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## Standing Committee on Plants, Animals, Food and Feed

### Section *Plant Health*

22 - 23 February 2023

**CIRCABC Link:** <https://circabc.europa.eu/ui/group/2fef964-6d34-495a-b870-fa14e7b50f3d/library/9ba0b0ea-742c-43e0-9316-37e76fb24bf4?p=1>

## SUMMARY REPORT

### **A.01 Evaluation of recent import non-compliances notified by Member States and the actions taken.**

The Commission presented the non-compliances due to the presence of pests for the period between 10 January and 14 February 2023. In non-EU trade the Commission highlighted the non-compliances due to (i) Tomato Brown Rugose Fruit Virus on seeds of tomatoes from China, Israel and Türkiye, (ii) *Thaumatotibia leucotreta* on cut flowers of *Rosa* from Ethiopia, Kenya, Uganda and Zambia, on *Citrus reticulata* and *Punica granatum* from Israel, on *Prunus domestica* from South Africa and on *Capsicum annum* from Uganda, (iii) *Spodoptera frugiperda* on *Asparagus officinalis* from Mexico and Peru and on *Solanum aethiopicum* from Burkina Faso and (iv) *Phyllosticta citricarpa* on *Citrus sinensis* from Tunisia and Zimbabwe.

The Commission also noted the non-compliances due to (i) *Hirschmanniella* on aquatic plants from Malaysia and Indonesia, (ii) *Pantoea stewartii* on seeds of *Zea mays* from India, (iii) *Thrips palmi* on *Dendrobium* from Thailand, *Solidago* from Ecuador and *Gypsophila* from Colombia, (iv) *Elsinoe* on *Citrus latifolia* from Indonesia, (v) fruit flies on *Acca sellowiana* from Colombia, on *Magnifera indica* from Ecuador, on *Ziziphus mauritiana* from India and on *Capsicum frutescens* from Cambodia, (vi) *Xanthomonas citri* pv *citri* on *Citrus latifolia* from China and on *Citrus hystrix* from Indonesia, (vii) *Liriomyza sativae* on *Ocimum basilicum* from Israel and on *Moringa oleifera* from India, (viii) *Thrips palmi* on *Momordica* fruits from Mexico.

The Commission also presented the evolution of third countries with more than 10 non-compliances due to pests from the last 12 months (from 1.2.2022 to 31.01.2023).

The Commission presented an update of the follow-up actions as regards the non-compliances due to (i) *Phyllosticta citricarpa*, *Resseliella citrifrugis* and *Meloidogyne enterolobii* on commodities originating in China, (ii) *Thaumatotibia leucotreta* and *Spodoptera frugiperda* in commodities originating in Kenya, (iii) *Thaumatotibia leucotreta*, *Spodoptera frugiperda* and *Leucinodes pseudorbonalis* in commodities originating in Uganda, and (iv) the measures received from Argentina following the non-compliances due to the presence of *Phyllosticta citricarpa* on citrus fruits the previous season and an update of the audit programme.

In EU trade the Commission highlighted the non-compliances due to Citrus tristeza virus on different citrus fruits from Spain (reported by Italy) and from Italy (reported by Spain), (ii) *Xanthomonas arboricola* pv. *pruni* on *Prunus laurocerasus* from Netherlands reported by United Kingdom (Northern Ireland) and (iii) *Phytoplasma pyri* on *Pyrus communis* Bulgaria (reported by Rumania).

The Committee agreed to continue with the procedure of follow-up actions by means of written communication and meetings and to monitor closely the evolution of those non-compliances.

#### **A.02 Evaluation of recent outbreaks of pests notified by Member States and the control actions taken (including *Spodoptera frugiperda* outbreak in Cyprus).**

The Commission presented the overview of the outbreaks that have been notified from 10/01/2023 to 16/02/2023.

Cyprus gave a presentation regarding the first finding of *Spodoptera frugiperda* in their territory. *Spodoptera frugiperda* is a Union quarantine pest and it is included in the list of priority pests as well. Three insects have been found in a light trap placed in the private garden of an amateur entomologist. There is no maize cultivation in that area. Surveys have been intensified. The plan for the eradication of the pest has been presented.

France informed of the first findings of *Bactrocera latifrons* in their territory. One insect was caught by a farmer. Further surveys in the risk areas have not revealed any other pests, therefore it is currently considered as a single finding, not an outbreak. It is anticipated that in any case the cold winter will not be favourable for the establishment of the pest.

Greece gave information regarding the notifications of two non-regulated pests. Information was shared regarding the finding of Eggplant mottled crinkle virus in a greenhouse where aubergine plants were grown. The virus is very destructive, and measures are in place.

Furthermore, information was given on the recent finding of *Neopestalotiopsis* sp. on strawberry plants. Measures to control the pest are in place. This non-regulated pest is appearing to be an emerging problem of strawberry cultivation in several parts of the world.

The Netherlands informed of the first finding in greenhouse of *Meloidogyne enterolobii*. The pest was found in ornamental *Ficus macrocarpa*. Eradication measures are in place. Forward tracing is underway for the batches of plants that have been distributed to other Member States. The plants had been imported as potted plants some months before the finding. A detailed presentation will be given by the Netherlands in the next meeting and a discussion will take place regarding the influx of plants infested by the pest.

Spain gave information regarding the outbreak situation of *Bursaphelenchus xylophilus*.

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

EFSA presented highlights from its reporting service of January 2023.

#### **A.04 Results of EFSA Pest Monitoring Scoring for the period July-December 2022.**

EFSA presented the review of the second semester of 2022 on the Horizon scanning activity: 7 newsletters were produced, 69 non-regulated pests were analysed, and 22 PeMo screened tests were conducted. 8 pests were identified with a positive PeMo score: 3 fungi (*Eremothecium coryli*, *Idriella lunata* and *Phaeobotryon negundinis*), 2 insects (*Acanalonia conica* and *Erasmoneura vulnerata*), and 3 viruses (Dasheen mosaic virus, Pepper yellow mosaic virus and Sweet potato feathery mottle virus).

EFSA also presented the design and structural changes of its monthly newsletter, along with its PeMo scoring platform project uses and timeline.

#### **A.05 Presentation by EFSA and exchange of views on the opinion regarding measures to control *Tecia solanivora*.**

EFSA presented the recently published opinion regarding the efficacy of a post-harvest treatment aiming at eradication of all developmental stages of *Tecia solanivora* in ware potatoes. The treatment is proposed as an alternative stand-alone measure to the current requirements against *T. solanivora* provided in point 15 of Annex VII to Regulation (EU) 2019/2072, for import of ware potatoes from Canary Islands into the EU territory. Several ways of improvements of the treatment were presented before a possible modification of the Annex VII to Regulation (EU) 2019/2072.

#### **A.06 Exchange of views on measures against ToBRFV.**

Regulation (EU) 2020/1191 on measures against ToBRFV applies until 31 May 2023. The discussion on the way forward regarding the revision of the measures continued on the basis of the output of the views expressed by Member States during the Standing Committee of December 2022 and January 2023, as well as on a new draft text from the Commission for internal movements and imports in the EU territory of tomato and pepper seeds and plants for planting. Based on the discussion held during the Committee, the Commission will prepare a revised draft Regulation which will be presented in a further Committee.

#### **A.07 Exchange of views on measures against *Spodoptera frugiperda*.**

Discussion with Member States regarding the precautionary eradication measures for *Spodoptera frugiperda* continued. Originally these exchanges were part of a preparedness action for EU priority pests. However, because of the recent finding of the pest in Cyprus, the concrete emergency action is now under discussion with the potential EU measures, including measures for import and internal movement, surveys and eradication measures.

#### **A.08 Exchange of views on a derogation as regards the requirements for introduction into the Union of potatoes, originating in the regions of Akkar and Bekaa of Lebanon.**

The Commission presented to the Committee a draft Regulation which was discussed and commented by Member States. Following implementation of the draft by some Member State comments and after internal consultation in the Commission, the text will be proposed for vote.

**A.09 Exchange of views on the conditions for import of birch wood from Canada.**

The Commission shared with the Committee a request from Canada for a derogation for the introduction from birch wood into the Union. The Commission intends to ask EFSA for a scientific assessment of the phytosanitary risk in relation to the conditions described in the request from Canada and will share the outcome with the Standing Committee.

**A.10 Exchange of views on the requirements for a possible amendment of Implementing Regulation (EU) 2018/2019 (high risk plants) to delist certain plants of *Prunus dulcis* and *Prunus persica* originating in Türkiye.**

The Commission presented to the Committee an overview of the scientific opinion on the commodity risk assessment of *Prunus persica* and *Prunus dulcis* plants from Türkiye, and draft measures to delist the commodity from the list of high risk plants. Member States were invited to submit written comments on the draft measures within 10 working days.

**A.11 Exchange of views on potential need for EU regulation for *Arboridia kakogawana*, *Crisicoccus pini*, *Phenacoccus solenopsis*, *Toumeyella parvicornis*, *Xylotrechus chinensis* and *Zaprionus indianus*.**

Postponed.

**A.12 State of play of the declarations by third country on their *Xylella fastidiosa* status.**

The Commission presented to the Committee the overview of declarations received from some third countries concerning their *Xylella fastidiosa* pest status. The Commission informed that from 1 March 2023 onwards, only updated declarations on the pest free country and pest free area status for *Xylella fastidiosa* can be accepted.

**A.13 Presentation of the activities of the EU Reference Laboratories for plant health and planning for 2023-2024.**

Postponed.

**A.14 Exchange of views on the EU policy for pest listing.**

The Commission presented an overview of the on-going activities related to the non-regulated pests. These pests have been identified by horizon scanning, risk assessment of dossiers submitted by third countries requesting for derogation from import prohibitions and exchanges in the Standing Committee on Plants, Animals, Food and Feed (Section Plant Health) on outbreaks in the EU and interceptions at EU borders. The number of identified non-regulated pests of concern has significantly increased during the past years. The way forward regarding the regulation of those pests was discussed. Member States requested in the frame of these exchanges to include the potential de-regulation of EU regulated pests as well. The Commission will organise a specific meeting to discuss both aspects in more details.

**A.15 Exchange of views on the functionalities and use of iRASFF for plant health purposes.**

The Commission presented an overview of the iRASFF platform for the Plant Health sector. The principle of the Alert and Cooperation Network was explained as well as the current Plant Health Network module and its implementation timeline. The benefits

of iRASFF were presented and the procedure of the notification creation and sharing between Member States as well.

**A.16 Information on import-export issues between the EU and UK(GB).**

No item raised.

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

No item raised.

**B.02 Exchange of views and possible technical opinion of the Committee on a draft Commission Implementing Regulation amending Implementing Regulation (EU) 2020/1201 as regards the list of plants known to be susceptible to *Xylella fastidiosa*.**

The Commission presented the update of host plants susceptible to *Xylella fastidiosa*. The update is based on the latest update by EFSA and includes scientific literature searches up to 30 June 2022 and Europhyt outbreaks notifications up to 20 October 2022.

The draft received a favourable technical opinion.

The Commission reminded that the procedure for updating the *Xylella Regulation* includes a WTO-SPS consultation of 60 days.

**Vote Postponed**

**C.01 Exchange of views of the Committee on a draft Commission Implementing Regulation establishing a derogation from Implementing Regulation (EU) 2019/2072 as regards the requirements for the introduction into the Union territory of oak logs with bark originating in the United States.**

The Commission presented the draft Commission Implementing Regulation following the finalisation of the internal consultation. The draft was discussed within the Committee and a revised version will be shared with the U.S. The Commission intends to present the draft for a final discussion as soon as possible.

**M.01 Use of a marking staple inside the mark set out in ISPM 15 on wood packaging material.**

Bulgaria reported that during controls of wood packaging material, marking staples have been identified which were applied inside the border of the ISPM 15 mark.

The Committee confirmed that this practice is not in line with the provisions of the aforementioned standard, which provides that no other information shall be contained within the border of the mark. The wood packaging material in question therefore does not comply with the provisions of paragraph 1(b) of Article 43 of Regulation (EU) 2016/2031.

