



EUROPEAN COMMISSION
DIRECTORATE-GENERAL FOR HEALTH AND FOOD SAFETY

Crisis preparedness in food, animals and plants

WORKING GROUP
ON PLANTS, ANIMALS, FOOD AND FEED
Section Propagating material and plants of fruit genera and species
Section Propagating Material of Ornamental Plants
Section Vine

13 DECEMBER 2021

SUMMARY

SECTION A **Information and/or discussion**

1. Update on the revision of plant and forest reproductive material legislation

The Commission gave an update on the revision of the legislation on plant reproductive material (PRM) and the next steps. The Member States welcomed the information and in general supported the initiative. Some Member States were in favour of option 1, others were in favour of option 2 or a mixture of these two options. One Member State asked about the Commission's webpage regarding the revision and enquired about how exchange in kind of PRM between farmers would be facilitated. The Commission stated that the webpage will be available in the coming months and provided more information about exchange in kind of PRM between farmers under the different policy options but emphasised that the plant health rules must be respected upon exchange in kind of PRM.

2. Presentation of the Official Controls Regulation

The Commission presented the Official Controls Regulation (OCR) and outlined the three policy options on official controls: rules in PRM legislation, tailor-made approach under OCR and full harmonisation under OCR. The Member States welcomed the presentation but requested further clarification on the benefits of inclusion into the OCR and questioned the feasibility of "tailor made inclusion". The Commission explained that under the "tailor made inclusion" harmonisation with OCR would use IT infrastructure to improve efficiency of controls and safe exchange

of information and provide training systems for experts carrying out official control activities. Member States were asked to provide written comments by 10 January 2022.

3. Exchange of views on a draft Commission Implementing Decision concerning the equivalence of fruit propagating material and fruit plants produced in third countries

The Commission presented the draft Decision, stating that the recognition of the equivalence of the legislation and certification system in place for plants produced in third countries to that in Member States will be granted through a desk analysis comparing the third country and EU legislation. The equivalence Decision will remain valid for a period of 7 years. Member States responded positively to the draft text. Member States discussed options to suspend equivalence if there is a phytosanitary risk of non-compliance with legislation during this 7 year period of granted equivalence. The Commission confirmed that equivalence would be suspended if breaches occur. Member States also asked about compensation for administrative burden due to the EU new equivalence regime and the possibility of third countries to issue labels for marketing in the EU. The Commission will seek further advice on these matters.

4. Exchange of views on a draft Commission Implementing Directive amending Commission Directive 93/49/EEC and Implementing Directive 2014/98/EU as regards Union regulated non-quarantine pests on propagating material of ornamental plants, fruit propagating material and fruit plants

The Commission presented the amendment of Directives 93/49/EEC and 2014/98/EU regarding Union regulated non-quarantine pests (RNQPs) and provided several examples of pests which will be now listed as RNQPs. Member States responded positively to these amendments, with one Member State seeking further clarification regarding the thresholds that apply to *Candidatus phytoplasma mali*.

5. Update on the Fruit Reproductive Material Information System (FRUMATIS)

The Commission informed that the majority of Member States have submitted their national lists to FRUMATIS and offered assistance to Member States experiencing difficulties with submission.