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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*

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SUMMARY REPORT

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

The Commission highlighted the non-compliances due to the presence of pests for the period between 24 May and 20 June 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, Chile and Israel, and of peppers from China and Morocco, (ii) *Thaumatotibia leucotreta* on cut flowers of *Rosa* from Ethiopia, and on *Capsicum annuum* from Uganda, (iii) *Spodoptera frugiperda* on cut flowers of *Eryngium* from Zimbabwe, on *Capsicum* from Suriname, on *Asparagus officinalis* from Peru and Mexico and on *Ocimum basilicum* from Kenya (iv) *Bactrocera dorsalis* on *Mangifera indica* from Cote d'Ivoire, Cameroon, Burkina Faso and Mali, (v) *Bactrocera zonata* on *Mangifera indica* from Pakistan (vi) *Phyllosticta citricarpa* on *Citrus limon* from South Africa and Argentina, (vii) *Meloidogyne enterolobii* on *Sagetaria* and *Gardenia jasminoides*, and on leaves of *Amaranthus* from China (viii) *Thrips palmi* on *Momordica charantia* from Mexico and (ix) *Ralstonia solanacearum* on ware potatoes from Egypt.

The Commission presented the cumulative non-compliances for the 12-month period between 1 June 2022 and 30 May 2023 and discussed the evolution of those non-compliances. The Commission also provided an update on audits and on the follow-up actions to the non-compliances due to (i) *Chloridea virescens*, *Spodoptera frugiperda* and Tomato Brown Rugose fruit Virus on commodities from Peru, (ii) *Phyllosticta citricarpa* on citrus from Argentina and South Africa, (iii) *Meloidogyne enterolobii* and Tomato Brown Rugose fruit Virus on commodities from China.

In EU trade the Commission highlighted the non-compliance due to (i) *Meloidogyne enterolobii* on *Ficus microcarpa* originating in the Netherlands, (ii) *Phytophthora ramorum* on *Rhododendron* originating in Germany, reported by Austria, (iii) tomato brown rugose fruit virus on seeds of *Solanum lycopersicum* traded by Italy (originating in China) and originating in the Netherlands.

Certain Member States expressed concern about the non-compliances due to *Ralstonia solanacearum* on ware potatoes from Egypt. The Commission is preparing a letter for the NPPO of Egypt as regards this issue.

A Member State requested information about Mexico's response to the Commission's letter on the non-compliances due to *Thrips palmi* on *Momordica charantia* and on the EU's way forward as a response to those non-compliances. The Commission informed that Mexico has not responded to that letter and that a reminder is under preparation. As for the way forward, discussions are ongoing.

The Commission reminded Member States to provide the relevant information when notifying non-compliances and to report any fundamental issues they face with the electronic notification systems.

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.

Postponed.

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

Postponed.

A.04 Exchange of views on a possible renewal of the derogation for import of coniferous bonsai from Japan (Implementing Regulation (EU) 2020/1217).

The Committee discussed the state of play of the derogation for import of coniferous bonsai plants from Japan, which is set to expire at the end of 2023. The Committee deliberated on the interceptions since the renewal of the derogation and the recent findings of pests on *Taxus* and *Pinus* bonsai plants, originating in Japan. Import of *Taxus* species is not covered by the derogation and most of the pests found are not listed. However, the Commission will follow up on these findings.

The Committee discussed possible additional requirements in the derogation and in Annex VII of Regulation (EU) 2019/2072 for import of naturally or artificially dwarfed plants. Member States were invited to provide further information and comments to the Commission. The question will be re-discussed at one of the next Committee meetings.

A.05 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 opinion of the Committee on a draft Commission Implementing Regulation establishing a derogation from Implementing Regulation (EU) 2019/2072 as regards the introduction into the Union territory of tubers of *Solanum tuberosum* L., other than those intended for planting, originating in certain regions of Lebanon.

The Commission presented a draft Act and Annex to the Committee. Discussions resulted in a requirement for the addition of the registration number of the registered producers in the phytosanitary certificate and on the possibility to carry out identity and physical check controls both at the border control posts and in other points of control. The proposed date of application was postponed from 31 March 2026 to 31 August 2026, to allow analyses of the Lebanese annual reports by the Member States.

Vote taken: Favourable opinion.

B.03 Exchange of views and possible opinion of the Committee on a draft Commission Implementing Regulation amending Annex VII to Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) 2019/2072 as regards the introduction into the Union of certain forms of wood originating in Canada and the United States.

The Commission presented a slightly revised draft, following the comments of Member States and a consultation of the third countries concerned (Canada and the United States).

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) 2018/2019 as regards certain plants for planting of *Malus sylvestris* originating in the United Kingdom and amending Implementing Regulation (EU) 2020/1213 as regards the phytosanitary measures for the introduction of those plants for planting into the Union territory.

The Commission presented a draft Act and Annex to the Committee. Discussions took place concerning the position of the stem where the diameter is measured. This has now been specified in the act And Annex.

Vote taken: Favourable opinion.

B.05 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 *Acer campestre*, *Acer palmatum*, *Acer platanoides* and *Acer pseudoplatanus* originating in the United Kingdom and amending Implementing Regulation (EU) 2020/1213 as regards the phytosanitary measures for the introduction of those plants for planting into the Union territory.

The Commission presented a draft Act and Annex to the Committee. The Committee raised concerns about the UK's requests for access to the EU market for plants that may be 15 or more years old. The Commission clarified that the older commodities are considered for access to the EU market only if they comply with the EU plant health legislation, including the requirements related to the growing medium.

Vote taken: Favourable opinion.

M.01 Checking the records of cold treatment in consignments of citrus fruits under a systems approach for *Thaumatotibia leucotreta*.

The Committee discussed Member States' checks of the records of cold treatment in consignments of citrus fruits under a systems approach for *Thaumatotibia leucotreta*. It was concluded that Member States continue to request based on their risk assessment.