

EUROPEAN COMMISSION

HEALTH AND FOOD SAFETY DIRECTORATE-GENERAL

sante.ddg2.g.5(2016)5577306

SUMMARY REPORT OF THE STANDING COMMITTEE ON PLANTS, ANIMALS, FOOD AND FEED HELD IN BRUSSELS ON 15 JULY 2016 (Section Plant Health)

CIRCABC Link: https://circabc.europa.eu/w/browse/384d469a-e046-4350-8cd3-e8e6f755deb0

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

A brief overview was given on the outbreaks reported for the period of 22^{nd} June to 6^{th} July 2016. No major new problems were notified.

A.02 Presentation by Italy on the state of play of *Xylella fastidiosa* in its territory.

Italy presented the recent developments of *Xylella fastidiosa* in its territory. More particularly, Italy informed that survey activities have restarted in the concerned demarcated area in Apulia as required by Decision (EU) 2015/789, with additional resources being made available. Felling of infected trees within the last 20 km of the infected zone adjacent to the buffer zone still remains suspended pending the final ruling of the Lazio Tribunal Court and the seizure order of the Prosecutor of Lecce. The Committee was informed that due the limited implementation of the EU emergency measures, the Commission has decided to launch infringement proceedings against Italy.

A.03 Presentation by France on the state of play of *Xylella fastidiosa* in its territory.

France presented the recent developments of *Xylella fastidiosa* in its territory, including new outbreaks and host plants reported in Corsica and the Provence-Alpes-Côte d'Azur region. The Committee was informed that the report of the Commission's audit carried out in February 2016 was currently being finalised and France was invited to submit any comments on the identified shortcomings and proposed recommendations before its final publication. The Commission insisted to receive information on the concerned vector(s).

A.04 Presentation by Germany on the state of play of *Xylella fastidiosa* in its territory.

Germany presented the state of play of the measures currently being taken to eradicate the positive finding of *Xylella fastidiosa* found on a potted plant of oleander, located in a greenhouse, in the region of Saxony. They informed that monitoring activities were ongoing with no other positive findings reported so far, while the area was properly demarcated as required by Decision (EU) 2015/789. Germany confirmed that the bacterium belongs to the subspecies *fastidiosa*, different from the French and Italian subspecies. Trace-back activities were ongoing, together with public awareness campaigns. The Commission stressed the importance of precautionary restrictions to ensure that the bacteria cannot spread through movements of susceptible plants.

A.05 Presentation by the Commission of the results of the 2015 Member States' survey results for potato brown rot (*Ralstonia solanacearum*) and potato ring rot (*Clavibacter michiganensis* ssp. *Sepedonicus*), followed by an exchange of views.

Ring rot incidence on seed potatoes slightly deteriorated compared with 2014/2015 annual surveys but greatly improved on ware potato production. On brown rot annual surveys, the Commission commended Member States on the high number of samples taken. No brown rot was found on seed potato, tomato and Pelargonium cultivations. The situation of brown rot incidence on ware potato cultivation remains like 2014/2015.

A.06 Presentation by the Commission of the results of the 2015 Member States' survey results for the potato cyst nematodes *Globodera pallida* and *Globodera rostochiensis* in application of Council Directive 2007/33/EC, followed by an exchange of views.

The general situation in the Member States remains very diverse ranging from Member States that are free from both nematodes to Member States that have either one of the two quarantine pests to Member States having both quarantine species. Incidence also greatly differs in the affected Member States. Official infested areas remain at the same levels like last year with 1.47% of the total cultivated potato area.

A.07 Presentation by the Commission of an overview report of the Member States' survey results for *Anoplophora chinensis* and *A. glabripennis* in 2015 in line with Commission Decision 2012/138/EU and Decision (EU) 2015/893, followed by an exchange of views.

On *A. chinensis* the EU has to date six demarcated areas, three in Croatia and another three in Italy. Two other outbreaks are officially declared as eradicated, in Denmark and in the Netherlands. On *A. glabripennis* the EU has to date 16 demarcated areas in Germany (7), Italy (5), France (3) and Finland (1). Two outbreaks that occurred in the Netherlands and Germany are now eradicated. The general situation is under control with five demarcated areas close to eradication.

A.08 Exchange of views on the elements for a draft Commission Implementing Decision authorising Member States to provide for a temporary derogation from certain provisions of Council Directive 2000/29/EC for the movement of seeds of *Solanum* L. or hybrids.

Postponed.

A.09 Exchange of views on the interceptions and the diagnostic protocol for the identification of *Phyllosticta citricarpa* on imported citrus fruit.

The Commission presented the state of play of the interceptions of citrus fruits due to the presence of harmful organisms during the 2016 import season. A close monitoring of the situation is carried out during the current import season to assess if further developments are needed. For the identification of *Phyllosticta citricarpa*, the Committee confirmed the use of the diagnostic protocol detailed in ISPM 27, which does not require the viability test.

A.10 Presentation by the Commission of reporting obligations for the intermediate report for 2016 survey programme.

The Commission presented reporting obligations for the intermediate financial report for the 2016 survey programmes with deadline 31 August 2016. A new IT tool has been produced for the current reporting system by using the EUROPHYT Portal.

B.01 Exchange of views and possible opinion of the Committee on a draft Commission Implementing Decision amending Implementing Decision 2012/270/EU that provided for emergency measures to prevent the introduction into and spread within the Union of *Epitrix cucumeris* (Harris), *Epritrix similaris* (Gentner), *Epritrix subscrinita* (Lec.) and *Epitrix tuberis* (Gentner).

The Commission presented a draft text for a change of pest name following the publication of a scientific paper and also to increase the size of the buffer zone up to 500m. It was also agreed that a Pest Risk Assessment needs to be worked out with the parties actively involved in the issue and that the measures will be reviewed once more scientific and on ground data will have been gathered.

Vote taken: Favourable opinion.