



EUROPEAN COMMISSION

HEALTH AND FOOD SAFETY DIRECTORATE-GENERAL

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**SUMMARY REPORT OF THE  
STANDING COMMITTEE ON PLANTS, ANIMALS, FOOD AND FEED  
HELD IN BRUSSELS ON 09 JULY 2015 - 10 JULY 2015  
(Section Plant Health)**

**CIRCABC Link:** <https://circabc.europa.eu/w/browse/a3fb2326-0361-418c-8d54-38cecf92c3a9>

**A.01 Overview of new outbreaks of harmful organisms notified by Member States.**

The Commission presented the latest overview of outbreaks notified by Member States in the period of 18 June to 1 July 2015. The Commission especially drew the attention of the Committee to the following notifications of EU regulated harmful organisms:

- Germany reported a new finding of *Anoplophora glabripennis* (Asian Longhorn Beetle) in Baden-Wuerttemberg. This is the ninth *A. glabripennis* outbreak in Germany. Commission implementing decision on measures for *A. glabripennis* was published in June 2015 (2015/893/EU);
- The United Kingdom, reported the first finding of *Dryocosmus kuriphilus* (Chestnut gall wasp) in its territory. Official measures are being taken.
- Spain reported 3 more outbreaks (plots of ware potatoes) as a follow up to the previously reported findings of *Epitrix similaris* (Potato flea beetle) in Andalucia.

With regard to notifications related to non-regulated harmful organisms, the Commission informed the Committee about the notifications by the Netherlands of the first finding of *Platynota rostrana* (Orange leafroller) found in a greenhouse and possibly linked to imports of plants for planting from Costa Rica; and by Italy reporting on further spread of *Geosmithia morbida* and its vector *Pityophthorus juglandis*, causing Thousand cankers disease on *Juglans nigra* (black walnut) in the Veneto Region, first notified in November 2013.

**A.02 Presentation by Italy of the on-going and planned activities for the control of *Xylella fastidiosa* in line with Commission Implementing Decision (EU) 2015/789, followed by an exchange of views.**

Italy presented the outcome of the measures implemented so far on *Xylella fastidiosa* in Apulia, as well as in the rest of their territory. Italy informed that further resources were made available to step up controls and facilitate the implementation of the EU emergency measures. All plants found to be infected outside the province of Lecce, in the outbreak of Oria (province of Brindisi), had been removed, while an action plan was currently being finalised. Italy informed that a report with actions and results obtained so far was made publically available, while results of monitoring activities were regularly uploaded on the following website [http://www.emergenzaxylella.it/portal/portale\\_gestione\\_agricoltura](http://www.emergenzaxylella.it/portal/portale_gestione_agricoltura)

**A.03 Presentation by the Commission of the results of the 2014 monitoring campaigns by Member States for the detection of *Ralstonia solanacearum* (potato brown rot) and *Clavibacter michiganensis* ssp. *sepedonicus* (potato ring rot) on potatoes, followed by an exchange of views.**

The high intensity of sampling and testing of seed and ware potatoes in the EU demonstrate that, although incidences of both diseases occur, a reliable control system is in place.

**A.04 Presentation by the Commission of the results of the 2014 monitoring campaigns by Member States for the control of the potato cyst nematodes *Globodera pallida* and *Globodera rostochiensis* in application of Council Directive 2007/33/EC, followed by an exchange of views.**

The data presented allow to have a better overview of the status of both nematodes in different areas across the Union.

**A.05 Presentation by the Commission of an overview of the 2014 Member States' monitoring results for the presence of *Epitrix cucumeris*, *E. similaris*, *E. subcrinita* and *E. tuberis*, followed by an exchange of views.**

The monitoring data demonstrated that the presence of the insect in the Union is still limited to a few areas. However, concerns were expressed about the risks for spreading and an increase of the official controls in the known infested areas was requested.

**A.06 Presentation by the Netherlands of an assessment of the probability of association of regulated pests and analysis of risk reduction options related to seeds of *Solanum tuberosum*.**

While new methods for the reproduction of potatoes via seed are being developed, a revision of the EU movement requirements for such propagating material might be needed. A dossier will be handled in due time for this.

**A.07 Information by the Commission of the project to contract out the evaluation of the harmful organisms which are currently regulated under the Marketing Directives for Plant Reproductive Material (all) or in Annex IIAII in preparation of Directive 2000/29/EC (partly) for the inclusion of such organisms as Regulated Non Quarantine Pests (RNQPs) under the future Plant Health Regulation.**

The Commission informed that, within the framework of the implementation of the future Plant Health Regulation, a project will be contracted out with the aim to evaluate all the harmful organisms which are currently regulated under the Marketing Directives for Plant Reproductive Material with the aim to assess whether they still fulfil the criteria for being listed as RNQPs. Furthermore, the project will take into account as well some relevant organisms listed under Annex IIAII of Directive 2000/29/EC which may be potential candidate for RNQPs.

**A.08 Exchange of views concerning a revision of the protected zones laid down in Regulation (EC) N° 690/2008.**

The Commission presented a non-paper outlining proposed changes to the list of protected zones. A short discussion followed, in which an additional request regarding *Ceracystis platani* was introduced by Ireland. The discussion and a possible vote shall take place in one of the forthcoming meetings of the Committee.

**A.09 Follow-up to the conclusions of the Commission Working Group on response to emerging risks from imports.**

The Commission presented the preliminary results of the audit carried out in April 2015 in Ghana. An exchange of views took place as regards the non-compliances of plants and plant products originating in Ghana and the shortcomings found in relation to its phytosanitary export certification system. The Committee concluded that a restriction of the most problematic commodities should be considered.

**A.10 Exchange of views concerning the state of play of import of plants from India and review of Decision 2014/237/EU.**

An exchange of views took place as regards a possible amendment of Decision 2014/237/EU in relation to the restriction of the import of certain commodities originating in India. Based on the comments provided by Member States, the Commission will present a proposal for a possible opinion in a forthcoming meeting of the Committee.

**A.11 Presentation by the European Food Safety Authority of an opinion concerning the risk to plant health in the EU territory of the intentional release of the bud-galling wasp *Trichilogaster acaciaelongifoliae* for the control of the invasive alien plant *Acacia longifolia*.**

The EFSA opinion, which is available on the EFSA website, concludes that it is moderately likely that the wasp establishes and spreads in the EU by natural means, but particularly if it is intentionally moved to control populations of *Acacia longifolia*. Effects on other plants are considered to be minor. The Committee concluded that

there is no reason to regulate the wasp as a harmful organism. Portugal will use the opinion to guide its policy about a potential release.

**A.12 Presentation by the European Food Safety Authority of an opinion concerning the risk to plant health posed by EU import of soil or growing media.**

An extensive risk assessment was presented and the Committee concluded that this should be used as the basis for the revision of the relevant items of the technical Annexes of Council Dir. 2000/29/EC.

**B.01 Exchange of views and possible opinion of the Committee on a "Projet de DÉCISION DE LA COMMISSION approuvant, au nom de l'Union européenne, la modification d'appendices de l'annexe 4 de l'accord entre la Communauté européenne et la Confédération suisse relatif aux échanges de produits agricoles." (working language of the document: French)**

This Decision, based on Annex 4 (plant health Annex) to the EU-Switzerland agreement on trade in agricultural products, would update the lists of plants, plant products and other objects (i.e. Appendix 1 of Annex 4) for which recent plant health legislations of respectively the Union or of Switzerland, which are similar and deliver equivalent measures, came into force, as well as the list of those legislations (respectively Appendices 2 and 4 of Annex 4).

**Vote taken:** Favourable opinion.