

EUROPEAN COMMISSION

Health and Food Safety Directorate General

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Standing Committee on Plants, Animals, Food and Feed Section *Plant Health* 14 - 15 March 2024

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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 15 February and 10 March 2024. In non-EU trade the Commission highlighted the non-compliances due to (i) Tomato Brown Rugose Fruit Virus on seeds from China, India, Israel, Peru, Türkiye, Guatemala and USA, (ii) *Spodoptera frugiperda* on asparagus from Ecuador, Mexico, Peru and basil leaves from Israel, (iii) *Thaumatotibia leucotreta* on peppers from Zimbabwe, (iv) *Elsinoë* on citrus fruits from Brazil and Colombia, and (v) *Ralstonia solanacearum* on ware potatoes from Egypt. In EU-trade, the non-compliances due to Tomato Brown Rugose Fruit Virus on seeds from Bulgaria. 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 outbreaks notified by the Member States.

Italy provided information regarding the evolution of the outbreaks of *Anoplophora* chinensis and *Anoplophora glabripennis*.

Portugal and Italy presented the recent findings of *Xylella fastidiosa* subsp. *fastidiosa* in its territories, result of intensive surveys. Eradication measures are in place.

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, issue of February and March 2024, and EPPO's reporting service of February 2024.

A.04 Renewal of the measures to prevent the introduction into and the spread within the Union of *Anoplophora glabripennis* (Decision (EU) 2015/893).

The Commission updated the Committee on the outcomes of the discussion in the expert working group held on 12 March, where the list of specified plants for ALB/CLB was discussed, as well as wood import requirements and systematic destructive sampling.

The Committee discussed some aspects of the eradication/containment measures and import requirements.

A.05 Update of the measures to prevent the introduction into and the spread within the Union of *Anoplophora chinensis* (Regulation (EU) 2022/2095).

The Committee discussed the inclusion of the import and internal movement requirements in the Annexes of Implementing Regulation (EU) 2019/2072.

A.06 Exchange of views on the update of the 4 potato control Regulations as regards the survey template (Regulations (EU) 2022/1192-1193-1194-1195)

The Commission presented draft templates for Member States to report the outcome of the surveys laid down in Regulations (EU) 2022/1192-1193-1194-1195. This revision was necessary to align the survey templates of the four potato pests regulated with this legislation with the survey templates used for reporting surveys on all the remaining Union quarantine pests, and to allow submission of the information therein electronically.

The draft templates were discussed with Member States. During that discussion, a few Member States requested to amend other elements of the legislation as well, in particular concerning Regulation (EU) 2022/1192.

Member States were invited to submit written comments by 29 March.

A.07 Exchange of views on measures to prevent the introduction into and spread within the Union territory of *Bactrocera* spp.

The Commission presented a revised draft of the non-paper, following the comments raised by Member States during the last discussion as well as submitted in writing afterwards.

The revised text was discussed with the Committee. A draft Regulation will be presented at a forthcoming meeting of the Committee, once the internal consultations have been finalised.

A.08 Exchange of views on a possible equivalence recognition of the systems approach of Botswana against *Thaumatotibia leucotreta* on fruits *Citrus sinensis*.

The Commission presented Botswana's request for equivalence with the EU measures against *Thaumatotibia leucotreta* as set out in point 62.1 of Annex VII of Regulation (EU) 2019/2072, of its system approach to be applied on oranges. The Commission proposed to present a draft Regulation for vote at the next Committee meeting. A Member State requested more time to consult the documents. Comments are expected by 22 March 2024.

A.09 Exchange of views on a possible revision of Regulation (EU) 2022/1941 regarding non-regulated pests for which actions have been taken under Article 29 of Regulation (EU) 2016/2031 during the period of July 2021 to December 2023.

The Commission presented the overview of non-regulated pests intercepted by the Member States. The Committee reflected on the approach and criteria used to decide whether or not a pest should be subject to harmonised EU interception. In particular, the Committee reflected whether pests not frequently intercepted or pests intercepted at taxonomic levels higher than species, should automatically be considered for harmonised interception. The Committee suggested that the list of intercepted non-regulated pests could initially be evaluated using the PeMoScoring tool to identify pests requiring further evaluation. Furthermore, for pests intercepted at the species level, if a decision is made by the Committee not to intercept the pest in the EU, that decision should be recorded in the LUPP tool. Few Member States provided comments on specific pests. The Commission requested written comments by 4 April 2024.

A.10 Information on import-export issues between the EU and UK(GB).

Some Member States indicated that the date that UK will start import controls on produce has been changing several times. The Commission brought the regular updates of the UK import requirements to the attention of the Committee and suggested Member States to verify regularly the UK plant health import legislation and flag up if there would be any disproportional additional burden to the trade.

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 on measures to prevent the establishment and spread within the Union territory of *Candidatus* Liberibacter africanus, *Candidatus* Liberibacter americanus and *Candidatus* Liberibacter asiaticus.

The Commission presented the draft Regulation as updated following Member States' comments, for agreement at technical level in advance of the public consultation. Member States presented new comments to the draft Regulation. Member States were invited to send their comments in writing by 29 March.

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 *Malus domestica* and certain plants for planting of *Berberis thunbergii* originating in Türkiye and amending Implementing Regulation (EU) 2020/1213 as regards the phytosanitary measures for the introduction of those plants for planting into the Union territory.

No concerns were raised by the Committee.

Vote taken: Favourable opinion.

M.01 Multiannual survey programmes

The Commission reminded Member States to submit their multiannual survey programmes in EUROPHYT Plant Health Surveys.

M.02 BTSF module on remote sensing, Bari, 22-25 April 2024

The Commission drew the attention of the Committee on the new module on Leveraging Remote Sensing for Plant Health to be held in Bari, 22-25 April 2024.

M.03 Management of phytosanitary programmes for co-funding 2025-2027

HaDEA presented practical information about the management of the phytosanitary programmes for co-funding 2025-2027 and answered questions about the flexibility of the multiannual grants.