



EUROPEAN COMMISSION

HEALTH AND FOOD SAFETY DIRECTORATE-GENERAL

sante.ddg2.g.5(2016)5574547

**SUMMARY REPORT OF THE
STANDING COMMITTEE ON PLANTS, ANIMALS, FOOD AND FEED
HELD IN BRUSSELS ON 27 JUNE 2016 - 28 JUNE 2016
(Section Plant Health)**

CIRCABC Link: <https://circabc.europa.eu/w/browse/53df6b6d-98c6-445c-a7b3-7179eba231b7>

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

An overview of the outbreaks notified was given by the Commission. Germany notified the first finding of *Xylella fastidiosa* in its territory of one oleander as an infected potted plant. Eradication measures were taken. Portugal gave an update on the outbreak of *Trioza erythrae*, where eradication measures are taken as well. Spain notified outbreaks of *Epitrix papa*, which is not regulated. *Epitrix similaris*, the regulated species originally thought to be present in the Spanish territory, has been reclassified to *Epitrix papa* following a recent scientific publication. Measures have been taken.

A.02 Presentation by the Commission of the preliminary findings of an audit carried out in South Africa from 13 to 24 June 2016 in order to evaluate the control measures applied on Citrus fruit against *Phyllosticta citricarpa*.

A system of official controls is in place in line with Decision 2016/715/EU. However, some aspects of the field inspections could potentially be improved. A close monitoring of the situation needs to be carried out during the current import season.

A.03 Presentation by Spain on the state of play of *Epitrix* sp in its territory.

Spain presented the latest updates of the *Epitrix* situation specifically in the regions of Galicia, Asturias, Sevilla and Andalucia. The Commission presented the preliminary findings of an audit in June highlighting some non-compliances. The Commission also communicated stakeholders' positions and also the existence of an EPPO draft standard on the control system for *Epitrix* species that damage potato tubers.

A.04 Presentation by the Commission of the report of the 2015 Task Force for *Bursaphelenchus xylophilus* in Portugal and Spain.

The Task Force, coordinated by the Commission services (Directorate General for Health and Food Safety), provided technical support to Portugal and Spain in controlling pine wood nematode. The Committee was informed that the proposed recommendations were going to be the basis for the upcoming review of the EU emergency measures. The Commission also informed about its intention to ask the European Plant Protection Organisation (EPPO) to update the EPPO standards on official control of pine wood nematode based on the Task Force conclusions and most recent scientific information.

A.05 Presentation by the Commission of an overview report of the Member States' survey results for *Bursaphelenchus xylophilus* in 2015 in line with Commission Decision 2007/535/EU.

The Commission presented the survey results for *Bursaphelenchus xylophilus* submitted for 2015 by the Member States. With the exclusion of the already known infected zones in the Union territory, such as Portugal and some parts of Spain, no additional findings were reported by the rest of the Member States.

A.06 Presentation by the Commission of the project of the Commission's Joint Research Center for monitoring for *Bursaphelenchus xylophilus* by remote sensing.

The Commission's Joint Research Centre (JRC) presented the ongoing "CanHeMon" project which, financed by DG SANTE, aims at identifying declining pine trees in the buffer zone of Portugal using remote sensing tools. Such project will support Portuguese Authorities in the early identification of declining trees which according to Decision 2007/535/EU have to be removed to avoid any infestation by the insect vectors of *Bursaphelenchus xylophilus*. JRC informed that such technology, once developed, could also be used for the monitoring of trees affected by other pests such as *Xylella fastidiosa*.

A.07 Presentation by France of an evaluation carried out by ANSES of emergency actions to prevent the spread of pine wood nematode in the EU.

France presented a scientific study carried out by ANSES in relation to the eradication measures laid down under Decision 2007/535/EU. The Commission informed that the study will be submitted to the European Plant Protection Organisation (EPPO) for update of the EPPO standard on official control of pine wood nematode.

A.08 Exchange of views on the elements for a possible revision of Commission Decision 2007/535/EU.

The Commission presented the main elements proposed for the revision of Decision 2007/535/EU. The draft text was currently being prepared on the basis of some recommendations of the Commission's Task Force on pine wood nematode, and will be presented for discussion in the forthcoming Standing Committee.

- A.09 Presentation by the Commission of an overview report of the Member States' survey results for *Anoplophora chinensis* and *A. glabripennis* in 2015 in line with Commission Decision 2012/138/EU and Decision (EU) 2015/893.**

Postponed.

- A.10 Presentation by the Commission of an overview report of the Member States' survey results for *Gibberella circinata* in 2015 in line with Commission Decision 2007/433/EU.**

As in previous years *Gibberella circinata* remains restricted to Spain and Portugal. However in both affected Member States, the disease has extended its range but the economic damage was limited. Both Spain and Portugal have measures in place.

- A.11 Presentation by the Commission of the conclusions of the EU-US PHTWG of 12-13 April 2016.**

An overview was given of the state of play on ongoing EU-US phytosanitary dossiers on import. This related to the *Xylella* emergency measures, wood packaging material for military ammunition, ash wood imports and the import requirements for corn seed. The upcoming revision of the import requirements for citrus canker and citrus black spot were mentioned, as well as the future new basic Plant Health Regulation.

- A.12 Presentation by the Commission of the planning for the preparation of secondary acts for the application of the future Plant Health Regulation.**

The Commission presented the plan for the adoption of implementing and delegated acts until the time of application of the new plant health Regulation (expected for early 2020). The PAFF Committee will vote on implementing acts concerning common formats for plant passports, list of high risk plants, list of plants to be exempted from phytosanitary certificates and the updated lists of regulated pests, plants, plant products and other objects (currently included in Annexes I to V of Directive 2000/29/EC).

- C.01 Exchange of views of the Committee on a draft Commission Implementing Decision on the adoption of a financing decision regarding a financial contribution by the Union to emergency measures to combat certain animal diseases and pests in 2016 and 2017.**

As some improvements to the text were suggested, the Commission will update it and schedule the draft Implementing Decision in a forthcoming PAFF Committee meeting.

- C.02 Exchange of views of the Committee on a draft Commission Implementing Decision laying down the standard requirements for submission by Member**

States of applications, reports and requests for payments for the plant health survey programmes.

The Commission presented a first draft of the text. Some minor changes would be included and the Implementing Decision updated before presentation for vote in a forthcoming PAFF Committee meeting.