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Standing Committee on Plants, Animals, Food and Feed

Section *Plant Health*

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SUMMARY REPORT

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

The Commission presented an overview of non-compliances between 16 May and 23 June 2024. Amongst the non-compliances in non-EU trade, the Commission highlighted the ones due to (i) Tomato Brown Rugose Fruit Virus on tomato and pepper seeds from Israel, China, Peru, and Türkiye, Kenya and Thailand; (ii) *Spodoptera frugiperda* on *Eryngium* from Zimbabwe, on *Asparagus officinalis* from Peru, on peppers from Mexico, on *Mangifera indica* from Brazil and *Solanum aethiopicum* from Senegal; (iii) *Thaumatococcus leucocretus* on roses from Kenya and Ethiopia, on peppers from Kenya, and on *Persea americana* from Cameroon; (iv) *Bactrocera dorsalis* on mangoes from Cote d'Ivoire and Ghana and on *Persea americana* from Uganda; and (v) *Ralstonia solanacearum* on ware potatoes from Egypt. Amongst the non-compliances in EU-trade, the Commission highlighted the ones due to (i) *Meloidogyne chitwoodi* on seed potatoes from the Germany, (ii) *Clavibacter michiganensis subsp. sepedonicus*, on ware potatoes from Estonia, (iii) *Globodera pallida* on ware potatoes from Cyprus; (iv) *Globodera rostochiensis* on soil adhering to ware potatoes from Greece; and (v) *Phytophthora ramorum* on already planted plants of *Rhododendron* from Germany. The Commission also presented an update on audits and on the follow-up actions to the non-compliances.

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.

The Commission presented the overview of the outbreak notifications received by the Member States.

Italy presented the current state of art and the measures taken to control the non-regulated pest *Toumeyella parvicornis*, a pest of *Pinus* trees.

The Netherlands informed of the first finding of American plum line pattern virus in two reference collections of *Prunus* trees. Eradication measures are in place.

Spain gave information regarding the findings of *Bursaphelenchus xylophilus* and the measures taken to eradicate the pest. Furthermore, they informed about the new findings of *Scirtothrips aurantia* in fruit orchards the eradication efforts.

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

The Commission presented highlights from EFSA's newsletter on horizon scanning of June 2024, and EPPO's reporting service of May 2024.

A.04 Exchange of views on the revision of the measures against Tomato Brown Rugose Fruit Virus (Implementing Regulation (EU) 2023/1032).

The Commission presented a summary of the information and data available for initiating a discussion on the revision of the measures against ToBRFV, in particular the recently updated EPPO Pest risk assessment. The Commission invited Member States to submit their views in writing by 4 July. The Commission will provide a draft text for the Committee of July and the exchange of views will continue during this meeting.

A.05 Exchange of views on the comments from the public consultation (Have Your Say) for the revision of Implementing Regulation (EU) 2019/2072 – package I.

The Commission presented an overview of the comments received. Most comments concern the time of application of the measures proposed for cut flowers of *Rosa* in relation to the pest *Thaumatotibia leucotreta*. More time is requested for the preparation of the third countries to implement those measures.

Furthermore, the need for listing of Tobacco ringspot virus and Tomato ringspot virus as a regulated non-quarantine pest (RNQP) was questioned.

A.06 Exchange of views on the revision of the measures against *Ralstonia solanacearum* on ware potatoes from Egypt (Implementing Decision 2011/787/EU).

The Commission presented a revised non-paper regarding the revision of Implementing Decision 2011/787/EU. The Commission invited Member States to submit written comments by 5 July. The Commission will provide a draft text for the Committee of July and the exchange of views will continue during this meeting.

A.07 Exchange of views on a request from Poland for the revision of specific measures for the control of *Clavibacter sepedonicus* on potatoes.

The Commission and the Member States examined the data provided by Poland concerning the improvements of the ring rot situation in Poland, and the related request of Poland to revise the specific measures for the control of the disease in Poland. The Commission invited Member States to submit written comments on the revised version by 5 July. The exchange of views will continue in a forthcoming Committee meeting.

A.08 Exchange of views on the conditions for a possible derogation from Implementing Regulation (EU) 2019/2072 concerning the introduction of unrooted cuttings for planting of *Calibrachoa* spp. and *Petunia* spp. and their hybrids from Guatemala into the Union.

The Commission presented a revised non-paper regarding the possible derogation on the introduction of unrooted cuttings from Guatemala into the EU, following the discussions in May 2024, and the written comments from several Member States. The Commission invited Member States to submit written comments on the revised version by 19 July. The exchange of views will continue in a forthcoming Committee meeting.

A.09 Exchange of views on the conditions for a possible derogation from Implementing Regulation (EU) 2019/2072 concerning the introduction of unrooted cuttings for planting of *Calibrachoa* spp. and *Petunia* spp. and their hybrids from Kenya into the Union.

The Commission presented a revised non-paper regarding the possible derogation on the introduction of unrooted cuttings from Kenya into the EU, following the discussions in May 2024, and the written comments from several Member States. The Commission invited Member States to submit written comments by 19 July. The exchange of views will continue in a forthcoming Committee meeting.

A.10 Exchange of views on the renewal of the measures to prevent the introduction into and spread within the Union of *Aromia bungii* (Implementing Decision (EU) 2018/1503).

Postponed.

A.11 Exchange of views on the need for renewal of temporary derogation from the import prohibition for contaminated soil for decontamination purposes (Implementing Decision (EU) 2019/1999).

The Commission recalled that Implementing Decision (EU) 2019/1999 is temporary and will expire by the end of 2024. As no notifications of import of contaminated soil were received over the last 8 years, the Commission suggested to take no further action and let the legal act expire. The Commission confirmed to be prepared to adopt a new legal act on this matter in future, if there was a need to do so.

Several Member States called on the Commission to maintain the legal act as it would allow to quickly grant a derogation in case that was necessary in the future.

The Commission will reflect on this and will inform the meeting after the summer.

A.12 Overview of the 2023 survey results for *Globodera pallida*, *Globodera rostochiensis*, *Ralstonia solanacearum*, *Clavibacter sepedonicus* and *Epitrix*, followed by an exchange of views.

Ring rot and Brown rot

Survey results were received from all Member States and from Bosnia Herzegovina, Montenegro, Serbia and UK.

During the last calendar year ring rot was detected in eight Member States. Poland and Romania are the highly infected areas. This was the second year when Romania did not report any finding in seed potatoes. In the last 20 years, the number of outbreaks

significantly decreased in Poland from more than 3000 cases to 322 in 2023, however, the production area also decreased significantly during the same period.

Brown rot was detected in five Member States with three findings in seed potatoes and eleven in ware potatoes.

Both bacteria occurred simultaneously in Germany and Spain.

Potato cyst nematodes

Similar trends as in the previous potato growing seasons were observed. Both nematode species were found in 13 Member States whilst seven MS reported no findings during this survey period.

Two MS reported three findings of *potato wart disease*.

Potato flea beetles

Measures for the containment of *Epitrix* sp. are in place in Portugal and Spain. New infested fields were found outside the existing demarcated area in Aljezur in Portugal. In Spain, new infested fields were found outside the demarcated area in Andalucía, Galicia and Cantabria. No interceptions of potato consignments from Spain or Portugal have been reported.

A.13 Update of the LUPP-table.

The LUPP table includes the list of pests under discussion for regulation/deregulation and the current state of art of those discussion. An updated version of the LUPP table was shared with the Member States. Certain adaptations were made in view of comments received in the version shared before.

The Commission plans to update the table twice a year (January and July each year).

A.14 Presentation of the technical report on the Horizon 2020 project on off-season fruit fly IPM.

The project 'FF-IPM' was funded under the Union's Horizon 2020 programme and ended in 2024. It ran for 4 years and involved 21 partner institutions from 17 countries. The project coordinator presented the main objectives and outcome to the Committee.

Any information about the project is publicly available under <https://fruitflies-ipm.eu>.

A.15 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 measures to prevent the introduction into and spread within the Union of *Xylella fastidiosa* (Wells et al.).

The Commission presented the draft legal act and discussed it with the Member States. The revised act will be published for a 4-week stakeholder consultation. Furthermore, it will be sent to WTO for a 60-day WTO-SPS consultation.

Vote Postponed

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 *Tilia cordata* L. and *Tilia platyphyllos* L., originating in the United Kingdom.

The Commission presented to the Committee a draft Regulation regarding the above plants for planting. No concerns were raised.

Vote taken: Favourable opinion.

B.04 Exchange of views and possible opinion of the Committee on a draft Commission Implementing Regulation amending Implementing Regulation (EU) 2022/1941 as regards the prohibition of introduction, movement, holding, multiplication or release of certain pests.

The Committee raised questions for clarification regarding the draft Regulation presented by the Commission, in particular why *Leucinodes orbonalis* and *Leucinodes pseudorbonalis* were treated differently. The Commission clarified that the approach for the two *Leucinodes* species will be the same, just the time of handling the pests differs. In case it would be decided not to regulate a pest in the EU, the pest will be added into the LUPP table and no further work will be done, unless new scientific data becomes available to trigger a reopening of the discussion.

Vote taken: Favourable opinion.

M.01 Survey results and multiannual survey programmes.

The Commission reminded the Committee that the deadline to submit the annual survey reports was 30 April and requested to those Member States that have not yet submitted the reports to do it as soon as possible. The Commission also reminded Member States to submit their multiannual survey programmes.

M.02 South Africa's request to WTO for the establishment of Panels on the EU measures for *Thaumatococcus leucocretus* and *Phyllosticta citricarpa*.

The Commission provided Member States with the state of play about the abovementioned topic.

M.03 EPPO project on materials for operators.

The Commission reminded the Committee to express their interest and possibility to provide financial support to start a possible project on technical guidance for operators, that was requested during the Chief Officer on plant health meeting of June. The Commission will inform the Committee on its next meeting.

