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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*

17 - 18 December 2020

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SUMMARY REPORT

A.01 Evaluation of recent import interceptions with pests by Member States and the actions taken.

The Commission discussed the interceptions for the period between 16 November and 13 December 2020 as well as follow-up actions to notified non-compliances. The Commission highlighted the four interceptions of Tomato Brown Rugose Fruit Virus on seeds of *Capsicum* species from China and Israel and on seeds of *Solanum lycopersicum* from Israel and Turkey (first reporting). The Commission also highlighted the interceptions of *Thaumatotibia leucotreta* on *Capsicum annuum* from Tanzania and on *Rosa* from Kenya. Finally, the Commission highlighted the interceptions of *Spodoptera frugiperda* on *Capsicum* species from Suriname and on *Gypsophila* from Ecuador. It was agreed to monitor the development of the relevant interceptions.

Regarding the follow-up actions, the Commission informed about communication to Singapore and Malaysia on aquatic plants and on *Dendrobium* species (for Malaysia) as well as about communication related to citrus fruit to South Africa about the assessment of the systems approach for *Thaumatotibia leucotreta* and to Uruguay on citrus black spot interceptions. The Commission also informed about the upcoming audits.

A.02 Evaluation of recent outbreaks of pests notified by Member States and of the control actions taken.

The Commission presented the overview of the outbreaks notified by the Member States in the period from 12 November to 9 December 2020.

Spain gave information on the first finding of *Scirtothrips aurantii* on Citrus and berry fruit plants. The outbreak is under eradication.

Italy provided an update of the latest *Xylella* developments in Apulia. They informed that 65 infected olive trees were detected since the end of September in the municipality of Monopoli (Bari Province), located between the buffer zone of the existing demarcated area and the border with the pest free area. Italy also informed that, in December 2020, one isolated infected olive tree was detected in the municipality of Polignano a Mare (Bari Province), 5 km north from the existing

demarcated area. The Committee was informed that two lots of *Dodonea viscosa* plants were found infected with *Xylella fastidiosa* subsp. *pauca* in a nursery located in the municipality of Canosa (Barletta, Andria, Trani - BAT Province), 100 km from the demarcated area. Investigations are being carried out to confirm the origin of the infection, while plants belonging to the same lots are being traced-back from other two nurseries located in Italy and two others located in France. The areas concerned have been demarcated and eradication measures are being implemented.

The Netherlands provided an update on the situation regarding their ToBRFV outbreaks.

A.03 EFSA newsletters on horizon scanning of media and literature for new and emerging plant health risks; EPPO monthly reporting service on pests.

The EFSA media newsletter and the EFSA scientific literature newsletter of December 2020 and the EPPO Reporting Service No. 11 and 12 of 2020 were highlighted to Member States.

A.04 Exchange of views for agreement by the Committee on an update of the proposed reduced frequencies of import inspections for 2021 on fruit, vegetables, cut flowers and wood.

The Commission presented the latest data on the interceptions of cut roses imported from Kenya. The Committee, after considering the latest developments in this trade, agreed to keep the current levels for the reduced frequency, and to re-assess the situation again, either in its meeting in March 2021, or earlier, if the interception figures would require so.

A.05 Exchange of views on an amendment of Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) 2018/2019 as regards certain plants for planting of *Jasminum polyanthum* Franchet originating in Israel and an amendment of Implementing Regulation (EU) 2020/1213 concerning the phytosanitary measures for the introduction into the Union of certain plants for planting of *Jasminum polyanthum* Franchet originating in Israel.

The Commission presented the technical elements to be included in a draft Regulation removing certain plants for planting of *Jasminum polyanthum* originating in Israel and the phytosanitary measures in support of that removal.

There was overall agreement for the proposed technical elements.

A.06 Exchange of views on on a derogation from Implementing Regulation (EU) 2019/2072 concerning the introduction into the Union of plants for planting *Fragaria L.* from Chile.

The Commission briefly explained the changes compared to the previous version. There was no time for an exchange of views. Member States were asked to submit written comments by 8 January 2021.

A.07 Presentation of the EFSA Commodity risk assessment of oak logs with bark from the US for the oak wilt pathogen *Bretziella fagacearum* under an integrated systems approach.

EFSA presented the recently finalized scientific opinion on the mandate regarding the system approach submitted by US on oak logs with bark. Member States welcomed the opinion and asked some clarifications. Some Member States expressed interest in continuing a safe import of this commodity.

A.08 Phytosanitary aspects of the preparedness for the EU-UK trade from 1 January 2021 onwards.

The Commission presented the state of play of the negotiations with the UK.

It also presented the acts necessary to ensure that all imports allowed for the other European third countries, pursuant to plant health legislation, are also allowed from the UK/GB (amendment of Annexes VI, VII and XI to Implementing Regulation (EU) 2019/2072).

A.09 Exchange of views on the draft Work Programme for EU co-financing of phytosanitary measures in 2021 and 2022 under the new Single Market Programme 2021-2027.

Postponed.

A.10 Exchange of views on the update of the technical Annexes of Regulation (EU) 2019/2072.

The Commission continued the discussion with the Member States on the first amendment of the Annexes of Implementing Regulation 2019/2072. The amendment is anticipated to be a comprehensive draft act, comprising the inclusion of new pests as Union quarantine pests and Union regulated non-quarantine pests, further refinements in the list of Union quarantine pests, new import and internal movement requirements and a further refinement of the CN codes of regulated commodities. Member States were asked to send written comments by 8 January.

A.11 Exchange of views on containment measures for *Trioza erytreae* under Article 28.2 of Regulation (EU) 2016/2031.

Postponed.

A.12 Exchange of views on containment measures for Tomato leaf curl New Delhi virus under Article 28.2 of Regulation (EU) 2016/2031.

Postponed.

A.13 Exchange of views on containment measures for *Flavescence dorée* under Article 28.2 of Regulation (EU) 2016/2031.

The Commission has briefly discussed with Member States the containment measure for Flavescence dorée phytoplasma. Member States were asked to communicate the containment areas, making the distinction between infected zone and buffer zone at the level of administrative regions.

A.14 Exchange of views on containment measures for *Pomacea* under Article 28.2 of Regulation (EU) 2016/2031.

Postponed.

A.15 Exchange of views on amendment of the EU measures for *Anoplophora chinensis*.

Postponed.

B.01 Exchange of views and possible technical opinion of the Committee on a draft Commission Implementing Decision 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) 2020/1191 on measures to prevent the introduction into and the spread within the Union of Tomato brown rugose fruit virus (ToBRFV).

The Commission presented the final draft for amending Implementing Regulation (EU) 2020/1191. It was agreed to provide for a temporary acceptance, until the first of April only, of tomato and capsicum seeds tested with ELISA before 1 October 2020, and to include these new elements in the text. It was also agreed to proceed with the vote and have the amendment adopted as soon as possible.

Vote taken by written procedure: Favourable opinion.

B.03 Exchange of views and possible technical opinion of the Committee on a draft Commission Implementing Regulation on import requirements and plant health checks on wood packaging material for the transport of commodities originating in certain third countries, and repealing Commission Implementing Decision (EU) 2018/1137.

The Commission presented the final version of the draft Regulation on a minimum level import check on wood packaging material from Belarus, China and India on specific commodities, explaining that it was not possible to introduce the possibility for checks of the specified commodities to be performed at places of destinations not designated as control points. The Commission also replied to the requests for clarifications from Member States and noted the concerns raised by some of them. An agreement was reached to launch the written procedure for vote.

Vote taken by written procedure: Favourable opinion.

C.01 Exchange of views of the Committee on a draft Commission Implementing Regulation amending Implementing Regulation (EU) 2019/1715 as regards procedures for the establishment and use of ADIS and EUROPHYT, the issuance of electronic official certificates, animal health certificates and animal health/official certificates, the use of electronic signatures, and the functioning of TRACES.

The draft amending Implementing Regulation (EU) 2019/1715 ('the IMSOC Regulation') was presented for the second time by the Commission for an exchange of views of the Committee.

The Commission informed that the draft was presented for an exchange of views of the “Animal Health and Welfare” section of the Committee on 15 December 2020.

The Commission went through the changes made to the draft following Member States’ comments.

Some Member States expressed concerns regarding the integration of interception data in entry documents issued by border control posts. The Commission reminded them of their obligation to notify immediately any decision to refuse entry of non-compliant consignments to the competent authority of the third country concerned and of the role of the entry document in this regard.

A few Member States asked clarifications on how to implement in practice certain provisions of the draft relating to the electronic certification in TRACES and the non-compliance notifications in iRASFF.

The Commission informed of its intention to present the draft for vote at the next meeting of the “Plant Health” section of the Committee in January 2021.