



EUROPEAN COMMISSION

Health and Food Safety Directorate General

sante.ddg2.g.5(2022)1283726

Standing Committee on Plants, Animals, Food and Feed

Section *Plant Health*

31 January - 01 February 2022

CIRCABC Link: <https://circabc.europa.eu/w/browse/5da3edf0-f538-43c6-b00f-913c5fc4138d>

SUMMARY REPORT

A.01 Evaluation of recent import interceptions with pests by Member States and the actions taken.

The Commission presented the interceptions for the period between 11 December 2021 and 27 January 2022. In non-EU trade the Commission highlighted the fifteen interceptions of Tomato Brown Rugose Fruit Virus on seeds of *Solanum lycopersicum* from countries such as Israel, China, Turkey, Peru and on seeds of *Capsicum* from China, Israel and Thailand. Member States expressed concerns about the recurrent interceptions despite the measures put in place by the EU and proposed to contact the countries with a high number of interceptions. A Member State reported the unsettling incident of seeds of *Solanum lycopersicum* from China that were found contaminated with TBRFV and were reexported to China during 2020 reappearing for import during 2021 at another Member State. The Commission and other Member States requested more details on the incident for further investigations and follow-up. A Member State also drew the attention of the Committee to the findings of Tomato Mottle Mosaic Virus in seeds of *Solanum lycopersicum* and *Capsicum* originating in China as part of a research project.

The Commission also highlighted the interceptions of (i) *Spodoptera frugiperda* on *Eryngium* and *Gypsophila* from Kenya, on *Asparagus officinalis* from Peru and on *Zea mays* from Senegal, (ii) *Thaumatotibia leucotreta* on *Rosa* from Kenya and Ethiopia and on *Gypsophila* from Kenya, (iii) *Bactrocera dorsalis* on *Mangifera indica* from Congo, on *Psidium guajava* from India and on *Manihot* from Congo, and (iv) *Phyllosticta citricarpa* on *Citrus sinensis* from Zimbabwe.

The Commission also noted the interceptions of (i) *Thrips palmi* on commodities from Malaysia and Suriname, (ii) *Neoleucinodes elegantalis* on commodities from Suriname, (iii) *Xanthomonas citri* pv *citri* on *Citrus latifolia* from Brazil and (iv) *Scolytidae* on logs of *Juglans nigra* and *Ulmus* from US.

Finally, the Commission highlighted the interceptions of (i) *Chloridea virescens* on *Asparagus* from Peru, (ii) *Phyllosticta paracitricarpa* on *Citrus maxima* from China, (iii) *Resseliella citrifugis* on *Citrus maxima* from China, (iv) *Spodoptera ornithogalli* on *Asparagus officinalis* from Mexico and US, (v) *Leucinodes pseudoorbitalis* on *Solanum aethiopicum* from Uganda, (vi) *Maruca virata* on *Vigna unguiculata* and a mixed consignment from India.

On EU trade the Commission highlighted the interception of *Bursaphelenchus xylophilus* on wood from Portugal (reported by Sweden).

A.02 Evaluation of recent outbreaks of pests notified by Member States and the control actions taken (including update on situation *Xylella fastidiosa* in Italy).

The Commission presented the overview of the outbreaks notified by the Member States in the period from 8 December 2021 to 25 January 2022.

Germany gave extra information about a finding of *Pochazia shantungensis*, a non-regulated pest, in a single plant in a private garden. Surveys did not reveal any further findings. Given the climatic conditions it is not expected that the pest can establish.

Hungary informed about the finding of sweet potato chlorotic stunt virus in a field. Eradication measures have been taken and the crops have been destroyed.

Spain gave an overview presentation regarding the outbreak of *Scirtothrips aurantii* in Andalusia. Eradication efforts continue.

Portugal informed about the finding of *Elsinoë fawcettii* in Azores. The outbreak is under eradication and surveys continue.

Italy informed about the state of play of *Xylella* in Apulia:

- Alberobello: the buffer zone of the Alberobello outbreak is within the Salento buffer zone. Initially, 5 infected olive trees were identified. Following the survey conducted using RIBESS+ in a radius of 400 m, further infected olive plants were found, for a total of 17. All infected plants and those present within a radius of 50 m have been cut down. The regional authorities went beyond the radius of 50 m for the infected zones and found some more infected plants that have been removed.

- Canosa di Puglia: the outbreak detected in November 2020 has been declared lifted according to the derogation of Article 6.2 of Regulation (EU) 2020/1201. The Regional authorities provided an overview of the activity performed since 2020 and the planning for the coming two years according to Article 6.3. of the mentioned Regulation.

The origin of the infection in the nursery in Canosa di Puglia on *Dodonea viscosa* is still unknown but it can be considered as an isolated finding.

A.03 EFSA newsletters on horizon scanning of media and literature for new and emerging plant health risks; EPPO monthly reporting service on pests.

EFSA presented the media and literature newsletters and informed on the publication regarding the development of the PeMoScoring methodology. PeMoScoring is the tool developed for the ranking of the non-regulated pests that are identified during the horizon scanning. Furthermore new features for the newsletters have been proposed.

A.04 Exchange of views on the phytosanitary programmes for 2023-2024.

The Committee held a discussion on the priorities for co-funding for 2023-2024. The possibility of reducing the number of priorities, setting budget limits per priority group and reducing the co-funding rates if applications continue to exceed the available budget was discussed. Setting a maximum percentage limit for containment measures for priority pests was also discussed and several Member States insisted that containment of priority pests should be at the same level of priority as eradication measures, stressing that keeping these pests in a limited territory and protecting the rest of the Union from their spread is a difficult and costly process. The priorities will also

be discussed at the forthcoming meeting of the Chief Plant Health Officers. Based on the discussions, the Commission will finalise the draft which will be included in the package of Food Strand work programmes 2023-2024 under the SMP.

A.05 Revised guidelines for Animal Health and Welfare Emergency measures, model grant agreement, and draft Commission Decision replacing Decision (EU)2016/159.

The Commission presented the revised draft Decision combining the requirements for co-funding of Animal Health and Plant Health Emergency Measures and informed that it works on revised guidelines for the applicants which will soon be shared with the Member States. The requirements cover only the first year after the official confirmation of the outbreak until submission of a co-funding request is possible under the phytosanitary programmes. Some Member States expressed concerns about the shortening of the deadlines for submission of dossiers and their regular updates. The Commission will reflect further and revise the draft if needed.

A.06 Overview of 2020 survey results of *Anoplophora*, *Aromia* and *Popillia* campaigns.

The Commission presented the survey results of the 2020 campaigns for the longhorn beetles. For the first time, these results were submitted by the Member States through the Plant Health Surveys IT-tool where the majority of Member States provided very detailed information about their survey campaigns.

The survey 2020 campaigns in general and possible technical IT-issues will be discussed in a dedicated working group meeting on 17 February 2022.

A.07 Exchange of views on a possible amendment of Implementing Regulation (EU) 2018/2019 on high risk plants in relation to plants for planting of *Malus domestica* from Ukraine.

The Commission presented the overview of the scientific opinion concerning the commodity risk assessment of *Malus domestica* plants from Ukraine. Bulgaria also presented the status of the pest *Eotetranychus prunicola*, identified in the scientific opinion as a pest of concern, in its territory. The Committee concluded that the commodity should be delisted from the list of high risk plants without specific measures for *Eotetranychus prunicola*. The Commission will present a draft text in a subsequent Standing Committee meeting.

A.08 Information point on import-export issues between the EU and UK(GB).

No item raised.

B.01 Exchange of views and possible opinion of the Committee on a draft Commission Implementing Decision on emergency action against a plant pest in the Union and third countries.

No item raised.

B.02 Exchange of views and possible opinion of the Committee on a draft Commission Implementing Regulation on measures to eradicate and prevent the spread of *Globodera pallida* (Stone) Behrens and *Globodera rostochiensis* (Wollenweber) Behrens.

The Commission presented the comments on the draft Regulation and its draft annexes received during the public consultation. Comments received in writing from Member States afterwards were also presented. The amended draft was discussed with the Member States. The Commission will revise the draft accordingly. Afterwards, the Commission will proceed with internal consultations. The Commission will present a final draft in a further Standing Committee.

B.03 Exchange of views and possible opinion of the Committee on a draft Commission Implementing Regulation on measures to eradicate and prevent the spread of *Synchytrium endobioticum* (Schilb.) Perc.

The Commission presented the comments on the draft Regulation and its draft annexes received during the public consultation. Comments received in writing from Member States afterwards were also presented. The amended draft was discussed with the Member States. The Commission will revise the draft accordingly. Afterwards, the Commission will proceed with internal consultations. The Commission will present a final draft in a further Standing Committee.

B.04 Exchange of views and possible opinion of the Committee on a draft Commission Implementing Regulation on measures to eradicate and prevent the spread of *Clavibacter sepedonicus* (Spieckermann & Kotthoff 1914) Nouioui et al. 2018.

The Commission presented the comments on the draft Regulation and its draft annexes received during the public consultation. Comments received in writing from Member States afterwards were also presented. The amended draft was discussed with the Member States. The Commission will revise the draft accordingly. Afterwards, the Commission will proceed with internal consultations. The Commission will present a final draft in a further Standing Committee.

B.05 Exchange of views and possible opinion of the Committee on a draft Commission Implementing Regulation on measures to eradicate and prevent the spread of *Ralstonia solanacearum* (Smith 1896) Yabuuchi et al. 1996 emend. Safni et al. 2014.

The Commission presented the comments on the draft Regulation and its draft annexes received during the public consultation. Comments received in writing from Member States afterwards were also presented. The amended draft was discussed with the Member States. The Commission will revise the draft accordingly. Afterwards, the Commission will proceed with internal consultations. The Commission will present a final draft in a further Standing Committee.

B.06 Exchange of views and possible opinion of the Committee on a draft Commission Implementing Regulation establishing a derogation from Implementing Regulation (EU) 2019/2072 as regards the requirements for the introduction into the Union of oak logs with bark originating in United States.

Postponed.

B.07 Exchange of views and possible opinion of the Committee on a draft Commission Implementing Regulation establishing measures to prevent the introduction into, establishment and spread within the Union territory of *Anoplophora chinensis* (Forster) and repealing Decision 2012/138/EU.

The Commission presented a revised version of the draft Regulation and its annexes. There were no substantial comments on the draft. Upon finalisation of its internal procedures, the Commission will present the draft for a vote through written procedure.

C.01 Exchange of views of the Committee on a draft Commission Implementing Regulation on temporary measures for certain fruits originating in certain third countries to prevent the introduction into and spread within the Union of *Phyllosticta citricarpa* (Mc Alpine) Van der Aa.

The Commission presented the draft Implementing Regulation to the Member States. The Commission drew the attention to the inclusion of horizontal measures that reinforce traceability such as the requirements for approval and registration of the places of production and of the sites of production, and the communication of the traceability codes of the sites of production to the EU; furthermore, the measures that guarantee the import of citrus fruits that are free from the pest, such as the responsibility of operators to present for import consignments that originate from sites of production where the pest has not been found, were highlighted. The Commission also clarified the specific measures put for each exporting country: the risk-based approach regarding sampling to verify correct application of plant protection products for Argentina, the sampling at different stages between arrival at the packing house and prior to export for South Africa and Zimbabwe, the removal of the requirement for latency testing for *Citrus sinensis* originating from Uruguay.

The Commission also informed Member States about the preliminary discussions that took place with the third countries concerned, during which a main element was the potential confidentiality aspects of the lists of sites of production.

Member States were in general agreement with the measures. They noted the need for practical arrangements as regards a harmonized format for the communication of the list by the third countries and as regards the accessibility of the list by the operators and the competent authorities. Discussions also took place as regards sampling for physical checks by EU inspectors.

The Commission explained that the draft Implementing Regulation would be sent to those countries for consultation before being presented for vote at the Committee.

C.02 Exchange of views of the Committee on a draft amendment of Implementing Regulation (EU) 2019/2072 regarding the import requirements of *Thaumatotibia leucotreta*.

The Commission presented the draft Implementing Regulation to the Member States. This draft proposal follows a horizontal approach that aims at addressing the interceptions of this pest in the various commodities at the EU borders. It strengthens the current import requirements based on the risk assessments performed by EFSA and EPPO. The most important novelty is the inclusion of a minimum cold treatment requirement in the systems approach for oranges. Discussions with trading partners had been initiated. A stakeholder consultation and a notification to WTO-SPS will shortly take place.

C.03 Exchange of views of the Committee on a draft Commission Implementing Regulation allowing for the containment of *Ceratocystis platani* (J.M. Walter) Engelbr. & T.C. Harr. within certain demarcated areas.

The Commission presented the draft Implementing Regulation detailing the containment of *Ceratocystis platani*. The Committee agreed with the draft presented without any comment. The Commission will subsequently proceed with the internal consultation process and submit a formal proposal at one of the forthcoming meetings of the Committee.

C.04 Exchange of views of the Committee on a draft Commission Implementing Regulation allowing for the containment of *Aleurocanthus spiniferus* (Quaintance) within certain demarcated areas.

The Commission presented the draft Implementing Regulation detailing the containment of *Aleurocanthus spiniferus*. The Committee discussed the need to include the obligation to carry out surveys in the infested zone adjacent to the buffer zone. The Commission will introduce the suggested changes and will subsequently proceed with the internal consultation process and submit a formal proposal at one of the forthcoming meetings of the Committee.

C.05 Exchange of views of the Committee on a draft Commission Implementing Regulation as regards temporary measures to prevent the entry into, the movement and the spread within, and the multiplication and release in, the Union of *Meloidogyne graminicola* (Golden & Birchfield).

Postponed.