



EUROPEAN COMMISSION

HEALTH AND FOOD SAFETY DIRECTORATE-GENERAL

sante.ddg2.g.001(2016)78995

**SUMMARY REPORT OF THE
STANDING COMMITTEE ON PLANTS, ANIMALS, FOOD AND FEED
HELD IN BRUSSELS ON 23 NOVEMBER 2015 - 24 NOVEMBER 2015
(Section Plant Health)**

CIRCABC Link: <https://circabc.europa.eu/w/browse/1aadf76b-514d-4b1e-9590-1f53a9b120f6>

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

The report of the notification of outbreaks of harmful organisms was presented. Exchange of information and views between the Member States followed.

Italy and France updated the situation on the outbreaks of *Xylella fastidiosa* in their territory, where monitoring and eradication continues. New host plants found infested by *Xylella fastidiosa* were reported. The Netherlands provided an update on the situation of *Ralstonia solanacearum* on *Rosa* plants. New outbreaks of *Anoplophora glabripennis* were reported in the EU by Italy and Finland. UK reported the presence of *Sirococcus tsugae* a non-regulated organism in the EU.

A.02 Presentation by the European Food Safety Authority of the Scientific Opinion of the Panel on Plant Health regarding the pathogenicity testing of *Vitis* sp. for *Xylella fastidiosa*, followed by an exchange of views.

EFSA presented the Scientific Opinion published on 19 November 2015 regarding the pathogenicity testing of *Vitis* sp. for the Apulian strain (CoDiRO) of *Xylella fastidiosa*. Based on the results submitted by Italy, EFSA concluded that it is still premature to exclude that systemic infections of *Vitis* sp. occur and that infections at limited foci could serve as a source of inoculum, although field surveys carried out in the infected area on grapevine were negative. Therefore, the Committee agreed to maintain *Vitis* as specified plant under Annex I of Commission Implementing Decision (EU) 789/2015, pending new scientific developments.

A.03 Exchange of views concerning a possible amendment of the special requirements in Annex IV Part A Section II of Directive 2000/29/EC as regards the certification scheme of certain fruit plants.

The Commission took note of the comments provided by Member States. The Committee requested that a specific working group will be organized in 2016 to finalize the technical conditions in the document.

A.04 Presentation by the Commission of a USDA-APHIS request concerning a possible amendment of Annex IV, part A to Council Directive 2000/29/EC in relation to *Xanthomonas campestris* (all strains pathogenic to Citrus), followed by an exchange of views.

Discussions will continue in a forthcoming meeting of the Committee in the framework of the amendment of the phytosanitary import requirements against citrus canker.

A.05 Presentation by the Commission of the outcome of the evaluation procedure of survey programmes submitted by Member States for Union financial contribution for 2016: list of the programmes technically approved and preliminary amount allocated to each programme.

A general overview of the pest categories and the indicative percentages outlined for Survey Programmes 2016 has been presented by the Commission.

A.06 Information by the Commission on the outcome of the reallocation exercise in relation to the EU financial contribution for the 2015 survey programmes.

The Commission presented the outcome of the reallocation exercise in relation to the 2015 survey programmes: the exercise has been based on the data provided by Member States by 31st August 2015 (intermediate report as by Regulation EU 652/2014). The overview indicates that there is no need to reallocate funds amongst Member States as the initial budget allocated per Member State covers the needs for 2015.

B.01 Exchange of views and possible opinion of the Committee on a draft Commission Implementing Decision amending Commission 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.).

The Decision updates the list of regulated plants following the recent findings in Italy and France; allows the planting of host plants, for scientific purposes, in some areas of the containment area of Lecce (Apulia, Italy); introduces thermotherapy for movement of dormant grapevine planting material within and out of demarcated areas; and extends plant passport requirements for some regulated plants, together with contingency plans and awareness raising campaigns as obligation for all Member States.

Vote taken: Favourable opinion.

B.02 Exchange of views and possible opinion of the Committee on a draft Commission Implementing Decision on recognition of certain areas of Canada

and the United States as being free from *Agrilus planipennis* Fairmaire, Emerald Ash borer.

In relation to a possible recognition of certain areas of Canada and the US as being free from *Agrilus planipennis* (Emerald Ash borer), the Committee concluded that Canada has not aligned its procedures on pest free areas according to the standard that EU requested. Therefore, the Canadian pest free areas could not be considered for voting and the draft decision was restricted to recognizing the US pest free areas only.

Vote taken: Favourable opinion.

B.03 Exchange of views and possible opinion of the Committee on a draft Commission Implementing Decision extending Implementing Decision 2014/237/EU on measures to prevent the introduction into and the spread within the Union of harmful organisms as regards certain fruits and vegetables originating in India.

The Decision extends until 31 December 2016 the ban for the import into the EU of plants other than seeds and roots of *Colocasia* Schott, plants other than seeds of *Momordica* L., *Solanum melongena* L. and *Trichosanthes* L. In addition, for mangoes, the Decision prolongs the request for an additional declaration from the Indian competent authorities about the measures taken to ensure freedom from harmful organisms.

Vote taken: Favourable opinion.

B.04 Exchange of views and possible opinion of the Committee on a draft Commission Implementing Decision laying down the procedures for the submission of applications for grants and requests for payment, in respect of the emergency measures against plant pests referred to in Regulation (EU) No 652/2014 of the European Parliament and of the Council.

Several Member States requested clarification and made some comments to which the Commission replied and agreed to modify the current draft. In addition, the Commission asked the Member States to send by e-mail their further comments by the 01th of December. For those reasons, the vote was postponed to the next Committee.

Vote postponed