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Standing Committee on Plants, Animals, Food and Feed

Section *Plant Health*

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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 28 January and 15 February 2022. In non-EU trade the Commission highlighted the seven interceptions of Tomato brown rugose fruit virus on seeds of *Solanum lycopersicum* from countries such as Israel, Turkey and Peru and on seeds of *Capsicum annuum* from China and Israel.

The Commission also highlighted the interceptions of (i) *Thaumatotibia leucotreta* on *Rosa* from Ethiopia and Uganda, (ii) *Phyllosticta citricarpa* on *Citrus maxima* from China, (iii) *Spodoptera frugiperda* on *Asparagus* from Peru and *Zea mays* from Senegal.

The Commission also highlighted the interceptions of (i) *Neoleucinodes elegantalis* on *Solanum melongena* from Suriname, (ii) *Liriomyza sativae* on *Ocimum basilicum* from Lao People's Democratic Republic, (iii) *Xanthomonas citri* pv. *citri* on *Citrus latifolia* from Brazil, (iv) *Thrips palmi* on *Dendrobium* from Malaysia.

Finally, the Commission highlighted the interceptions of (i) *Chloridea virescens* on *Asparagus* from Peru, (ii) *Spodoptera ornithogalli* on *Asparagus officinalis* from Mexico, (iii) Potato leafroll virus on *Solanum betaceum* from Colombia and (iv) *Scirtothrips aurantii* on commodities from Tanzania and South Africa.

On EU trade, the Commission highlighted the two interceptions of Tomato brown rugose fruit virus on seeds of *Capsicum annuum* and seeds of *Solanum lycopersicum* from the Netherlands (reported by Austria) and the interception of Plum pox virus on *Prunus domestica* from the Netherlands, reported by France.

A.02 Evaluation of recent outbreaks of pests notified by Member States and the control actions taken.

The Commission presented the overview of the outbreaks notified by the Member States in the period from 26 January to 14 February 2022.

Italy has reported on the recent finding of *Garella musculana* in a trap in an urban area. The pest is not regulated in the EU. Further pest specific surveys will provide more information regarding the pest distribution.

Spain gave more information regarding the recent findings of *Ripersiella hibisci* in *Callistemon* plants. Findings are only in nurseries and not in the environment. Trace-back activities are continuing. The pest is under eradication.

A.03 EFSA newsletter on horizon scanning for new pests; EPPO monthly reporting service on pests.

The Commission presented highlights from the EPPO reporting service of January 2022.

EFSA presented the highlights of the media and literature scanning, together with information on PeMoScoring of the non-regulated pests identified this month.

A.04 Exchange of views on a legal framework for provisional actions under Art 30 of Regulation (EU) 2016/2031 against pests, pending pest categorization or risk assessment.

The Commission presented a draft Regulation concerning harmonized action to be taken on pests found in non-compliant consignments at the EU Member States borders, pending full risk assessments. Views were exchanged, and the Commission requested further opinions or information concerning the draft text to be sent in writing before 17 March 2022. An amended version of the text will be presented to the Committee in one of the upcoming meetings.

A.05 Exchange of views on the preparation of phytosanitary measures against priority pests.

The Committee exchanged views on the preparation of contingency plans for priority pests by the Member States. The Commission suggested prioritising the development of phytosanitary measures for several priority pests which are approaching the territory of the Union to help Member States in their planning (e.g. *Agrilus planipennis*, citrus greening (HLB) and *Spodoptera frugiperda*). On the question about the legal basis for adopting such measures, the Commission recalled the requirements of the Plant Health Law as well as the efforts for better crisis preparedness. There was a general support for this approach. In addition, a suitable platform for exchange of information and good practices could be made available to Member States.

A.06 Exchange of views for regulating eradication and containment measures against *Popillia japonica*.

Postponed.

A.07 Exchange of views on the need for prolongation of Regulation (EU) 2019/1739 on measures against Rose rosette virus.

The Commission summarized the current measures provided by Decision (EU) 2019/1739, which will expire on 31 July 2022. The Commission clarified that the prolongation of the measures would require replacing the Decision by a Regulation. The Commission will present a draft text in a further Standing Committee meeting.

A.08 Presentation of a recent pest risk evaluation of Tomato brown rugose fruit virus and exchange of views on the need for revision of Regulation (EU) 2020/1191.

The Commission summarized the successive amendments made to Regulation (EU) 2020/1191 and the benefits and successes of the measures against this quarantine pest,

in preventing its introduction into and its spread within the EU territory. The Netherlands presented a recent pest risk evaluation and concluded that the pest could fulfil the requirements of a regulated non-quarantine pest. It underlined that the measures to be taken against the pest under an RNQP status would decrease the economic impact of the current measures on the sector. However, the Commission explained the risk that changing the quarantine status of the pest into an RNPQ status would impact negatively the overall level of phytosanitary safety, especially in Member States where eradication is efficient. As regards the recent interceptions made by third countries on seeds originating from EU, the Commission asked the Member States to evaluate the situation of their seed production for exports, for discussion in a further Standing Committee. Some Member States were in favour of keeping the quarantine status of the pest and the current measures. Some Member States expressed the will to change the quarantine status into an RNQP status. Reflection will be continued at a later stage.

A.09 Outcome of the working group on surveillance and update on the timeline for the submission of the 2021 results, using EUROPHYT Plant Health.

The Commission presented the main outcome of the working group on surveillance that took place on 17 February 2022 and informed the Committee that the IT tool to submit the survey results of the year 2021 will be open in April.

The Commission clarified that the survey results of the potato pests for which the Directives are being revised into Implementing Regulations (*Ralstonia solanacearum*, *Globodera pallida*, *Globodera rostochiensis*, *Synchytrium endobioticum* and *Clavibacter sepedonicus*) should continue being reported using the previous templates and deadlines, until the new reporting templates are agreed.

The Commission also presented the rules on the use, disclosure and re-use of the data submitted by Member States to EUROPHYT Plant Health Surveys. The Committee agreed with the rules.

A.10 US request for recognition of sulfuryl fluoride as a phytosanitary requirement for debarked coniferous wood chips destined for export to the EU.

The Commission informed about a request from the United States concerning the introduction of wood chips made from debarked coniferous wood and treated with sulfuryl fluoride.

Member States took note of the request and the information provided. Member States emphasized that the information submitted by the United States would not be sufficient to fully assess the request and that, amongst others, information about the treatment of the chips and the expected trade volume were missing from the dossier.

The Commission agreed to follow up the issue.

A.11 Information point on import-export issues between the EU and UK(GB).

No issues were raised.

A.12 Presentation of pest risk information for *Arboridia kakogawana*, *Crisicoccus pini*, *Phenacoccus solenopsis* and *Xylotrechus chinensis*, followed by an exchange of views on potential need for their EU regulation.

The Commission presented the outcome of the EFSA pests categorisations. Member States where outbreaks exist for these non-regulated pests gave additional information on the actions taken to control these pests and on the impact observed. Member States are invited to send written comments by the end of March. The point will be discussed in one of the upcoming meetings.

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.

Postponed.

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.

Postponed.

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.

Postponed.

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.

Postponed.

B.06 Exchange of views and possible opinion 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 a revised draft to the Committee, and explained the changes compared to the previous draft following the bilateral consultations with the third countries included in the measure.

The Commission informed Member States that the concerned third countries have received the text for commenting and informed that the five related exporting countries would need to provide an open link (without username or password) where they will keep in an excel table the updated lists of sites of production per place of production

that are eligible to export to the EU. The Commission will publish the links in the website to be accessible to Member States and operators.

Following a positive vote by written procedure, the text was adopted by the College.

Vote taken: Favourable opinion.

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 informed the Committee that its internal consultations were still ongoing and upon their completion, the draft will be presented and submitted to the Committee for a written vote.

Vote Postponed

B.08 Exchange of views and possible opinion 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).

The Commission clarified the changes to the draft Implementing Regulation compared to the previous version that was presented to the Committee. Some changes were discussed and it was agreed to update the draft Regulation before presenting it for vote.

Vote Postponed

B.09 Exchange of views and possible opinion of the Committee on a draft Commission Implementing Regulation amending Implementing Regulation (EU) 2018/2019 as regards certain plants for planting of *Juglans regia* L., *Nerium oleander* L. and *Robinia pseudoacacia* L. originating in Turkey, and amending Implementing Regulation (EU) 2020/1213 as regards the phytosanitary measures for the introduction of those plants for planting into the Union territory.

The Commission presented to the Committee a draft Regulation for delisting from the list of high risk plants certain plants for planting of *Juglans regia* L., *Nerium oleander* L. and *Robinia pseudoacacia* L. originating in Turkey. The changes resulting from the Commission's internal consultation procedures were highlighted. All issues concerning the draft text were clarified. The draft text will subsequently be presented for vote by written procedure.

Vote Postponed

C.01 Exchange of views of the Committee on a draft Commission Implementing Regulation amending Implementing Regulation (EU) 2018/2019 on high risk plants in relation to plants for planting of *Malus domestica* from Ukraine.

The Commission presented to the Committee a draft text for delisting from the list of high risk plants certain plants for planting of *Malus domestica* originating in Ukraine. No issues were raised. The draft text will subsequently go through the Commission's internal consultation procedures.

M.01 Phytosanitary programme 2023-2024.

The Commission informed on the next steps towards the adoption of the draft Phytosanitary programme 2023-2024. On a question from Spain, the Commission clarified that containment measures for priority pests on island territories will not be eligible for co-funding.

M.02 The import of consignments of seed packages.

On request of a Member State, the Commission clarified that the consignments of seed packages where a plant passport is already attached in the third country before arrival in the Union, is not in line with the EU requirements: operators cannot be authorized to issue plant passports for regulated material that has not yet undergone import control.