

2 Syou-an No.5593

25 February 2021

Head of Unit, Unit G.1-Plant Health

Directorate G, DG SANTE

European Commission

Subject: Re: Update of the validity of the official declaration submitted by your National Plant Protection Organisation concerning the status of *Xylella fastidiosa* in your respective territory

Dear

I am writing this letter to respond to your letter Ref. Ares(2021)1085698 dated 8 February 2021 with regard to the update of the validity of the official declaration concerning the status of *Xylella fastidiosa* in Japan.

We would like to inform you that a test method listed in the Regulation Annex IV has been established and we have confirmed *Xylella fastidiosa* is known not to be present in Japan on the basis of inspection, sampling, and molecular testing carried out by the National Plant Protection Organization of Japan, using the method and in accordance with relevant International Standards for Phytosanitary Measures.

Therefore, Japan would like to ask you to place this declaration on the website of DG SANTE at your earliest possible convenience in order not to hinder trade of *Xylella fastidiosa* host plants.

If you have any question, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Sincerely yours,

Director, Plant Protection Division

Food Safety and Consumer Affairs Bureau

Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry & Fisheries, Government of Japan