**Prioritization process report[1] for: *Telekia speciosa* (Schreber) Baumgarten (TEKSP)**

*Telekia speciosa* was prioritized as part of a horizon scanning exercise conducted by the EPPO Panel on Invasive Alien Plants in 2024/25. The output of the prioritization process is that *T. speciosa* is added to the EPPO Observation List. This report was reviewed and approved by the Panel on Invasive Alien Plants in 2025.

**25-30243**

## Section A - Prioritization process scheme for the elaboration of different lists of invasive alien plants (pests or potential pests) for the area under assessment

**Init1. Enter the name of the pest**
*Telekia speciosa*

**Init2. Indicate the taxonomic position and synonyms**
Preferred name: *Telekia speciosa* (Schreber) Baumgarten

Other scientific names: *Buphthalmum speciosum*

Common names: сенчеста телекия [bg], kolotočník ozdobný [cs], tusindstråle [da], siebenbürger Sonnenstern [de], großer Sonnenstern [de], große Telekie [de], großes Rindsauge [de], siebenbürgische Telekie [de], Telekie [de], heart-leaf oxeye [en], large yellow ox-eye [en], télékie élégante [fr], naočiti kolotoč [hr], teleki-virág [hu], erba regina maggiore [it], koeieoog [nl], smotrawa okazała [pl], телекия прекрасная [ru], телекия красивая [ru], telekia ozdobná [sk], navadna ognjica [sl], трава од огњице [sr], црни оман [sr], strålöga [sv], puğre [tr], puğre [tr], крем'яник гарний [uk]

|- Plantae
|-- Magnoliophyta
|--- Angiospermae
|---- Campanulids
|----- Asterales
|------ Asteraceae
|------- Asteroideae
|-------- Telekia
|--------- Telekia speciosa

**Init3. Clearly define the area for prioritization**

The EPPO region (Albania, Algeria, Austria, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Guernsey, Hungary, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Jersey, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Macedonia, Malta, Moldova, Montenegro, Morocco, Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Russia, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Tunisia, Türkiye, Ukraine, United Kingdom, Uzbekistan)

**Init4. Provide the reasons for performing this prioritization, and detail any prioritization reports available for the assessed species.**
The species was identified by the EPPO Panel on Invasive Alien plants through a horizon scanning exercise for assessment. It was agreed that the species will be prioritized in 2024/25.

[1] Using EPPO (2012) PM 5/6 EPPO prioritization process for invasive alien plants. *EPPO Bulletin*, **42**, 463-474.

*Telekia speciosa* was introduced mainly as an ornamental decorative plant in the EPPO region. It occurs already in a wide range of natural and semi-natural habitats including disturbed land, forest edges and pastures.

**A.1. Is the plant species known to be alien in all, or a significant part, of the area under assessment?**

Yes

*Telekia speciosa* is native to the Carpathians, the mountains of the Balkan Peninsula and northern Anatolia, and the Caucasus. It is alien to the remainder of the EPPO region.

**A.2. Is the plant species established in at least a part of the area under assessment?**
Yes, use the justification tab to describe the area where the species is established, and the area of potential establishment, considering major factors such as climatic conditions and soil conditions.

It has become naturalized in many European countries ranging from the British Isles and France to the north-western part of European Russia, being most frequent in Central Europe.

**A.5. How high is the spread potential of the plant in the area under assessment?**

High

Summary: High seed production, quickly develops dominant stands on larger areas by its root system human-mediated over long distances, some observational data from countries

*Natural spread*

Spreading occurs generatively as well as vegetatively. The species produces many seeds (> 3000 fruits per plant, Moravcová et al. 2010), however dispersal by seed only occurs over relatively short distances (max. 10 to 15 m). Brandes (2010) pointed out after around 3 to 5 years, the plant undergoes strong vegetative development. The rhizome branches out, the leaves develop their characteristic size and the first flowering shoots form. Adult flowering plants therefore appear as polycormons, which consist of several flowering and non-flowering shoots that are connected underground.

*Human-mediated spread*

Long-distance dispersal occurs through root fragments in soil/mowed material/garden waste. The species is (presumably) also cultivated as a wild food plant or for bees in the natural environment (Hohla 2011).

*Spread rate*

There are reports from some EPPO countries of a spread or increase in the number of records. In the Czech Republic, Pergel et al. (2020) investigated the distribution on *T. speciosa* in a dendrological park (chateau Průhonice, 250 ha). They observed that after 50 years *T. speciosa* persisted at 67% sites and has spread to another 381 new sites, which indicates a high spread rate. Although the species was not found to spread widely outside the park nowadays, the observation from the park clearly shows a high invasion potential of *T. speciosa* under combination of medium level disturbances, high propagule pressure and open sunny habitats. “Such a level of persistence and rate of spread over a fifty-year period goes exceedingly beyond any known records for other IAS” (Pergel et al. 2020)

Verloove (2025) found that the species has continued to spread in recent years and is now known from numerous, widely scattered locations throughout Belgium.

In Germany, *T. speciosa* is considered an "indicator of old garden culture", and is largely restricted to landscape gardens, possibly due to a lack of long-distance dispersal (Kowarik 2010, cited in Brandes 2010). However, there are many recent records of the species distributed across the federal states with a clear focus on eastern Germany (south) (https://www.floraweb.de/webkarten/karte.html?taxnr=5873)

A.6.
**How high is the potential negative impact of the plant on native species, habitats and ecosystems in the area under assessment?**

List natural and semi-natural habitats where the species is known to occur based on the EUNIS habitat categorization (http://eunis.eea.europa.eu/habitats-code-browser.jsp)

Medium
Summary: potential impact -> competitive plant, but only observational data, no robust data on the impact of *T. speciosa* on biodiversity

In the Czech Republic, the species is distributed in several isolated areas (Orlické Mts., Krušné Mts., Beskydy, Šumava) and in several chateau parks, where it is considered locally dominant in suitable habitats (Kaplan et al. 2019, Pergl et al. 2020). Pergl et al. (2020) investigated the distribution of the species in a dendrological park of chateau Průhonice. Observational data indicated that in sites of high dominance of *Telekia* other species richness is significantly lower to comparable uninvaded plots.

In Belgium, *T. speciosa* locally forms dense, nearly monospecific stands, especially in nitrophilous, rather damp deciduous woodlands (often competing with native *Urtica dioica*) (Verloove 2025).

In Germany (Ore Mountains), a clear displacement of native tall perennials with *Thalictrum aquilegifolium*, *Astrantia major*, *Chaerophyllum hirsutum*, *Valeriana officinalis* agg. was observed locally. Problematic stands are found in the federal state of Saxony, e.g. in the Mordgrund near Oelsen. Here, large and dense stands cover several 100 m² on the banks of streams and on forest and roadsides (https://www.artensteckbrief.de/?ID_Art=3695&BL=20012).

**A.7. How high is the potential negative impact of the plant on agriculture, horticulture or forestry in the area under assessment?**

The habitats and the situations in which the species has negative impact on agriculture, horticulture or forestry should be listed. It includes EUNIS habitats (http://eunis.eea.europa.eu/habitats-code-browser.jsp).

Low

*T. speciosa* occurs in forest clearings and may affect forest management due to its potential effects on regeneration. No data is available.

**A.8. How high are the potential additional impacts (e.g. on animal and human health, on infrastructures, on recreational activities, other trade related impacts such as market losses)?**

Low

*T. speciosa* does not pose any serious health problems.

Conclusion.

- The answer provided to question A.5 on the spread potential of the species assessed was: **High**
- The answer provided to question A.6 on negative impact on native species, habitats and ecosystems was: **Medium**
- The answer provided to question A.7 on negative impact on agriculture, horticulture or forestry was: **Low**
- The answer provided to question A.8 on additional impacts was: **Low**

According to the ratings provided, the assessed species falls into the:

Observation list of invasive alien plants

The assessment stops here.

**Section B - Prioritization process scheme for the identification of invasive alien plants for which a PRA is needed**

B.1. Is the plant species internationally traded or are there other existing or potential international pathways?

B.2. Is the risk of introduction by these international pathways identified to be superior to natural spread?

B.3. Does the plant species still have a significant area suitable for further spread in the area under assessment?

**Selected References**

Verloove F. (2025) [*Telekia speciosa*]. On: Manual of the Alien Plants of Belgium. Botanic Garden Meise, Belgium. At: alienplantsbelgium.be, accessed 03/02/2025.

Kaplan et al. (2019), https://doi.org/10.23855/preslia.2019.257

Pergl et al. (2020), BioInvasions Records 9(1): 17–28, https://doi.org/10.3391/bir.2020.9.1.03

Brandes D. (2010): *Telekia speciosa* (Schreb.) Baumg. am Nordhang der Karnischen Alpen unterhalb des Plöckenpasses (Kärnten, Österreich). Institut für PflanzenbiologieAG Vegetationsökologie, http://www.ruderal-vegetation.de/epub/telekia_speciosa.pdf