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Health and Food Safety Directorate General

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Standing Committee on Plants, Animals, Food and Feed

Section *Plant Health*

19 - 20 May 2022

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SUMMARY REPORT

A.01 Evaluation of recent import interceptions with pests by Member States and the actions taken.

The Commission presented the interceptions for the period between 19 April and 15 May 2022. In non-EU trade the Commission highlighted the interceptions of (i) Tomato Brown Rugose Fruit Virus on seeds of tomatoes and peppers from China and Tanzania, (ii) *Spodoptera frugiperda* on cut flowers of *Eryngium* from Zimbabwe and on eggplants from Uganda, (iii) *Thaumatotibia leucotreta* on cut flowers of *Rosa* from Ethiopia, (iv) *Bactrocera dorsalis* on mangoes from Burkina Faso, Cote d'Ivoire, Mali and Cameroon, and (v) *Phyllosticta citricarpa* on oranges from Uganda.

The Commission also noted the interceptions of (i) *Neoleucinodes elegantalis* on eggplants from Suriname, (ii) *Xanthomonas citri* pv *citri* on Tahiti limes from Brazil; *Thrips palmi* on eggplants from Uganda; (iii) the interceptions of different pests on logs of *Juglans nigra* from US and (iv) the interceptions of wood packaging material from China and India.

The Commission also presented the evolution of third country interceptions due to pests since the beginning of 2022. China, Israel, Kenya, Peru, US, Brazil, Mexico, Uganda, Belarus, Cameroon, India, Cambodia, Thailand, Tanzania, and Suriname were the countries with more than 10 interceptions due to pests, by order of number of interceptions. The Committee agreed that written communication should be launched where the assessment of those interceptions identifies that need. The Committee also agreed to monitor closely the evolution of those interceptions.

In EU trade, the Commission highlighted the interception of *Phytophthora ramorum* on *Rhododendron* from Belgium (reported by the Netherlands) and from Germany (reported by Austria).

The Commission presented an update of its audit programme.

A.02 Evaluation of recent outbreaks of pests notified by Member States and the control actions taken.

The Commission presented the overview of the outbreaks notified by the Member States in the period from 19 April to 15 May 2022.

Belgium reported on the first finding in its territory of *Aleurocanthus spiniferus* on *Citrofortunella microcarpa* plants. The infested plants originated from another EU country. The outbreak is under eradication.

Germany updated on the outbreak of *Euwallacea fornicatus sensu lato*. Furthermore, information was given on the evolution of the outbreak of *Saperda candida* on an island. Eradication measures are in place for both pests.

A.03 EFSA newsletter on horizon scanning for new pests; EPPO monthly reporting service on pests.

The Commission presented highlights from the EFSA newsletter on horizon scanning, issue of May 2022, and EPPO's reporting service of April 2022.

A.04 Exchange of views on the future implementing act under Article 54(3) of the Official Controls Regulation on the reduced frequencies of plant health inspections.

The Commission presented a draft non-paper outlining possible future contents of the implementing act. The idea is to follow closely on the earlier concept that was discussed during the preparation of the Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) 2019/2129, with the addition of the actual uniform frequencies of identity and physical checks of the respective plant or plant product commodities as an Annex to the future implementing act. Several Member States briefly commented on some of the aspects of the draft text. It was agreed that written comments would be provided to the Commission by 6 June 2022.

A.05 Exchange of views on a potential need for EU regulation for *Toumeyella parvicornis*, based on a recent EFSA pest categorisation.

The Commission presented a summary of the content of the EFSA pest categorisation for *Toumeyella parvicornis*. The pest is not regulated in the EU. The pest qualifies for all the criteria assessed by EFSA to be included in the list of Union quarantine pests.

Additionally, France and Italy gave information related to the outbreaks on their territories. Both Member States have official measures in place for its control. The observed impact has been discussed. The pest has been affecting trees of *Pinus pinea*. Trade of host plants from countries where the pest is present is prohibited.

The discussion on the potential need to regulate it in the EU will be continued in another Committee meeting.

A.06 Exchange of views on the requirements for a possible amendment of Implementing Regulation (EU) 2018/2019 (high risk plants) to delist certain plants for planting of *Malus domestica* from Turkey.

The Commission presented to the Committee the overview of the scientific opinion on the Commodity risk assessment of *Malus domestica* plants from Turkey and a draft Annex, containing the proposed measures for delisting that commodity from the list of high risk plants. Discussions were held concerning the status in the Union of the non-regulated pests of concern identified for that commodity and the need to prescribe measures against them. The Commission requested the Member States, particularly those in which those pests have been reported to be present, to provide information on the status and observed impact (if any) of the pests in their territories by 3 June 2022.

A.07 Exchange of views on the requirements for a possible amendment of Implementing Regulation (EU) 2018/2019 (high risk plants) to delist certain plants for planting of *Jasminum polyanthum* from Uganda.

The Commission presented to the Committee the overview of the scientific opinion on the Commodity risk assessment of unrooted cuttings of *Jasminium polyanthum* from Uganda and a draft Annex, containing the proposed measures for delisting that commodity from the list of high risk plants. The committee had concerns on the timing and frequency of inspection in the site of production, which will be looked into by the Commission. Discussions were held concerning the status in the Union of the non-regulated pests of concern identified for that commodity and the need to prescribe measures against them. The Commission requested the Member States, particularly Portugal where some of those pests have been reported to be present, to provide information on the status and observed impact (if any) of the pests in their territories by 3 June 2022.

A.08 Presentation of the EFSA commodity risk assessment of bonsai plants from China consisting of *Pinus parviflora* grafted on *Pinus thunbergii*.

EFSA presented its scientific opinion on the commodity risk assessment of bonsai plants from China consisting of *Pinus parviflora* grafted on *Pinus thunbergii* and the committee members had the possibility to ask questions.

A.09 Information on import-export issues between the EU and UK (GB).

No issue raised.

B.01 Exchange of views and possible opinion of the Committee on a draft Commission Implementing Decision on emergency action against a plant pest in the Union and third countries.

No issue raised.

B.02 Exchange of views and possible opinion of the Committee on a draft Commission Implementing Regulation amending Implementing Regulation (EU) 2019/2072 as regards requirements for the introduction into the Union of certain fruits of *Capsicum* (L.), *Citrus* L., *Citrus sinensis* Pers., *Prunus persica* (L.) Batsch and *Punica granatum* L.

An adjusted draft Regulation taking into account the comments received from the stakeholders and the WTO-SPS was discussed with the Member States. The discussion focused on the timing given to the third countries to implement the proposed measures related to the application of the cold treatment for oranges. The vote was postponed to answer the above issue. The Commission will convene a new meeting on 25 May 2022 to further discuss this draft Regulation.

Vote Postponed: Vote postponed to next PAFF (25/5/2022)

B.03 Exchange of views and possible opinion of the Committee on a draft Commission Implementing Regulation amending Implementing Regulation (EU) 2018/2019 as regards certain plants for planting of *Malus domestica* originating in Ukraine.

The Commission presented to the Committee, a draft Regulation for delisting from the list of high risk plants, certain plants for planting of *Malus domestica* originating in

Ukraine. The changes resulting from the Commission's internal consultation procedures were highlighted. The Committee proposed few additions to the text. Discussions were also held on the need to align the description of the commodities of *Malus domestica* from third countries in the high risk plants derogations to the description in Annex VI to Regulation (EU) 2019/2072, in particular, on the aspect of "free of leaves". The Commission will look into this aspect and report to the Committee in one of the subsequent committee meetings.

Vote Postponed