



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 24 FEBRUARY 2016 - 25 FEBRUARY 2016
(Section Plant Health)**

CIRCABC Link: <https://circabc.europa.eu/w/browse/06eab5ba-922f-461b-ba11-3402dc14c56b>

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

Germany notified the eradication of *Anoplophora glabripennis* of the first outbreak found in its territory. The pest is under eradication in different parts of the country. Portugal notified new findings of *Trioza erythrae*, and the detection of the infestation by this pest of a new host species. Poland has notified the first finding during official surveys, of potato spindle tuber viroid (PSTVd) in seed potatoes. An update of the state of art of the outbreak of *Xylella fastidiosa* in Italy was also given. In addition, Slovenia updated the information on the outbreak of Citrus bark cracking viroid (CBCVd), which causes severe hop stunt disease. CBCVd is a non-regulated pest in the EU, but national measures are in place.

A.02 Audit report carried out in Spain on 14-18 September 2015 in order to evaluate the control measures applied to *Epirix*.

The Commission's general audit conclusion is that significant efforts have been made by Spain to control *Epirix*. Nevertheless, there is still need to intensify the surveillance programs in non-demarcated areas, since the delimitation of outbreaks is not fully appropriate and demarcation of areas for control not fully in line with Decision 2012/270/EU. Spain indicated that surveillance activities have been increased in the meantime to cover the recommendations from the audit.

A.03 Presentation by the United Kingdom of the recent national measures taken and applicable to tubers of *Solanum tuberosum* originating in Spain, presentation of Spanish request to repeal that measure, followed by an exchange of views.

The United Kingdom presented the main reasons and aims for enacting national measures targeting Spanish potatoes originating from non-demarcated areas, mainly due to the detection of symptomatic potatoes in trade, however without live organisms. It was concluded that the intensified surveillance results and an additional Commission audit will need to be awaited. The Commission stressed that there is a

need to return to a fully harmonized approach as soon as possible and that national measures need to be avoided.

A.04 Presentation by the Commission of the overview of the Member States 2016 *Xylella fastidiosa* survey plans, notified in line with Article 14 of Decision (EU) 2015/789.

The Commission presented the 2016 *Xylella fastidiosa* survey plans submitted at the time by Member States in line with Article 14 of Decision (EU) 2015/789 and the results of the survey plans carried out by Member States in 2015. The Commission invited the Member States that had not yet sent their 2015 survey results or the 2016 survey plan to do it as soon as possible, to allow a more complete overview of the situation in Europe.

A.05 Presentation by the European Food Safety Authority of the updated database on host plants of *Xylella fastidiosa*, followed by an exchange of views.

EFSA presented the updated database on host plants of *Xylella fastidiosa* published on 9 February 2016. At this occasion, EFSA informed that a new methodology is currently being developed for pest risk assessment.

A.06 Presentation by the Commission of the proposed update of protected zones and presentation of the pest risk analysis/technical justification by the related Member States.

The Commission presented the overview of Member States' reports for surveys in protected zones in 2015 and the overview of possible updates in Regulation (EC) No 690/2008, including extended temporary recognitions, some revocations and some additions. Member States requesting recognition of new protected zones presented their supporting dossiers. The Committee exchanged views mainly on a requested strengthening of protected zone measures for the European populations of *Bemisia tabaci*. The Member States were asked to notify the Commission of any comments they may have on the possible updates of the Regulation by Monday, 29 February 2016. The discussion shall continue in the next meeting of the Committee.

A.07 Presentation by the Commission of the recommendations of the Commission working group meeting of 10-11 February 2015 concerning the listing of harmful organisms of Annex IIAII to Directive 2000/29/EC, followed by an exchange of views.

The Commission presented for exchange of views and further follow up the recommendations of the working group, prepared on the basis of the pest categorisation or, as appropriate, full pest risk assessment published by the European Food Safety Authority (EFSA) as regards the following pests: *Aonidiella citrina*, *Atropellis* spp., *Candidatus* Phytoplasma solani, *Circulifer haematoceps*, Citrus tristeza virus, *Clavibacter michiganensis* subsp. *insidiosus*, *Erwinia amylovora*, *Phytophthora fragariae*, Strawberry crinkle virus, Strawberry mild yellow edge virus, *Spiroplasma citri*, *Spodoptera littoralis*, *Xylophilus ampelinus*, *Verticillium albo-atrum* and *Verticillium dahlia*.

A.08 Presentation by the Commission of the guidelines concerning the 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.

The Commission presented the draft guidelines concerning the 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. Several Member States requested clarification and made some comments to which the Commission replied. In addition, the Commission asked the Member States to send by e-mail their further comments by the 10th of March 2016.

B.01 Exchange of views and possible opinion of the Committee on a draft Commission Implementing Decision on the adoption of a decision regarding the Union financial contribution to emergency measures to control pests in Germany, Spain, Croatia, Italy, Cyprus and Austria for 2014 and 2015.

The Committee supported the draft Decision presented by the Commission.

Vote taken: Favourable opinion.

B.02 Exchange of views and possible opinion of the Committee on a draft Commission Implementing Decision authorising Member States to provide for a temporary derogation from certain provisions of Directive 2000/29/EC in respect of ash wood originating or processed in Canada.

The Committee supported the recognition of the Canadian systems approach to certify ash wood as being free from *Agrilus planipennis*.

Vote taken: Favourable opinion.