



EUROPEAN COMMISSION

Health and Food Safety Directorate General

**SUMMARY REPORT OF THE
STANDING COMMITTEE ON PLANTS, ANIMALS, FOOD AND FEED
HELD IN BRUSSELS ON 06 SEPTEMBER 2018 - 07 SEPTEMBER 2018
(Section *Plant Health*)**

CIRCABC Link: <https://circabc.europa.eu/w/browse/8907baec-8d94-4af6-8395-d4de2095fd3b>

A.01 Evaluation of recent import interceptions with harmful organisms by Member States and the need for further actions (including CBS interceptions on citrus fruit from Argentina).

The Commission presented an overview of the interceptions from 6 July to 4 September 2018. The Commission highlighted the interceptions of citrus fruits for citrus black spot (CBS, *Phyllosticta citricarpa*) on lemon from Argentina and explained that this country agreed to self-ban the lemons for the rest of the season. The Commission explained that the interceptions of false codling moth (FMC, *Thaumatotibia leucotreta*) are being closely monitored, as this harmful organism has only been regulated since January 2018.

A.02 Evaluation of recent outbreaks of harmful organisms notified by Member States and of the control actions taken (including recent outbreak of *Bursaphelenchus xylophilus* in Spain).

Spain informed that on 13 July 2018 a new outbreak of *Bursaphelenchus xylophilus* was confirmed in the Autonomous Region of Castilla y León, in the municipality of Lagunilla, Salamanca Province. The harmful organism was detected on an isolated *Pinus pinaster* showing declining symptoms. In accordance with Decision 2012/535/EU, the infected tree was destroyed, the demarcated area established accordingly with movement restrictions in place. Pending the removal of all the host plants in the 100 m radius to be carried out outside the fire season (after end of September), intensive surveys are ongoing with targeted removal of symptomatic plants located in the surroundings. Spain also informed that on 8 August 2018, an additional infected plant was detected in the current demarcated area of As Neves (Autonomous Community of Galicia) where eradication measures are currently being taken. The demarcated area has been updated following the new finding and the removal of the host plants in the 100 m radius around the new infected plants planned. The Commission stressed the importance of implementing quickly the EU control measures in order to preserve the efforts and resources invested by Spain and the EU in the eradication of the previous three outbreaks.

A.03 EFSA newsletter on horizon scanning for new and emerging plant health risks.

EFSA presented the fifteenth pilot edition of the newsletter. Highlights from the media were reported mainly on *Spodoptera frugiperda* and *Xylella fastidiosa*. For the harmful organisms not listed in the EU legislation, there was a report from the media on *Nectrella versioniana* and *Euwallacea fornicatus*.

A.04 Exchange of views on the elements for a Commission Implementing Regulation laying down specific rules concerning the procedure to be followed in order to carry out the risk assessment of high risk plants, plant products and other objects within the meaning of Article 42(1) of Regulation (EU) 2016/2031.

The Commission presented the elements for a Commission Implementing Regulation laying down specific rules concerning the procedure to be followed in order to carry out the risk assessment of high risk plants, plant products and other objects within the meaning of Article 42(1) of Regulation (EU) 2016/2031. This document explains the procedure which third countries need to follow when they want to import a commodity listed in the high risk plant list within the meaning of Article 42 of Regulation (EU) 2016/2031, and details the steps that will take place during the risk assessment that EFSA will carry out.

A.05 Information by EFSA on the state of play for the format of dossiers and the methodology for assessment of high risk plants, plant products and other objects, as laid down in Regulation (EU) 2016/2031, Article 42.

EFSA presented an overview of the information that non-EU countries will need to submit in order to carry out the risk assessment of the plants, plant products or other objects included in the high risk plants within the meaning of Article 42 of Regulation (EU) 2016/2031. The document has been sent for consultation to Member States and will be finalised and published in the EFSA Journal of October 2018.

A.06 Guidance by the EFSA Panel on Plant Health on quantitative risk assessment.

EFSA presented the guidance document which was published in August 2018. The two-step new pest risk assessment methodology is intended to be adaptive; it is population-based and quantitative. Member States had the possibility to comment on several occasions during the development of the guidance, including during the 6-weeks public consultation.

A.07 Scientific opinion by the EFSA Panel on Plant Health on the quantitative risk assessment of *Spodoptera frugiperda*.

EFSA presented the pest risk assessment for *Spodoptera frugiperda* and Member States had the possibility to comment and ask questions on the outcome. The risk assessment focuses on the entry, establishment and available control methods.

A.08 Scientific opinion by the EFSA Panel on Plant Health on the updated pest categorisation of *Xylella fastidiosa*.

EFSA presented the updated pest categorisation of *Xylella fastidiosa* published on 23 July 2018 and informed about the updated database of host plants found infected by the organism worldwide that is currently being finalised and expected to be published by end of September 2018. The Committee was also informed that the updated pest risk assessment of *Xylella fastidiosa* is currently under preparation and is expected to be published in March 2019.

A.09 Overview of Member States 2017 survey reports for *Anoplophora glabripennis* and *A. chinensis*.

The Commission presented the results of the 2017 Member States survey reports for *Anoplophora glabripennis*, *A. chinensis* and other longhorn beetles where some improvement of the situation with some outbreaks, as well as some new outbreaks were noted. Decrease in interceptions in wood packaging material was also noted. Eradication and surveillance efforts will continue on the basis on the current EU legislation.

A.10 Exchange of views on the need to prolong Decision 2013/413/EU, authorising Member States to provide for derogations from the import prohibition in respect of potatoes from Akkar and Bekaa in Lebanon.

The Decision, allowing Member States to import ware potatoes from Akkar and Bekaa under specified conditions but without having been used, will expire on 31 October 2018. Member States were invited to inform the Commission whether a renewal is requested. Without motivated request the Commission will not start the renewal procedure.

B.01 Exchange of views and possible opinion of the Committee on a draft Commission Implementing Decision amending Implementing Decision (EU) 2015/789 as regards measures to prevent the introduction into and the spread within the Union of *Xylella fastidiosa* (Wells et al.).

Following the interception with *Xylella fastidiosa* reported by Spain on plants of *Polygala myrtifolia* in trade, a draft Commission Implementing Decision was presented for exchange of views and possible opinion of the Committee aiming at introducing further restrictions on the movement of those plants within the Union territory. More particularly, the draft Decision requires that plants for planting of *Polygala myrtifolia*, grown outside the demarcated areas, be sampled and tested prior to the first movement out of the production site. This obligation will also be applied to import from non-EU countries where the pest is not known to be present.

Vote taken: Favourable opinion.

C.01 Exchange of views and possible indicative opinion of the Committee on a draft Commission Implementing Regulation provisionally listing high risk plants, plant products or other objects within the meaning of Article 42 and plants for which phytosanitary certificates are not required within the meaning of Article 73 of Regulation (EU) 2016/2031

The Commission presented a revised draft Implementing Regulation containing the updated list of plants, plant products and other objects to be listed as high risk and the list of fruits to be exempted from phytosanitary certificate. The revised version has taken into account the comments of Member States and the comments the stakeholder have submitted via the Better Regulation Portal (18 July 2018 to 15 August 2018). The Commission explained that seeds, *in-vitro* material and naturally or artificially dwarfed plants are not included in the scope of this Implementing Regulation. A new text will be circulated in view of a technical agreement of the Committee during the next meeting before notifying the text to WTO-SPS. A meeting with non-EU countries will be organised on 28 September to explain the lists and the procedures to be followed in order to import any commodity included in the lists.

C.02 Exchange of views of the Committee on a draft Commission Implementing Directive amending Annexes I to V of Council Directive 2000/29/EC on protective measures against the introduction into the Community of organisms harmful to plants or plant products and against their spread within the Community

The Commission presented an updated draft text which takes into account the comments received from Member States. The feedback from the delegations was discussed in detail and a new version of the draft will be provided prior to the next Committee meeting.

C.03 Exchange of views of the Committee on a draft Commission Implementing Regulation on rules on uniform practical arrangements for the performance of official controls on plants, plant products and other objects and authorised operators in order to verify compliance with the plant health legislation.

The Commission presented a new version of the draft on uniform practical arrangements for the performance of official controls on plants, plant products and other objects and authorised operators in order to verify compliance with the plant health legislation. The inclusion of some basic import control rules regarding plants under article 73 of Regulation (EU) 2016/2031 was discussed. The Commission informed about the new timetable of the legal process due to the inclusion of those new provisions. The different inputs from the delegations were discussed and a new version of the draft Implementing Act will be circulated as soon as possible.