volumes has continued.

In addition, the EUROPHYT - *Interceptions* database can be used as a source of information in horizon scanning for emerging and re-emerging plant health risks to the EU. A key outcome in this context has been the development of the non-EU trade Alert List, and its continual evaluation by the Commission, which uses the data for this intended purpose. EUROPHYT - *Interceptions* data also guides, through discussion in various fora, the planning of the European Commission plant health audit programmes and continues to be publicly available, systematically distributed to, and used by, MS NPPOs, TC NPPOs, EPPO and EFSA for a range of purposes.

As in previous years, the Commission has continued to maintain its vigilance with respect to plant health risks from TCs during 2015. The monitoring of interception trends, by way of analysis of the non-EU trade Alert List, has become instrumental in assessing risks from trade and the taking of first steps in addressing identified risks without recourse to emergency measures or other forms of unilateral trade restrictions. The observed downward trends in HO interceptions for a range of commodities from a range of TCs during 2015 can be attributable, in no small part, to these Commission initiatives and respective follow-up activities.

The total number of annual notifications to EUROPHYT - *Interceptions* in 2015 for all non-conformities (broadly presence of HOs, non-marked WPM, and documentary/administrative non-compliances) from TCs was slightly higher than the previous year, with a corresponding increase also for intra-EU trade derived notifications. However, specifically for HOs, generally considered the most relevant indicator of phytosanitary risk, the trend, as reflected in the non-EU trade Alert List analysis for 2015, was 11.3% lower in 2015, despite on-going high volumes of imports, including, regulated commodities.

In 2015, four MSs (UK, NL, DE and FR) were together responsible for just over 80% of all interceptions of HOs with nine TCs (Ghana, India, China, Uganda, Laos, Kenya, Thailand, Bangladesh and Uruguay) responsible for the majority of cases. Most of these countries have been recognised for a number of years as a source of specific plant health risks and the most prominent of them have been, or continue to be, subject to particular Commission measures or other actions.

As in previous years, fruit and vegetables are the commodity class with the greatest number of intercepted HOs from TCs with over 70% of all commodities intercepted (but overall down for the first time in the reference period 2011-2015). This trend is largely due to marked reductions in interceptions, most notably from Ghana and India, in effect from the application of various Commission measures, as well as Dominican Republic, Sri Lanka and Pakistan, attributable to improved plant health conditions. On the other hand, Citrus black spot on orange from Uruguay, for example, recorded an extremely high number in

2015. A number of unregulated commodities with particular increases over the year have included *Solanum* spp. (other than *S. tuberosum*, *S. lycopersicum* and *S. melongena*), *Luffa* spp., *Corchorus* spp., *Lagenaria* spp. and *Abelmoschus* spp. Specific MS monitoring of these, and other commodities took place in 2015

The commodity class with the second highest number of HO interceptions is WPM. Both the total number of interceptions and those attributable to HOs have increased in 2015 from previous years, to 2,725 and 281, respectively. With respect to WPM inspection regimes, only a relatively small proportion of WPM is inspected, which raises concerns over the actual level of phytosanitary risk these materials represent (quite possibly underestimated).

The spike in WPM HO notifications is almost exclusively attributable to interceptions of wood/bark insects, other than longhorn beetles in particular *Sinoxylon* spp. (augar beetles) by Germany (virtually all on ISPM 15 marked material). Similarly, *Bursaphelenchus xylophilus* (pinewood nematode) also recorded a slight decline, but as a recorded genus (*Bursaphelenchus* spp.) a slight increase. Again, such material was ISPM 15 marked. The high incidence of intercepted HOs in ISPM 15 marked WPM raises concerns regarding the reliability of this mark from certain origins.

As in previous years, country variation with respect to total number of notifications for all reasons and for actual HO interceptions continues. For example, the trend over previous years, with numerous interceptions of WPM due to ISPM 15 non-conformities, continued to be from both the Russian Federation and the United States, although each recorded very few HO interceptions in WPM.

Cut flowers, the third most intercepted commodity class, has declined in interceptions year on year since 2012. *Gypsophila* spp., *Rosa* spp., *Solidago* spp., although decreasing in interception numbers, remains prominent, as do orchids (mainly from Thailand) which have returned to the worrisome levels of 2012.

For planting material, which is generally considered the most critical from a plant health risk perspective, the total number of notifications for all reasons (predominantly absence of a PC) were appreciable in 2015. However, the total number of HO interceptions was relatively low (predominantly from China and the USA), and overall reduced in 2015.

The evolution of HO interceptions from TCs will continue to be systematically monitored via EUROPHYT - *Interceptions* notification data and EUROPHYT - *Interceptions* will continue to act as a fundamental tool to support policy responses and other measures as deemed necessary to address and manage plant health risks from non-EU trade as they appear.

A number of species, both new to EUROPHYT - *Interceptions*, and the EU territory, have been identified from the database in 2015. These will be considered for their respective risks.

Species level designation increased slightly to 52.5% of all taxonomic designations in 2015, slightly higher than in 2014. Further improvement should be actively encouraged for the more informed operation of EUROPHYT - *Interceptions* as a rapid alert system, but also, equally important, in supporting Commission measures with respect to plant biosecurity infringements from TC imports.

With regard to the time MS take to notify interceptions, the 2015 average was nine and 11 working days for all notifications, and for those exclusively relating to HO, respectively. There was significant variation between MSs, from 2 to 32 days. EU legislation requires HO interceptions to be notified within two working days and, as such, there is still a need for improvement.

As in previous years, the Commission stands ready to provide the necessary technical support and assistance towards these necessary improvements.

Annex

Table 2.1 Number of EUROPHYT notifications

Notified interceptions	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
Consignments from Third countries	6,138	6,654	6,605	6,476	6,762
Consignments from Member States	406	404	324	241	418
Total notifications	6,544	7,058	6,929	6,717	7,180

Table 2.2 Reasons for interceptions of consignments from Third Countries

Reasons for interceptions of consignments from Third Countries	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
Presence of harmful organism	1,995	2,227	2,451	2,408	2,136
Reasons other than harmful organisms					
Prohibited plants, products, objects	287	263	215	279	207
Non-compliant wood packaging material (other than HO presence)	2,358	2,200	2,032	1,999	2,607
Phytosanitary certificate: absent)	970	781	781	740	751
Phytosanitary certificate: illegible, fake, expired	590	547	633	501	579
Phytosanitary certificate: declaration missing, inadequate, invalid	239	769	572	539	475
Other technical, documentary reasons	97	105	211	196	279
Total notifications	6,138	6,654	6,605	6,476	6,762

Table 2.3 Number of EUROPHYT notifications by notifying Member State

Notifying Member State	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
AUSTRIA	233	271	306	326	251
BELGIUM	76	189	152	175	286
BULGARIA	117	49	49	45	40
CROATIA			3	11	6
CYPRUS	16	15	7	18	10
CZECH REPUBLIC	55	71	69	59	39
DENMARK	34	6	13	11	6
ESTONIA	113	35	45	53	45
FINLAND	25	32	26	22	9
FRANCE	1,009	718	597	587	472
GERMANY	1,138	978	902	916	1,010
GREECE	35	37	33	23	39
HUNGARY	25	29	35	49	31
IRELAND	47	70	62	55	56

Notifying Member State	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
ITALY	159	112	291	186	195
LATVIA	650	532	453	467	927
LITHUANIA	136	288	353	165	345
LUXEMBOURG	1			2	4
MALTA	14	11	19	22	29
NETHERLANDS	510	977	917	793	695
POLAND	93	95	91	170	140
PORTUGAL	23	20	65	79	59
ROMANIA	12	15	30	19	9
SLOVAKIA	63	148	99	91	86
SLOVENIA	9	3	1	2	8
SPAIN	286	205	273	284	352
SWEDEN	63	85	100	157	129
SWITZERLAND	300	217	300	298	258
UNITED KINGDOM	896	1,446	1,314	1,391	1,226
Total notifications	6,138	6,654	6,605	6,476	6,762

Table 3.1 Type of notifications from Third Countries (all reasons)

Notifications on	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
Planting material	480	665	724	613	582
Seeds	271	442	454	387	366
Fruit, vegetables	2,183	2,254	2,419	2,576	2,279
Cut flowers	500	560	570	406	266
Ware potatoes	58	21	65	15	49
Wood, bark	186	184	167	208	328
Wood packaging material	2,100	2,105	2,052	2,178	2,725

Table 3.2 Third Countries with the highest number of interceptions (all reasons)

Countries	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
RUSSIAN FEDERATION	765	656	703	670	1,223
UNITED STATES	536	658	499	611	673
CHINA	236	338	428	472	391
THAILAND	476	331	374	265	334
GHANA	92	75	171	358	317
INDIA	468	663	602	333	312
TURKEY	245	209	232	273	227
KENYA	160	260	215	218	205

Countries	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
BANGLADESH	114	148	136	189	161
UGANDA	30	56	70	131	156
LAOS	4	8	5	3	146

Table 3.3 Intercepted consignments with HO from Third Countries

Interceptions	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
Plants	1,811	2,007	2,203	2,168	1,847
Objects	184	220	249	240	299
Total consignments	1,995	2,227	2,451	2,408	2,136

Table 3.4 Rolling annual number of interceptions with harmful organisms as referred to by the Alert Lists of January to December 2015

Month	Number of interceptions with HOs
January	2,231
February	2,247
March	2,259
April	2,172
May	2,085
June	2,048
July	1,990
August	2,021
September	2,039
October	2,088
November	1,996
December	1,978

Table 3.5 Type of intercepted consignments with HO from Third Countries

Commodity	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
Planting material	115	156	103	106	75
Seeds	14	19	18	18	25
Fruit, vegetables	1,376	1,554	1,781	1,811	1,577
Cut flowers	232	236	235	170	111
Wood, bark	54	24	32	45	28
Wood packaging material	180	213	240	236	281

Table 3.6 Third Countries with the highest number of interceptions with HO

Country	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
GHANA	78	64	162	329	283
INDIA	199	365	386	143	162
CHINA	38	107	137	164	137
UGANDA	15	26	49	109	136
LAOS	3	8	3	3	124
KENYA	80	133	99	106	107
THAILAND	191	112	92	60	96
BANGLADESH	26	111	92	119	94
URUGUAY	1	1	3	11	73
Countries in the table	631	927	1,023	1,044	1,212
% of HO interceptions from TC	31.6%	41.6%	41.7%	43.4%	56.7%

Table 3.7 Number of consignments intercepted with HO from Third Countries, notified by the Member States in the table

Notifying MS	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
UNITED KINGDOM	541	1,114	1,139	1,082	982
NETHERLANDS	326	319	452	364	307
GERMANY	272	196	180	192	237
FRANCE	487	219	191	209	190
BELGIUM	119	91	74	134	143
DENMARK	52	59	91	125	125
SWITZERLAND	47	102	78	62	120
AUSTRIA	106	75	154	127	66
ITALY	34	37	46	41	65
IRELAND	25	73	74	74	44

Table 3.8 Type of commodities from Third Countries, intercepted due to other reasons than the presence of HO

	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
Planting material	395	549	626	514	528
Seeds	256	424	430	366	339
Fruit, vegetables	856	728	660	795	743
Cut flowers	289	330	347	239	159
Wood, bark	126	159	130	160	299

Wood packaging material	1,979	1,950	1,864	1,982	2,522
Other objects	296	330	169	114	112

Table 3.9 Third Countries with the highest number of interceptions for reasons other than HO presence

Country	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
RUSSIA	763	656	702	667	1,214
UNITED STATES	518	642	482	591	635
CHINA	202	239	316	320	265
THAILAND	305	225	286	208	246
TURKEY	240	205	225	266	223
INDIA	319	343	237	208	187
MALAYSIA	69	59	78	37	101
URUGUAY	52	59	48	56	101

Table 4.1 Fruit and vegetables with the highest number of interceptions with HO from Third Countries

Plant genus	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
<i>Capsicum</i> spp.	102	31	52	210	400
<i>Citrus</i> spp.	104	124	121	136	193
<i>Mangifera</i> spp.	260	344	421	276	135
<i>Solanum</i> spp.	167	184	181	151	111
<i>Ocimum</i> spp.	280	189	153	161	92
<i>Momordica</i> spp.	201	350	320	189	78
<i>Luffa</i> spp.		24	122	147	55

Table 4.2 Harmful organism groups intercepted with fruit and vegetables from TCs (2011-2015)

Harmful organism	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
Fruit Flies	545	723	733	611	412
White flies	149	122	198	284	307
False codling moth	7	4	10	167	259
Thrips	264	305	450	356	218
Citrus black spot	85	66	85	54	122
Leafminers	245	149	146	122	62
Citrus canker	4	34	17	37	12

Table 4.3 Interceptions for fruit and vegetables from TCs due to HOs (2011-2015)

	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
Ghana	77	61	161	326	282
Uganda	6	8	13	88	128
Laos	3	8	2	3	118
Bangladesh	24	109	92	119	92
Kenya	24	98	64	69	91
Uruguay	1	1	3	10	72
Thailand	151	73	64	40	70
South Africa	44	43	45	65	57
India	64	250	285	71	56
Cameroon	10	26	18	19	52
Vietnam	322	37	31	31	45
Nigeria	1		18	28	39
Dominican Republic	124	102	167	132	37
Argentina	10	11	16	14	27
Egypt	11	15	7	12	25
Brazil	60	18	12	17	22
Malaysia	27	67	56	28	21
Suriname	15	7	24	12	21
Togo		4	4	2	21
Israel	78	54	18	15	20
Mexico	1			13	20

Table 4.4 Interceptions for all reasons of fruit and vegetables from TCs (2011-2015)

	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
Ghana	89	65	165	349	314
Bangladesh	102	138	132	181	152
Uganda	9	16	19	101	142
Laos	3	8	3	3	137
Kenya	53	133	85	90	134
Uruguay	1	2	6	11	73
India	127	340	346	96	67
Dominican Republic	144	127	179	149	49
Sri Lanka	61	150	130	131	43
Pakistan	126	207	245	59	18

Cambodia	8	77	139	286	14
-----------------	---	----	-----	-----	----

Table 4.5 Cut flowers with the highest number of interceptions with HO from Third Countries

	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
Orchidaceae	43	27	21	14	28
Rosa spp.	68	65	67	36	22
Gypsophila spp.	51	46	47	42	15
Solidago spp.	17	25	38	29	10
Eryngium spp.	20	22	11	13	6
Chrysanthemum spp.	6	15	15	10	4

Table 4.6 Wood packaging material interceptions from Third Countries (2011-2015)

Notified interceptions	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
With harmful organisms	180	213	240	236	281
For other reasons	1,979	1,950	1,864	1,982	2,522
Total¹²	2,159	2,163	2,104	2,218	2,803

Table 4.7 The principal TCs responsible for interceptions of HOs from WPM (2011-2015)

	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
China	21	68	108	128	107
India	133	105	93	70	102
Vietnam	1	6	7	20	16
Indonesia	8	4	7	3	13
Russia	3		2	5	13

Table 4.8 Harmful organisms intercepted in wood packaging material from Third Countries

¹² The discrepancy in total figures between Table 4.5 (2,803), as shown above, and Table 3.1 (2,725) is due to recording of interceptions due to both the presence of HOs and absence of ISPM 15 markings, resulting in some duplication (in this case 78).

Harmful organism	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
Wood/bark insects other than longhorn beetles	122	117	74	71	117
Longhorn beetles (Cerambycidae)	20	59	70	72	51
<i>Bursaphelenchus xylophilus</i>		4	4	12	6
<i>Bursaphelenchus</i> sp. other than <i>xylophilus</i>	1	2	5	6	8

Table 6.1 Level of identification of HO intercepted in consignments from Third Countries

Number of interceptions	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
Species	903	936	1,026	1,084	1,161
Genus	539	374	481	349	285
Family	503	832	886	888	649
Other	117	134	125	144	116
% share in annual HO interceptions					
	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
Species	43.8%	41.1%	40.7%	44.0%	52.5%
Genus	26.1%	16.4%	19.1%	14.2%	12.9%
Family	24.4%	36.5%	35.2%	36.0%	29.4%
Other	5.7%	5.9%	5.0%	5.8%	5.2%

Table 6.2 HO categories with the highest number of interceptions from Third Countries

Annual numbers	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
Insects	1,902	2,079	2,294	2,269	2,001
Fungi	105	79	92	66	138
Nematodes	27	54	59	40	37
Bacteria	17	46	44	55	24
Viruses	5	12	21	29	8
% of annual interceptions					
	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
Insects	92.5%	91.6%	91.4%	92.3%	90.6%
Fungi	5.1%	3.5%	3.7%	2.7%	6.3%
Nematodes	1.3%	2.4%	2.4%	1.6%	1.7%
Bacteria	0.8%	2.0%	1.8%	2.2%	1.1%

Annual numbers	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
Viruses	0.2%	0.5%	0.8%	1.2%	0.4%

Table 6.3 Incidence of some of the most prominent HO group recorded over the reference period (2011-2015)

	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
Fruit Flies	549	724	734	614	413
White flies	249	247	259	340	347
Thrips	311	338	480	378	260
<i>Thaumatotibia leucotreta</i>	7	4	10	169	259
Wood and bark insects	226	182	206	191	259
<i>Phyllosticta citricarpa</i>	85	66	85	54	122
Leafminers	352	270	271	218	116
Longhorn beetles	30	62	72	82	52
<i>Xanthomonas axonopodis pv. citri</i>	4	34	17	38	12
Other	243	343	376	375	368

Table 7.1 Average working days between interception and notification for each Member State

Notifications	2011		2012		2013		2014		2015	
	All	HO	All	HO	All	HO	All	HO	All	HO
AUSTRIA	17	17	9	11	3	5	5	5	7	6
BELGIUM	21	22	13	13	10	8	14	13	15	11
BULGARIA	6	11	5	15	6	10	6	17	8	23
CROATIA	0	0	0	0	4	0	18	4	14	11
CYPRUS	33	20	20	10	46	96	64	84	32	42
CZECH REPUBLIC	12	18	7	7	7	9	5	6	9	15
DENMARK	14	17	67	40	46	54	26	25	10	9
ESTONIA	3	4	5	1	3	4	5	4	13	32
FINLAND	13	8	12	16	14	2	14	13	28	18
FRANCE	13	15	14	21	20	20	12	18	8	11
GERMANY	10	20	13	18	10	15	17	35	15	19
GREECE	8	11	8	51	7	11	35	0	19	38
HUNGARY	6	0	23	53	8	31	27	26	3	1
IRELAND	10	9	7	8	4	5	13	26	6	4
ITALY	7	5	8	9	11	10	10	8	15	48
LATVIA	3	4	2	6	2	2	2	10	2	2
LITHUANIA	4	0	3	0	2	3	4	3	2	2
LUXEMBOURG	1	1	0	0	0	0	14	14	14	4
MALTA	15	27	8	2	10	43	3	0	10	0
NETHERLANDS	17	16	9	10	6	5	7	8	6	4
POLAND	4	5	2	1	5	14	3	7	2	1
PORTUGAL	41	43	28	22	40	38	5	6	9	12
ROMANIA	42	54	20	20	9	8	10	3	4	0
SLOVAKIA	17	12	4	4	4	6	3	14	3	20
SLOVENIA	15	20	18	22	10	10	4	3	7	11
SPAIN	21	32	21	29	23	27	26	37	13	16
SWEDEN	16	11	4	3	4	3	2	2	5	5
SWITZERLAND	11	7	11	6	10	11	9	8	12	12
UNITED KINGDOM	24	26	10	8	10	7	7	5	12	9
EU average	14	19	10	11	10	9	10	12	9	11

Table 8.1 The non-EU trade Alert List (1 January 2015 to 31 December 2015)

No	Country of export	Interceptions with HO	Comodities, intercepted most with HO	HO inter-ceptions	Main HOs intercepted	Number of interceptions		
1	GHANA	283	<i>Capsicum</i> spp.	77	<i>Thaumatotibia leucotreta</i>	66		
					White flies	5		
					<i>Solanum</i> spp. other than potato and tomato	71	Thrips	64
					White flies	6		
					<i>Luffa</i> spp.	49	Thrips	43
					<i>Lagenaria</i> spp.	29	Fruit flies	29
					<i>Momordica</i> spp.	18	Thrips	10
					Fruit flies	8		
					<i>Corchorus</i> spp.	12	White flies	12
					<i>Ipomea</i> spp.	10	White flies	10
					<i>Mahinot</i> spp.	6	White flies	6
2	INDIA	162	Wood packaging material	99	Wood and bark insects other than longhorn beetles	103		
					<i>Abelmoschus</i> spp.	25	Thrips	17
							<i>Earias vittella</i>	8
					<i>Mangifera</i> spp.	5	Fruit flies	5
					<i>Ocimum</i> spp.	5		
3	CHINA	137	Wood packaging material	101	Longhorn beetles	42		
					Wood and bark insects other than longhorn beetles	58		
					Planting material	14	<i>Nematodes</i>	5
					<i>Citrus</i> spp.	11	Fruit flies	6
4	UGANDA	136	<i>Capsicum</i> spp.	94	<i>Thaumatotibia leucotreta</i>	79		
					Fruit flies	14		
					<i>Momordica</i> spp.	18	Fruit flies	15
					<i>Murraya</i> spp.	5	Psyllids	5
5	LAOS	124	<i>Ocimum</i> spp.	29	White flies	19		
					Leaf miners	8		
					<i>Capsicum</i> spp.	28	Fruit flies	28
					<i>Eryngium</i> spp.	14	White flies	13
					<i>Piper</i> spp.	10	White flies	10
					<i>Artemisia</i> spp.	6	Leaf miners	6
					<i>Coriandrum</i> spp.	6	Leaf miners	6
					<i>Limnophila</i> spp.	6	White flies	6
					<i>Momordica</i> spp.	6	Thrips	5
<i>Apium</i> spp.	5							

No	Country of export	Interceptions with HO	Comodities, intercepted most with HO	HO inter-ceptions	Main HOs intercepted	Number of interceptions
6	KENYA	107	<i>Capsicum</i> spp.	75	<i>Thaumatotibia leucotreta</i>	69
			<i>Momordica</i> spp.	6	Fruit flies	6
7	THAILAND	96	Orchids	17	Thrips	15
			<i>Limnophila</i> spp.	10	White flies	10
			<i>Capsicum</i> spp.	9	Fruit flies	7
			<i>Ocimum</i> spp.	8		5
			<i>Perilla</i> spp.	6	White flies	6
			<i>Piper</i> spp.	5	White flies	5
8	BANGLADESH	94	<i>Amaranthus</i> spp.	20	Thrips	19
			<i>Capsicum</i> spp.	19	Fruit flies	18
			<i>Trichosanthes</i> spp.	16	Fruit flies	16
			<i>Mangifera</i> spp.	13	Fruit flies	13
			<i>Citrus</i> spp.	9	<i>Xanthomonas axonopodis</i> pv. <i>citri</i>	6
9	URUGUAY	73	<i>Citrus</i> spp.	72	<i>Phyllosticta citricarpa</i>	70
10	VIETNAM	62	Wood packaging material	16	Wood and bark insects other than longhorn beetles	17
			<i>Capsicum</i> spp.	6	Fruit flies	6
			<i>Ocimum</i> spp.	6		
			<i>Annona</i> spp.	5	Fruit flies	5
11	SOUTH AFRICA	59	<i>Citrus</i> spp.	44	<i>Thaumatotibia leucotreta</i>	17
					<i>Phyllosticta citricarpa</i>	15
					Tortricidae	8
			<i>Prunus</i> spp.	11	<i>Blissus diplopterus</i>	10
12	CAMEROON	57	<i>Mangifera</i> spp.	15	Fruit flies	14
			<i>Capsicum</i> spp.	14	<i>Thaumatotibia leucotreta</i>	6
					Fruit flies	7
			<i>Annona</i> spp.	13	Fruit flies	13
			<i>Solanum</i> spp. other than potato and tomato	7	<i>Leucinodes orbonalis</i>	6
13	ISRAEL	41	<i>Ocimum</i> spp.	13	White flies	9
			Planting material	7		
			<i>Mentha</i> spp.	6	White flies	6
14	NIGERIA	41	<i>Corchorus</i> spp.	15	White flies	15
15	MALAYSIA	40	Orchids	8	Thrips	8
			<i>Averrhoa</i> spp.	6	Fruit flies	6
			<i>Ocimum</i> spp.	6	White flies	

No	Country of export	Interceptions with HO	Comodities, intercepted most with HO	HO inter-ceptions	Main HOs intercepted	Number of interceptions
			Wood packaging material	6	Wood and bark insects other than longhorn beetles	6
16	UNITED STATES	38	Planting material	17	Pyralidae	11
			Wood and bark	14	Wood and bark insects other than longhorn beetles	14
17	DOMINICAN REPUBLIC	37	<i>Momordica</i> spp.	15	Thrips	15
			<i>Capsicum</i> spp.	11	<i>Anthonomus eugenii</i>	7
			<i>Mangifera</i> spp.	6	Fruit flies	6
18	EGYPT	30	<i>Citrus</i> spp.	9	Fruit flies	9
			<i>Capsicum</i> spp.	7	White flies	7
19	BRAZIL	28	<i>Citrus</i> spp.	15	<i>Phyllosticta citricarpa</i>	13
20	ARGENTINA	27	<i>Citrus</i> spp.	20	<i>Phyllosticta citricarpa</i>	17
			<i>Vaccinium</i> spp.	7	Fruit flies	7
21	MEXICO	26	<i>Ocimum</i> spp.	7	White flies	7
			<i>Mangifera</i> spp.	5	Fruit flies	5
			Planting material	5		
22	MOROCCO	26	<i>Ocimum</i> spp.	14	Leaf miners	8
					White flies	6
23	SRI LANKA	24	<i>Alternanthera</i> spp.	6	White flies	6
			<i>Momordica</i> spp.	6	Fruit flies	5
24	TOGO	24	<i>Mahinot</i> spp.	11	White flies	11
			<i>Capsicum</i> spp.	5		
25	SURINAME	21	<i>Capsicum</i> spp.	6	<i>Spodoptera frugiperda</i>	5
			<i>Solanum</i> spp. other than potato and tomato	6		
26	BURKINA FASO	20	<i>Mangifera</i> spp.	15	Fruit flies	15
27	PAKISTAN	18	<i>Lagenaria</i> spp.	5	Thrips	5
			Wood packaging material	5	Wood and bark insects other than longhorn beetles	5
28	SENEGAL	16	<i>Mangifera</i> spp.	14	Fruit flies	14
29	ZIMBABWE	16	<i>Capsicum</i> spp.	7	<i>Thaumatotibia leucotreta</i>	7
30	COLOMBIA	15	<i>Dianthus</i> spp.	7	Thrips	7
			<i>Rosa</i> spp.	6	Thrips	6
31	COTE D'IVOIRE	15	<i>Mangifera</i> spp.	10	Fruit flies	10
32	ECUADOR	15	<i>Gypsophila</i> spp.	9	Leaf miners	8
33	INDONESIA	15	Wood packaging material	13	Wood and bark insects other than longhorn beetles	15

No	Country of export	Interceptions with HO	Comodities, intercepted most with HO	HO inter-ceptions	Main HOs intercepted	Number of interceptions
34	JORDAN	13	<i>Corchorus</i> spp.	11	White flies	11
35	RUSSIAN FEDERATION	13	Wood packaging material	13	<i>Rhabditis</i> spp.	6
					<i>Bursaphelenchus mucronatus</i>	5
					Longhorn beetles	5
36	MALI	11	<i>Mangifera</i> spp.	11	Fruit flies	11
37	COSTA RICA	7	Planting material	7		
38	JAPAN	6	Planting material	6		
39	NEW ZEALAND	5	Planting material			
TOTAL		1978				

HOW TO OBTAIN EU PUBLICATIONS

Free publications:

- one copy:
via EU Bookshop (<http://bookshop.europa.eu>);
- more than one copy or posters/maps:
from the European Union's representations (http://ec.europa.eu/represent_en.htm);
from the delegations in non-EU countries (http://eeas.europa.eu/delegations/index_en.htm);
by contacting the Europe Direct service (http://europa.eu/europedirect/index_en.htm) or
calling 00 800 6 7 8 9 10 11 (freephone number from anywhere in the EU) (*).

(*) The information given is free, as are most calls (though some operators, phone boxes or hotels may charge you).

Priced publications:

- via EU Bookshop (<http://bookshop.europa.eu>).

