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2020/048 New data on quarantine pests and pests of the EPPO Alert List

By searching through the literature, the EPPO Secretariat has extracted the following new data concerning quarantine pests and pests included (or formerly included) on the EPPO Alert List, and indicated in bold the situation of the pest concerned using the terms of ISPM no. 8.

- **New records**

Aleurocanthus spiniferus (Hemiptera: Aleyrodidae – EPPO A2 List) was recently recorded in Albania (Nugnes *et al.*, 2020). **Present.**

In Algeria, *Cucurbit chlorotic yellows virus* (CCYV) was detected for the first time in symptomatic samples of cucumber (*Cucumis sativus*) and courgette (*Cucurbita pepo*) collected from field crops in Northern Algeria. CCYV was detected only in mixed infections with *Tomato leaf curl New Delhi virus* (ToLCNDV) (Kheireddine *et al*., 2020). **Present, no details.**

In Israel, *Cucurbit chlorotic yellows virus* (CCYV) was detected for the first time in watermelon (*Citrullus lanatus)* in 2016 (Luria *et al*., 2019). **Present, no details.**

In Iraq, citrus canker (*Xanthomonas citri* pv. *citri*– EPPO A1 List) was detected on tangerine (*Citrus reticulata*), lemon (*Citrus limon*), and sweet orange (*Citrus sinensis*) from different orchards in Diyala, Baghdad and Babylon Governorates (Al-Dulaimi *et al*. 2018). **Present, only in some areas**.

- **Detailed records**

In China, a survey was conducted between 2010 and 2018 to assess the presence of *Acidovorax citrulli* (EPPO A1 List), the causal agent of bacterial fruit blotch of cucurbits, in commercial seed lots. The prevalence of *A. citrulli*-infested seed lots was highest in lots produced in Gansu province (26%), followed by Ningxia (21%), Xinjiang (19%), and Inner Mongolia (11%). The bacterium is also reported at lower prevalence in seed lots produced in Anhui, Fujian, Hebei, Heilongjiang, Jilin, Liaoning, Shandong, Shanghai, Shānxi (Tian *et al*., 2020).

In the USA, *Meloidogyne enterolobii* (EPPO A2 List) was found in 2018 in one sweet potato (*Ipomoea batatas*) field in Louisiana. Eradication measures have been taken. It is suspected that the source of this outbreak is the introduction of infested sweet potato planting material from North Carolina (Internet, 2020).

In India, *Spodoptera frugiperda* (Lepidoptera: Noctuidae – EPPO A1 List) has recently been reported in the Northern part of Goa. The pest was found on fodder maize (*Zea mays*), grasses (*Brachiaria mutica*, *Megathyrsus maximus*), and *Amaranthus viridis* (Maruthadurai and Ramesh, 2020).

- **New host plants**

During surveys in Italy, *Aleurocanthus spiniferus* (Hemiptera: Aleyrodidae – EPPO A2 List) was recorded from 11 new host plants: *Ailanthus altissima, Arbutus unedo, Citrus medica, C. reticulata, Clematis vitalba, Pistacia vera, Prunus avium, P. cerasus, P. domestica, Rosa banksiae* and *R. x damascena*. It can be noted that these new host species include important

crops for the Mediterranean Basin, as well as the invasive plant *Ailanthus altissima* (Nugnes *et al.*, 2020).

Fusarium circinatum (EPPO A2 List), the causal agent of pitch canker of pine, was recovered from the symptomless Californian native grass, *Bromus carinatus* (Poaceae). These isolates were then shown to be pathogenic to *Pinus radiata* in artificial inoculation tests (Carter & Gordon, 2020).

Sources: Al-Dulaimi FTR, Al-Kaisse AA, Al-Rubaye LA, Abdulwadood MA (2018) First report of citrus bacterial canker caused by *Xanthomonas axonopodis* pv. *citri* in Iraq. *Journal of Biotechnology Research Center* **12**(2), 24-31. https://www.iasj.net/iasj?func=fulltext&aId=160915

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INTERNET

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Maruthadurai R, Ramesh R (2020) Occurrence, damage pattern and biology of fall armyworm, *Spodoptera frugiperda* (J.E. Smith) (Lepidoptera: Noctuidae) on fodder crops and green amaranth in Goa, India. *Phytoparasitica* **18**(1), 15-23.

Nugnes F, Laudonia S, Jesu G, Jansen MGM, Bernardo U, Porcelli F (2020) *Aleurocanthus spiniferus* (Hemiptera: Aleyrodidae) in some European countries: diffusion, hosts, molecular characterization, and natural enemies. *Insects* **11**(1), 42. https://doi.org/10.3390/insects11010042

Tian Y, Zhao Y, Zhou J, Sun T, Luo X, Kurowski C, Gong W, Hu B, Walcott RR (2020). Prevalence of *Acidovorax citrulli* in commercial cucurbit seedlots during 2010-2018 in China. *Plant Disease* **104**(1), 255-259. https://doi.org/10.1094/PDIS-03-19-0666-RE

Additional key words: detailed record, host plant, new record

Computer codes: ALECSN, BROCN, CCYV00, GIBBCI, LAPHFR, MELGMY, PSDMAC, XANTCI, AL, CN, DZ, IL, IN, IQ, US

2020/049 EPPO report on notifications of non-compliance

The EPPO Secretariat has gathered below the notifications of non-compliance for 2019 received since the previous report (EPPO RS 2019/225). Notifications have been sent via Europhyt for the EU countries and Switzerland. The EPPO Secretariat has selected notifications of non-compliance made because of the detection of pests. Other notifications of non-compliance due to prohibited commodities, missing or invalid certificates are not indicated. It must be pointed out that the report is only partial, as many EPPO countries have not yet sent their notifications. When a consignment has been re-exported and the country of origin is unknown, the re-exporting country is indicated in brackets. When the occurrence of a pest in a given country is not known to the EPPO Secretariat, this is indicated by an asterisk (*).

Pest	Consignment	Type of commodity	Country of origin	Destination	nb
Aleyrodidae	*Piper betle*	Vegetables (leaves)	Bangladesh	Italy	3
Atherigona orientalis	*Capsicum*	Vegetables	Kenya	Germany	1
Bemisia	*Trachelium*	Vegetables (leaves)	Israel	Netherlands	1
Bemisia tabaci	*Anthurium*	Plants for planting	Netherlands	United Kingdom	1
	Aster	Vegetables (leaves)	Israel	Netherlands	1
	Begonia	Plants for planting	Netherlands	United Kingdom	1
	Brassica, Perilla	Vegetables	Nigeria	United Kingdom	1
	Capsicum annuum	Vegetables	Morocco	France	3
	Capsicum annuum	Vegetables	Turkey	United Kingdom	1
	Capsicum frutescens	Vegetables	South Africa	Netherlands	1
	Cestrum latifolium	Vegetables (leaves)	Suriname	Netherlands	1
	Chlorophytum laxum	Cuttings	Sri Lanka	Netherlands	1
	Chrysanthemum	Cut flowers	Netherlands	United Kingdom	1
	Corchorus	Vegetables	Egypt	Netherlands	1
	Corchorus	Vegetables	Malaysia	United Kingdom	1
	Crossandra	Plants for planting	Netherlands	United Kingdom	1
	Eryngium foetidum	Vegetables (leaves)	Thailand	Sweden	1
	Euphorbia pulcherrima	Plants for planting	Netherlands	United Kingdom	10
	Helianthus annuus	Cut flowers	Israel	Netherlands	1
	Hibiscus sabdariffa	Fruit	Bangladesh	United Kingdom	1
	Hibiscus sabdariffa, Solanum macrocarpon	Vegetables (leaves)	Togo	Germany	1
	Ipomoea batatas	Vegetables	Sierra Leone	United Kingdom	2
	Lantana camara	Plants for planting	Netherlands	United Kingdom	1
	Limnophila	Vegetables (leaves)	Cambodia	France	2
	Lisianthius alatus	Cut flowers	Netherlands	United Kingdom	1
	Mandevilla	Plants for planting	Netherlands	United Kingdom	1
	Mentha	Vegetables (leaves)	Israel	Netherlands	1
	Musa	Plants for planting	USA	United Kingdom	1
	Ocimum	Vegetables (leaves)	Togo	Germany	1
	Ocimum basilicum	Vegetables (leaves)	Israel	Netherlands	1
	Ocimum basilicum	Vegetables (leaves)	Israel	United Kingdom	3
	Ocimum basilicum	Vegetables (leaves)	Togo	Belgium	1
	Persicaria odorata	Vegetables (leaves)	Cambodia	Netherlands	1
	Plantago	Vegetables (leaves)	Nigeria	United Kingdom	1
	Salvia	Cuttings	Israel	United Kingdom	1
	Salvia	Vegetables (leaves)	Israel	Netherlands	1
	Solanum melongena	Vegetables	Egypt	Sweden	1
	Solanum pseudocapsicum	Plants for planting	Netherlands	United Kingdom	2
	Solidago	Cut flowers	Zimbabwe	Netherlands	1
	Thymus vulgaris	Vegetables (leaves)	Lebanon	United Kingdom	1
	Trachelium	Cut flowers	Israel	Belgium	1
Bradysia, Helicoverpa armigera	*Fragaria x ananassa*	Fruit	Egypt	Switzerland	1
Curculio sulcatulus	*Quercus prinoides*	Seeds	USA	Germany	1
Diptera	*Solanum torvum*	Vegetables	Colombia	France	1
Earias vittella, Helicoverpa	*Abelmoschus esculentus*	Vegetables	India	Spain	1

Pest	Consignment	Type of commodity	Country of origin	Destination	nb
Elasmopalpus lignosellus	*Asparagus*	Vegetables	Peru	United Kingdom	2
	Asparagus officinalis	Vegetables	Peru	United Kingdom	3
Elsinoë australis	*Citrus aurantium*	Fruit	Afghanistan*	United Kingdom	1
	Citrus latifolia	Fruit	Guatemala*	United Kingdom	2
	Citrus limon	Fruit	Bangladesh*	United Kingdom	6
	Citrus medica	Fruit	Bangladesh*	United Kingdom	2
Elsinoë fawcettii	*Citrus aurantifolia*	Fruit	Guatemala	United Kingdom	1
	Citrus latifolia	Fruit	Egypt*	United Kingdom	1
	Citrus latifolia	Fruit	Mexico	Netherlands	1
Erwinia amylovora	*Pyrus pyraster*	Plants for planting	Netherlands	United Kingdom	1
Frankliniella panamensis	*Dianthus caryophyllus*	Cut flowers	Colombia	Spain	5
Fungi	*Capsicum annuum*	Vegetables	Tunisia	Italy	1
	Solanum lycopersicum	Plant products	Tunisia	Italy	1
Globodera pallida	*Solanum tuberosum*	Ware potatoes	Cyprus	United Kingdom	1
Helicoverpa armigera	*Chrysanthemum*	Cuttings	Ethiopia	Netherlands	1
	Fragaria x ananassa	Fruit	Egypt	Ireland	1
	Rubus idaeus	Fruit	Morocco	France	1
Helicoverpa zea	*Rosa*	Cut flowers	Ecuador	Netherlands	1
Leucinodes	*Solanum aethiopicum*	Vegetables	Uganda	France	1
	Solanum melongena	Vegetables	Kenya	United Kingdom	1
Leucinodes orbonalis	*Solanum melongena*	Vegetables	Thailand	Germany	1
Liriomyza	*Allium tuberosum*	Vegetables	Thailand	United Kingdom	3
	Allium tuberosum	Vegetables	Vietnam	United Kingdom	1
	Amaranthus	Vegetables	India	United Kingdom	1
	Apium graveolens	Vegetables	Thailand	United Kingdom	1
	Apium graveolens var. secalinum	Vegetables	Cyprus	United Kingdom	1
	Chrysanthemum	Cut flowers	Colombia	United Kingdom	1
	Coriandrum sativum	Vegetables (leaves)	Egypt	United Kingdom	2
	Dendranthema x grandiflorum	Cut flowers	Colombia	United Kingdom	1
	Moringa oleifera	Vegetables (leaves)	India	United Kingdom	1
Liriomyza huidobrensis	*Dianthus barbatus*	Cut flowers	Ecuador	Netherlands	1
	Eryngium	Cut flowers	Kenya	France	1
	Gypsophila	Cut flowers	Ecuador	Italy	1
	Gypsophila paniculata	Cut flowers	Kenya	Sweden	1
Liriomyza sativae	*Apium*	Vegetables	Suriname*	Netherlands	1
	Ocimum basilicum	Vegetables (leaves)	Israel	Belgium	1
Liriomyza trifolii	*Apium graveolens*	Vegetables	Egypt	Sweden	1
	Gypsophila	Cut flowers	Israel	Netherlands	2
	Ranunculus	Cut flowers	Israel	Netherlands	1
Maruca	*Vigna unguiculata*	Vegetables	India	Ireland	1

Pest	Consignment	Type of commodity	Country of origin	Destination	nb
Monilinia fructicola	*Pyrus pyraster*	Fruit	Turkey*	Lithuania	1
Ostrinia nubilalis	*Zea mays*	Vegetables	India	United Kingdom	2
Phyllosticta citricarpa	*Citrus maxima*	Fruit	China	Ireland	1
	Citrus maxima	Fruit	China	Italy	2
	Citrus paradisi	Fruit	China	Ireland	1
	Citrus sinensis	Fruit	Swaziland*	United Kingdom	1
Plodia interpunctella	*Helianthus annuus*	Seeds	USA	Romania	1
	Prunus dulcis	Plant products	USA	Spain	2
Plutella xylostella	*Brassica oleracea*	Vegetables	Vietnam	Ireland	1
Pospiviroid	*Solanum*	Seeds	China	United Kingdom	1
Potato spindle tuber viroid	*Lycium barbarum*	Seeds	China	Italy	1
Potato virus Y	*Capsicum*	Vegetables	Kenya	United Kingdom	2
	Capsicum	Vegetables	Uganda	United Kingdom	1
	Capsicum annuum	Vegetables	Uganda	United Kingdom	1
	Capsicum frutescens	Vegetables	Uganda	United Kingdom	3
Potato virus Y, Spodoptera littoralis	*Capsicum*	Vegetables	Uganda	United Kingdom	1
Pseudaulacaspis pentagona	*Prunus lusitanica*	Plants for planting	Italy	United Kingdom	3
Pseudococcus	*Punica granatum*	Fruit	Turkey	Spain	1
Radopholus similis	*Acorus gramineus*	Aquatic plants	Malaysia	United Kingdom	1
	Monstera	Plants for planting	Suriname	Netherlands	1
Scirtothrips dorsalis	*Bougainvillea spectabilis*	Plants for planting	Indonesia	Netherlands	1
Spodoptera eridania	*Physalis*	Fruit	Colombia	Netherlands	1
Spodoptera exigua, Spodoptera litura	*Asparagus officinalis*	Vegetables	Thailand	Netherlands	1
Spodoptera frugiperda	*Allium*	Vegetables	Thailand	Netherlands	1
	Asparagus officinalis	Vegetables	Peru	Netherlands	4
	Capsicum	Vegetables	Suriname	Netherlands	1
	Capsicum frutescens	Vegetables	Suriname	Netherlands	1
	Gypsophila paniculata, Rosa	Cut flowers	Kenya	Netherlands	1
	Zea mays	Vegetables	Senegal	United Kingdom	4
Spodoptera littoralis	*Ocimum basilicum*	Vegetables (leaves)	Kenya	Netherlands	1
	Punica granatum	Fruit	Tunisia	France	1
	Zea mays	Vegetables	Morocco	United Kingdom	1
Spodoptera litura	*Ocimum basilicum*	Vegetables (leaves)	Taiwan	Netherlands	1
Thaumatotibia leucotreta	*Capsicum*	Vegetables	Kenya	United Kingdom	4
	Capsicum	Vegetables	Nigeria	United Kingdom	1

Pest	Consignment	Type of commodity	Country of origin	Destination	nb
***T. leucotreta* (cont.)**	*Capsicum*	Vegetables	Rwanda	Netherlands	1
	Capsicum	Vegetables	Rwanda	United Kingdom	1
	Capsicum	Vegetables	Uganda	United Kingdom	1
	Capsicum annuum	Vegetables	Kenya	United Kingdom	1
	Fortunella	Fruit	South Africa	Netherlands	1
	Rosa	Cut flowers	Kenya	Netherlands	4
	Rosa	Cut flowers	Kenya	Sweden	1
	Rosa	Cut flowers	Kenya	United Kingdom	1
	Rosa	Cut flowers	Tanzania	Netherlands	1
	Rosa	Cut flowers	Tanzania	Switzerland	1
	Rosa	Cut flowers	Uganda	Netherlands	1
	Rosa	Fruit	Kenya	Netherlands	1
Thripidae	*Abelmoschus esculentus*	Vegetables	Ghana	United Kingdom	1
	Amaranthus	Vegetables (leaves)	Nigeria	United Kingdom	1
	Colocasia gigantea	Vegetables	Bangladesh	United Kingdom	1
	Dendrobium	Cut flowers	Thailand	Netherlands	1
	Luffa acutangula	Vegetables	Ghana	United Kingdom	3
	Momordica charantia	Vegetables	Dominican Rep.	United Kingdom	1
	Momordica charantia	Vegetables	Honduras	United Kingdom	2
	Momordica charantia	Vegetables	Mexico	United Kingdom	1
	Perilla frutescens	Vegetables (leaves)	Japan	United Kingdom	1
	Rubus ursinus	Fruit	Guatemala	Italy	1
	Solanum melongena	Vegetables	Dominican Rep.	United Kingdom	4
	Telfairia occidentalis	Vegetables (leaves)	Nigeria	United Kingdom	3
Thrips palmi	*Dendrobium hybrids*	Cut flowers	Malaysia	Switzerland	1
	Momordica	Vegetables	Suriname	Netherlands	2
	Momordica charantia	Vegetables	USA	United Kingdom	2
	Momordica charantia, Momordica dioica	Vegetables	Honduras*	Netherlands	1
	Momordica charantia, Solanum melongena	Vegetables	Suriname	Netherlands	1
	Perilla frutescens	Vegetables (leaves)	Japan	United Kingdom	1
	Solanum macrocarpon	Vegetables	Suriname	Netherlands	2
	Solanum melongena	Vegetables	Dominican Rep.	France	1
	Solanum melongena	Vegetables	Dominican Rep.	United Kingdom	1
	Solanum melongena	Vegetables	Suriname	Netherlands	2
Thysanoptera	*Solanum aethiopicum*	Vegetables	Burkina Faso	France	2
Tomato brown rugose fruit virus	*Solanum lycopersicum*	Seeds	Israel	Italy	1
	Solanum lycopersicum	Vegetables	Egypt	Netherlands	1
Tomato mottle mosaic virus	*Solanum lycopersicum*	Seeds	Israel	Spain	1
Tortricidae	*Capsicum*	Vegetables	Kenya	United Kingdom	1
Unaspis citri	*Citrus latifolia*	Fruit	Mexico	Spain	1
Xanthomonas arboricola* pv. *pruni	*Prunus laurocerasus*	Plants for planting	France	United Kingdom	1
	Prunus laurocerasus	Plants for planting	Netherlands	United Kingdom	1
Xanthomonas citri* pv. *citri	*Citrus latifolia*	Fruit	Brazil	Italy	1

Pest	Consignment	Type of commodity	Country of origin	Destination	nb
Xiphinema	*Unspecified*	Soil	Moldova	Italy	1
Zaprionus	*Psidium guajava*	Fruit	Sri Lanka	Switzerland	1
Zaprionus tuberculatus	*Psidium guajava*	Fruit	Angola*	Portugal	1

- **Fruit flies**

Pest	Consignment	Country of origin	Destination	nb
Anastrepha	*Mangifera indica*	Peru	France	1
	Psidium guajava	Dominican Rep.	France	1
Bactrocera	*Averrhoa carambola*	Malaysia	Netherlands	2
	Capsicum	Thailand	Switzerland	1
	Citrus maxima	China	Germany	1
	Citrus maxima	China	Netherlands	1
	Psidium guajava	India	United Kingdom	1
	Psidium guajava	Sri Lanka	Switzerland	1
	Salacca	Indonesia	Netherlands	1
Dacus	*Momordica charantia*	Uganda	Sweden	1
Tephritidae (non-European)	*Mangifera indica*	Egypt	France	1
	Mangifera indica	Uganda	Luxembourg	1
	Psidium guajava	Egypt	France	1
	Psidium guajava	India	United Kingdom	1
	Psidium guajava	Taiwan	France	1
Zeugodacus cucurbitae	*Trichosanthes*	Sri Lanka	Switzerland	1

- **Wood**

Pest	Consignment	Type of commodity	Country of origin	Destination	nb
Aphelenchoides	Unspecified	Wood packaging (pallet)	Belarus	Germany	1
	Unspecified	Wood packaging (pallet)	China	Netherlands	1
Aphelenchus	Unspecified	Wood packaging (pallet)	Russia	Germany	1
Bostrichidae	Unspecified	Wood packaging (crate)	Indonesia	Germany	1
	Unspecified	Wood packaging (pallet)	Indonesia	Germany	1
Buprestidae, Cerambycidae	*Juglans nigra*	Wood and bark	USA	Italy	2
Buprestidae, Lepidoptera	*Juglans*	Wood and bark	USA	Italy	1
Bursaphelenchus mucronatus	Unspecified	Wood packaging (pallet)	Belarus	Italy	1
	Unspecified	Wood packaging (pallet)	Belarus	Latvia	1
	Unspecified	Wood packaging (pallet)	Belarus	Lithuania	1
Bursaphelenchus mucronatus, Rhabditis	Unspecified	Wood packaging (pallet)	Russia	Germany	1

Pest	Consignment	Type of commodity	Country of origin	Destination	nb
Bursaphelenchus mucronatus, Tylenchus	Unspecified	Wood packaging (pallet)	Belarus	Germany	1
Graphisurus fasciatus, Xyleborus affinis, Xylosandrus crassiusculus	*Juglans nigra*	Wood and bark	USA	Italy	1
Leptostylus transversus	*Juglans nigra*	Wood and bark	USA	Italy	1
Lyctus	Unspecified	Wood packaging (pallet)	Singapore	Germany	1
Sinoxylon	Unspecified	Wood packaging (crate)	India	Germany	1
	Unspecified	Wood packaging (pallet)	Mozambique	Germany	1
	Unspecified	Wood packaging material	Indonesia	Germany	1
Trichoferus campestris	Unspecified	Wood packaging (pallet)	China	Austria	1
	Unspecified	Wood packaging (pallet)	China	Belgium	1

Source: EPPO Secretariat (2020-03).

INTERNET
EUROPHYT. Annual and monthly reports of interceptions of harmful organisms in imported plants and other objects.
http://ec.europa.eu/food/plant/plant_health_biosecurity/europhyt/interceptions/index_en.htm

Additional key words: interceptions

2020/050 *Orgyia leucostigma* (Lepidoptera: Erebidae - white-marked tussock moth): addition to the EPPO Alert List

Why: *Orgyia leucostigma* was recently identified as a potential threat to Nordic coniferous forests when screening for potential pests associated with trade of ornamental plants, and the Nordic PRA Network has proposed its addition to the EPPO Alert List. The pest was assessed to potentially fulfil the criteria to become regulated as a quarantine pest in the EU and Norway. In a German express PRA (initiated due to an application for movement and use of the organism for research and breeding purposes) the phytosanitary risk of *O. leucostigma* for EU member states was considered high with high certainty.

Where: *Orgyia leucostigma* has a distribution limited to Eastern North America where it is native.
EPPO region: Absent. There are, however, unconfirmed records of the pest from the United Kingdom (England) on an Internet forum.
North America: Canada (Alberta, Manitoba, New Brunswick, Newfoundland, Nova Scotia, Ontario, Prince Edward Island, Quebec, Saskatchewan), USA (Alabama, Arkansas, Colorado, Connecticut, Delaware, Florida, Georgia, Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Kentucky, Louisiana, Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts, Michigan, Minnesota, Mississippi, Missouri, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New Mexico, New York, North Carolina, Ohio, Oklahoma, Pennsylvania, South Carolina, Tennessee, Texas, Vermont, Virginia, West Virginia, Wisconsin).

On which plants: *O. leucostigma* is very polyphagous, and its known hosts include both coniferous and deciduous trees, as well as herbaceous plants. *O. leucostigma* is primarily considered to be a pest on deciduous trees, but outbreaks have also occurred in coniferous stands. Potential relevant host genera of the pest in the EPPO region are *Abies, Acer, Aesculus, Alnus, Betula, Carpinus, Castanea, Cornus, Corylus, Fagus, Fraxinus, Larix, Malus, Picea, Pinus, Populus, Prunus, Pyrus, Quercus, Rosa, Rubus, Tilia, Ulmus*, *Vaccinium* and *Zea*.

Damage: Damage to plants are caused by the larvae that feed on leaves, typically first by chewing small holes, later, as larvae mature, by consuming almost the entire leaves. On conifers, larvae also feed on the tender bark of twigs causing malformation. Repeated years of defoliation on conifers may cause top-kill, significant wood loss and tree mortality.
O. leucostigma has one to three generations per year. *O. leucostigma* overwinters as eggs, which hatch in spring. Young larvae often spin down on silk threads and float on the breeze ('ballooning') to new host plants. Cocoons are formed in bark crevices or between branches, and adults emerge in a few weeks. Females lay eggs in masses. The larvae are 25 to 38 mm long. They have a bright red head with a yellowish body, a pair of upright pencil tufts of black hairs on the prothorax, and four white to yellowish brushlike tufts of hairs on the back toward the head. The adult male moths are grey-brown, with darker wavy bands and a white spot. The female is whitish-grey.
Pictures are available on Internet:
https://www.forestryimages.org/browse/subthumb.cfm?sub=197

Dissemination: The larvae spin a silk thread that they use to 'fly' with the wind. The females are short-winged and cannot fly and thus this 'ballooning' of the larvae is the main mode of natural dispersal of the pest. Over long distances, the pest can be transported as eggs on infested plant material including wood packaging material.

Pathways: Plants for planting, cut branches, wood and bark, wood packaging material? from areas where *O. leucostigma* occurs.

Possible risks: *O. leucostigma* is highly polyphagous and many of its host plants are widely planted and cultivated across the EPPO region. The economic impact of the pest in its native range is considered insignificant in general, but outbreaks have occurred in both deciduous and coniferous stands. An outbreak of the pest took place in 1988 in Nova Scotia and covered 1.4 million hectares, of which 60 000 hectares were treated against the pest at a cost of approximately six million Canadian dollars. The outbreaks normally last from two to four years and are typically terminated by natural antagonists of the pest, such as natural predators, parasitoids and diseases. If natural antagonists are lacking in the EPPO region, severe outbreaks and economic and environmental impacts are possible in natural and planted forests. Also, without insecticide treatments, severe defoliation could occur causing serious aesthetic damage to ornamental and Christmas trees. Infestations are recorded both in forests and in urban areas. Hairs of caterpillars are urticating and can cause allergic reactions.
The pest can be associated with plants for planting and other types of plant commodities and it is uncertain whether the current phytosanitary measures would prevent the introduction of the pest into the EPPO region. For example, plants for planting of some of the known host genera, such as *Buxus*, *Carpinus*, *Cupressus* and *Vaccinium*, can be imported to the EU according the EU plant health legislation.
The pest is present in climate types that are widely distributed in the EPPO region suggesting that it has the potential to establish throughout the EPPO region.

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EPPO RS 2020/050

Panel review date – Entry date 2020-03-

Additional key words: Alert List **Computer codes:** HEMELE

2020/051 First report of *Callidiellum rufipenne* in Sweden

Callidiellum rufipenne (Coleoptera: Cerambycidae – formerly EPPO Alert List) was observed for the first time in 2017 in Halland, Southern Sweden. In 2018 and 2019, several adult specimens (both males and females) were observed in one site (a gravel pit), in association with *Juniperus* spp. and other conifers (probably *Taxus* and *Thuja*, but this could not be verified). As in total, approximately 30 specimens could be observed, it is suspected that a reproducing population of *C. rufipenne* occurs in Sweden. In a Pest Risk Analysis conducted by the University of Agricultural Sciences, the possible damage that *C. rufipenne* could inflict to native host trees in Sweden was expected to be restricted to stressed *Juniperus communis* trees. Other non-native host plants (e.g. *Chamaecyparis* spp., *Thuja* spp.) are frequently grown in private gardens and parks, but it is expected that the insect would mainly attack stressed trees or dead trees.
The situation of *Callidiellum rufipenne* in Sweden can be described as follows: **Present, few occurrences (first found in 2017 in 1 site in Halland).**

Note: *C. rufipenne* originates in Asia and is an invasive pest of conifers, such as *Chamaecyparis, Cryptomeria, Cupressus, Juniperus* and *Thuja*. It has been introduced into the USA and Argentina, as well as in several European countries (Belgium, Croatia, France, Italy, Russia, Spain). There are still some uncertainties about the severity of damage it could cause to healthy trees, as it is generally considered as a secondary pest, mainly developing on weakened or dead trees.

Source: INTERNET
Sweden University of Agricultural Sciences. SLU Ris assessment of plant pests (2019-06-14). *Callidiellum rufipenne* a new longhorn beetle for Sweden – risks associated with a potential establishment.
https://www.slu.se/globalassets/ew/org/centrb/riskv/pub/callidiellum-rufipenne-14-juni-2019.pdf

Additional key words: new record **Computer codes:** CLLLRU, SE

2020/052 Update on the situation of *Meloidogyne graminicola* in Italy

In Italy, *Meloidogyne graminicola* (EPPO Alert List) was first reported in 2016 from Piemonte region (EPPO RS 2016/211) on rice (*Oryza sativa*) crops and wild plants growing in their vicinity, and in 2018 in rice fields in Lombardia (RS 2018/196).
The NPPO of Italy recently reported to the EPPO Secretariat the outcomes of the official surveys carried out in Piemonte. Inspections were made in rice fields in the demarcated area (including a buffer zone of 20 km^2 around the infested fields), as well as in other rice production areas in Piemonte. During both 2018 and 2019, a total of 806 rice fields were surveyed in the demarcated area. At the end of 2019, the infested area covered about 95 hectares (77 rice fields). Phytosanitary measures were applied and included prohibition of seeding rice in the infested fields, and requirements on crop management (i.e. flooding fields, and applying weed control and crop rotation). These measures were effective, as the population density of *M. graminicola* was strongly decreased. Complete eradication appears to be more complex due to difficulties in weed management and in flooding maintenance during the entire year. Out of 77 infested paddy fields, only 7 (detected in 2016) were symptomatic and yield reduction was only observed in one field (around 30-40% of the crop production).
Concerning the monitoring of rice fields outside the demarcated area conducted in 2017, 2018 and 2019, the rice production area was divided into 5 km x 5 km squares and 4-5 fields were sampled within each square. The total area surveyed covered about 110 000 hectares, in 111 municipalities. 300 soil samples were collected and tested in 2017, 370 in 2018 and 450 in 2019. *M. graminicola* was not detected in the surveys outside the demarcated area.
The pest status of *Meloidogyne graminicola* in Italy is officially declared as: **Present, in specific parts of the Member State, where host crop(s) are grown, under eradication.**

Source: NPPO of Italy (2020-03).

INTERNET
Lotte obbligatorie - Nematode galligeno del riso (*Meloidogyne graminicola*): http://www.regione.piemonte.it/agri/area_tecnico_scientifica/settore_fitosanitario/vigilanza/nematode.htm

Pictures: *Meloidogyne graminicola*. https://gd.eppo.int/taxon/MELGGC/photos

Additional key words: detailed record **Computer codes:** MELGGC, IT

2020/053 Distribution of *Candidatus* Liberibacter species associated with huanglongbing in Eastern Africa and first report of '*Candidatus* Liberibacter asiaticus' in Kenya

In Africa, huanglongbing is mainly associated with the bacterium '*Candidatus* Liberibacter africanus' (EPPO A1 List) principally transmitted by *Trioza erytreae* (EPPO A2 List). Several subspecies of '*Ca.* L. africanus' have been reported, including '*Ca.* L. africanus subsp. capensis', '*Ca.* L. africanus subsp. clausenae', '*Ca.* L. africanus subsp. teclae', '*Ca.* L. africanus subsp. vepridis', and '*Ca.* L. africanus subsp. zanthoxyli'. '*Ca.* L. asiaticus' (EPPO A1 List) was first reported in Africa in Ethiopa in 2010, and (another of its vectors) *Diaphorina citri* (EPPO A1 List) was first recorded in Tanzania and in Kenya in 2016 and 2017, respectively (EPPO RS 2017/166).
Surveys were conducted in Uganda (300 sites), Ethiopia (170 sites) and Kenya (9 sites) to assess the status of huanglongbing in these countries, identify the associated Liberibacter species in citrus plants and their psyllid vectors. In Ethiopia, huanglongbing symptoms were not seen at low altitudes (<1000 m; Oromia region) but were found at high altitudes (1 876–2 116 m; Gondar region). Symptoms were found in 26% of the Ugandan sites, 20.6% of the Ethiopian sites and 66.6% of the sites surveyed in Kenya. *Trioza erytreae* was found at 10 sites in Uganda and 7 sites in Ethiopia, but not in any of the sites in Kenya. Conversely, *D. citri* was found at all sites in Kenya at the time of the survey, but not in Uganda or Ethiopia. Sequencing showed that '*Ca.* L. africanus' and '*Ca.* L. africanus subsp. capensis' occurred together in the western region in Uganda, and that '*Ca.* L. africanus subsp. clausenae' is the only species found in the eastern region. In Ethiopia, '*Ca.* L. africanus subsp. clausenae' (75%), '*Ca.* L. asiaticus' (25%) and '*Ca.* L. africanus' (4%) occurred in the Gondar region while only '*Ca.* L. asiaticus' was found in Tigray and Wollo regions. In Kenya, '*Ca.* L. asiaticus' was present at the Coastal region, while '*Ca.* L. africanus subsp. clausenae'was found in the western region. This is the first report of '*Ca* Liberibacter asiaticus' in Kenya.
The situation of *'Candidatus* Liberibacter asiaticus' in Kenya can be described as follows: **Present, in the Coastal region.**

Source: Ajene IJ, Khami FM, van Asch B, Pietersen G, Seid N, Rwomushana I, Ombura FLO, Momanyi G, Finyange P, Rasowo BA, Tanga CM, Mohammed S, Ekesi S (2020) Distribution of *Candidatus* Liberibacter species in Eastern Africa, and the first report of *Candidatus* Liberibacter asiaticus in Kenya. *Science Reports* **10,** 3919 https://doi.org/10.1038/s41598-020-60712-0

Pictures: '*Candidatus* Liberibacter asiaticus'. https://gd.eppo.int/taxon/LIBEAS/photos

Additional key words: new record **Computer codes:** LIBEAS, LIBEAF, KE, UG

2020/054 First report of huanglongbing in El Salvador

In February 2020, the Minister of Agriculture and Livestock declared that El Salvador was in a state of phytosanitary emergency due to the presence of huanglongbing (associated with '*Candidatus* Liberibacter spp. – EPPO A1 List). The bacterial species detected in El Salvador was not specified. It is also noted that in El Salvador, the presence of one of the vectors of huanglongbing, *Diaphorina citri* (Hemiptera: Liviidae – EPPO A1 List) was first reported in 2009. According to laboratory records, the first samples testing positive for huanglongbing had been collected in July 2013, from 2 orchards near the border with Guatemala, in the municipality of Ahuachapán (department of Ahuachapán). Legal action is underway to determine why these initial findings were not officially reported earlier. Symptomatic plants were then observed in different orchards and gardens in urban and rural areas in the Western

and Central areas of the country. The departments of La Unión and Usulután are currently considered to be free from huanglongbing, and in the department of San Miguel, the disease has only been found in the municipality of Nuevo Edén de San Juan. Eradication measures are being taken, including destruction of infected trees, control of the vector (*D. citri*), use of certified material, restrictions on the movements of host plants, and communication campaigns.
The situation of huanglongbing ('*Candidatus* Liberibacter spp.') in El Salvador can be described as follows: **Present, only in some areas, under eradication.**

Source: INTERNET
Gobierno de El Salvador. Ministerio de Agricultura y Ganadería (2020-02-19) MAG declara emergencia fitosanitaria nacional por presencia de HLB, enfermedad de los citricos. http://www.mag.gob.sv/mag-declara-emergencia-fitosanitaria-nacional-por-presencia-de-hlb-enfermedad-de-los-citricos/

Pictures: '*Candidatus* Liberibacter asiaticus'. https://gd.eppo.int/taxon/LIBEAS/photos

Additional key words: new record **Computer codes:** DIAACI, LIBEAS, SV

2020/055 First report of *Xanthomonas phaseoli* pv. *phaseoli* and *Xanthomonas citri* pv. *fuscans* in Belgium

In late August 2019, symptoms resembling those of common bacterial blight* were observed on several varieties of bean plants (*Phaseolus vulgaris*) in a trial plot (varietal selection experiment) in Hesbaye, Belgium. Irregular brown spots surrounded by a yellow halo were observed on bean leaves. On pods, water-soaked spots developed into reddish-brown spots. Symptoms were scattered throughout the experimental plot (approx. 100 m^2), and harvesting was abandoned due to pod infection. Laboratory analysis (MALDI-TOF mass spectrometry, PCR and pathogenicity tests) revealed the presence of *Xanthomonas phaseoli* pv. *phaseoli* (EPPO A2 List, EU RNQP) and *Xanthomonas citri* pv. *fuscans* (EU RNQP) in diseased leaf samples. In the affected experimental plot, a portion of the plants were destroyed by burning and the rest were buried in the ground. The NPPO of Belgium has confirmed this first finding of common bean blight on its territory.
The pest status of both *Xanthomonas phaseoli* pv. *phaseoli* and *Xanthomonas citri* pv. *fuscans* in Belgium is officially declared as: **Present, locally; only in some areas where host crops are grown.**

* It has recently been shown that common bacterial blight of bean is caused by two distinct bacteria: *Xanthomonas phaseoli* pv. *phaseoli* and *Xanthomonas citri* pv. *fuscans* (= *X. fuscans* subsp. *fuscans*) (Constantin *et al.*, 2016).

Source: Bultreys A, Gheysen I (2020) First report of *Xanthomonas phaseoli* pv. *phaseoli* and *Xanthomonas citri* pv. *fuscans* causing common bacterial blight of bean in Belgium. *New Disease Reports* **41**, 6. http://dx.doi.org/10.5197/j.2044-0588.2020.041.006

Constantin EC, Cleenwerck I, Maes M, Baeyen S, Van Malderghem C, De Vos P, Cottyn B (2016) Genetic characterization of strains named as *Xanthomonas axonopodis pv. dieffenbachiae* leads to a taxonomic revision of the *X. axonopodis* species complex. *Plant Pathology* **65**, 792-806. http://dx.doi.org/10.1111/ppa.12461

NPPO of Belgium (2020-02).

Pictures: *Xanthomonas phaseoli* pv. *phaseoli*. https://gd.eppo.int/taxon/XANTPH/photos

Additional key words: new record **Computer codes:** XANTPH, XANTFF, BE

2020/056 First reports of *Lecanosticta acicola* in Belarus and Poland

The presence of *Lecanosticta acicola* (EPPO A2 List) has recently been reported for the first time from Belarus and Poland.

- **Belarus**

During surveys conducted in Belarus from 2016 to 2019, *L. acicola* has been identified on three pine species in the botanical garden of Vitebsk (Northern part of the country near Russia). It is considered that this fungus could represent a serious threat to pine forests in Belarus.
The situation of *Lecanosticta acicola* in Belarus can be described as follows: **Present, only in some areas (botanical garden of Vitebsk).**

- **Poland**

During summer 2017, samples of 2-year-old needles showing characteristic symptoms of brown spot needle blight were collected from the lower branches of 20 *Pinus mugo* trees. These trees were growing in a forest stand near Ustka, in the Baltic Sea coastal area of Poland. The identity of the fungus was confirmed by using morphological and molecular (real-time PCR and sequencing) methods. In the infected area, it was observed that the disease seemed to spread from the coast into the forest infecting both young (<30 years old) and old (>60 years old) *P. mugo* trees.
The situation of *Lecanosticta acicola* in Poland can be described as follows: **Present, only in some areas (first found in 2017 on *Pinus mugo*, near Ustka).**

Source: Golovchenko LA, Dishuk NG, Panteleev SV, Baranov YU (2020) [A new invasive species, *Mycosphaerella dearnessii*, in Belarus]. *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences of Belarus. Biological series* **65**(1), 98-105 (abst.) (in Russian).

Raitelaitytė K, Markovskaja S, Paulauskas A, Hsiang T, Oszako T (2020) First molecular detection of *Lecanosticta acicola* from Poland on *Pinus mugo*. *Forest Pathology*, e12589. https://doi.org/10.1111/efp.12589

Pictures: *Lecanosticta acicola*. https://gd.eppo.int/taxon/SCIRAC/photos

Additional key words: new record **Computer codes:** SCIRAC, BY, PL

2020/057 *Tomato ringspot virus* is absent from Serbia

The NPPO of Serbia recently confirmed the absence of *Tomato ringspot virus* (*Nepovirus*, ToRSV – EPPO A2 List) from its territory. In the 1970s, the presence of ToRSV had been reported by Jordović *et al.* (1973) on raspberry (*Rubus idaeus*). However, the NPPO explained that the virus had been detected on two imported varieties (cvs. Geneva and Milton) which were destroyed after the detection of ToRSV, and thus never introduced into the raspberry production of Serbia. Subsequent surveys carried out in raspberries, blueberries (*Vaccinium* spp.), grapevine (*Vitis* spp.) and strawberry (*Fragaria ananassa*) crops did not detect ToRSV. According to the literature, there was another record of ToRSV made by Mijatović *et al.*

(2000) on tomato (*Solanum lycopersicum*). The NPPO explained that in this study, the identity of the virus had not been confirmed by other identification methods which introduces uncertainty in the validity of these results. During a recent survey carried out on 3 220 tomato samples collected from 56 localities and 18 districts of Serbia, ToRSV was not detected (Nikolić *et al.*, 2018). The NPPO of Serbia concluded that recent studies and surveys have confirmed the absence of ToRSV from its territory.
The pest status of *Tomato ringspot virus* in Serbia is officially declared as: **Absent: confirmed by survey.**

Source: NPPO of Serbia (2020-02).

Jordović M, Ranković M, Dimitrijević B (1973) Occurrence of tomato ringspot virus in Yugoslavia. *Jugoslovensko Vocarstvo* **7**(25/26), 163-169.
Mijatović M, Zdravković J, Marković Z, Obradović A (2000) Disease intensity of some tomato viruses in Serbia. *Acta Physiologiae Plantarum* **22**(3), 332-335.
Nikolić D, Vučurović A, Stanković I, Radović N, Zečević K, Bulajić A, Krstić B (2018) Viruses affecting tomato crops in Serbia. *European Journal of Plant Pathology* **152**, 225-235.

Pictures: *Tomato ringspot virus*. https://gd.eppo.int/taxon/TORSV0/photos

Additional key words: absence **Computer codes:** TORSV0, RS

2020/058 *Tobacco ringspot virus* is absent from Serbia

The NPPO of Serbia recently confirmed the absence of *Tobacco ringspot virus* (*Nepovirus*, TRSV – EPPO A2 List) from its territory. The record of TRSV in Yugoslavia appearing in the EPPO datasheet published in 1997 was in fact a misinterpretation of a paper from Mickovksi (1969) which described the detection of another virus (*Tomato spotted wilt virus*) in tobacco. In addition, all subsequent studies (Dukić *et al.*, 2006; Jevremović *et al.*, 2016; Stanković *et al.*, 2011) focussing on tobacco viruses did not detect TRSV in Serbia.
The pest status of *Tobacco ringspot virus* in Serbia is officially declared as: **Absent: pest records invalid.**

Source: NPPO of Serbia (2020-02).

Mickovski J (1969) [Tomato spotted wilt virus of tobacco in Yugoslavia - tobacco ringspot]. *Zastita Bilja* **20**, 203-214.

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Dukić N, Bulajić A, Berenji J, Đekić I, Duduk B, Krstić B (2006) [Presence and distribution of tobacco viruses in Serbia]. *Pestic. Phytomed.* (Belgrade) **21**, 205-214.
Jevremović D, Paunović S, Leposavić A (2016) Incidence of viruses in highbush blueberry (*Vaccinium corymbosum* L.) in Serbia. *Pestic. Phytomed.* (Belgrade) **31**, 45–50.
Stanković I, Bulajić A, Vučurović A, Ristić D, Milojević K, Berenji J, Krstić B (2011) Status of tobacco viruses in Serbia and molecular characterization of *Tomato spotted wilt virus* isolates. *Acta Virologica* **55**, 337-347.

Pictures: *Tobacco ringspot virus*. https://gd.eppo.int/taxon/TRSV00/photos

Additional key words: absence, invalid record **Computer codes:** TRSV00, RS

2020/059 First report of *Gymnocoronis spilanthoides* in the Netherlands

Gymnocoronis spilanthoides (Asteraceae: EPPO A2 List) is a well-known plant in western Europe where it is appreciated for its easy vigorous growth as an aquarium plant, or for its striking fragrant flowers as a pond plant. Native to South America, *G. spilanthoides* is an invasive alien species in Australia, New Zealand, Japan, China and Taiwan. Within the EPPO region, *G. spilanthoides* has been recorded in Hungary in canals connected to thermally influenced waters and in a canal in Italy (north-western Lombardy region). In the Netherlands, an unknown aquatic plant species was reported in the urban waterway in Vleuten in 2019 via mobile applications. This triggered a verification action by the NPPO in the Netherlands in accordance with the established early warning protocol for invasive alien species. On September 2019, the identity of the species was confirmed on site (coll. Valkenburg 4038 (L, WAGPD), Vleuten, 20 IX 2019) and the size and extent of the infestation assessed. Based on the size and distribution of the plants along the waterway as well as Google street view images from 2018 (where the invaded population could be clearly seen due to the distinctive green colour of the foliage compared to the *Phragmites* species in the area) it was concluded that *G. spilanthoides* has been present at this site for several years, and can survive under the Dutch climate. Eradication measures have been taken. This included washing the root system and using a mesh to filter and retain the root fragments to avoid contamination of the water, along with the subsequent removal of plant material to a certified composting facility. The site will be monitored over the coming years to control any regrowth.

Source: NPPO of the Netherlands (2020-03).
EPPO-Q-bank: https://qbank.eppo.int/plants/taxon/GYNSP/specimens

Photos: *Gymnocoronis spilanthoides*. https://gd.eppo.int/taxon/GYNSP/photos

Additional key words: new record **Computer codes:** GYNSP, NL

2020/060 First report of *Cornus alternifolia* and *Cornus amomum* in Lithuania

In Lithuania, 90 woody alien species have been recorded and 6 are legally recognised as invasive alien species. *Cornus alternifolia* and *Cornus amomum* (Cornaceae) are native to eastern North America. *C. alternifolia* is distributed from Quebec to Ontario to the southern part of the United States and grows as a shrub or a tree up to 12 m tall. *C. amomum* is naturally distributed from Maine to Florida and grows as a shrub up to 5 m tall. Both species were introduced into Lithuania in the first half of the 19th century. Within the EPPO region, *C. alternifolia* has been recorded as a casual alien species in Slovakia while *C. amomum* has not been reported to-date. In 2019, *C. alternifolia* was found in the wild in an alluvial forest habitat in Vilnius (southeastern Lithuania) where the population occurred over an area of approximately 0.5 ha. The population consisted of approximately 900 individuals ranging in height (approximately 100 from 1 m to 3.5 m and 300 individuals from 0.5 m to 1 m). The number of seedlings and small individuals (less than 0.5 m in height) was estimated around 500 individuals. *C. amomum* was first observed in the natural environment in Northern Lithuania in the district of Šiauliai on the banks of the Bubiai Water Reservoir. Four mature individuals with unripe fruit and several younger individuals were dispersed over 120 m^2. The authors highlight that the probable occurrence of both species in the natural habitats is a result of the fruit being eaten by birds and subsequently spread. The authors recommend that both species should be monitored and where necessary eradicated.

Source: Petrulaitis L, Gudžinskas Z (2020) The first records of two alien woody species, *Cornus alternifolia* and *Cornus amomum*, in Lithuania. *BioInvasions Records* **9** (in press).

Additional key words: invasive alien plants **Computer codes**: CRWAM, CRWAT, LT

2020/061 *Pistia stratiotes* in Morocco

Pistia stratiotes (Araceae: EPPO A2 List) is a free-floating perennial freshwater macrophyte native to South America. The species is invasive in many regions of the world including Africa, Asia, Central America and the Caribbean, North America, and Oceania. Within the EPPO region, *P. stratiotes* has been widely introduced as an ornamental species and is established in the Mediterranean region (RS 2019/127). *P. stratiotes* was first reported in Morocco in the natural environment around 2013 (RS 2013/156). During field surveys carried out during December 2018 – April 2019 in north central Morocco (Al Jawahir Wadi) *P. stratiotes* populations were sampled. Here the species forms monospecific populations on slow moving water surfaces. In upstream areas, *P. stratiotes* forms permanent populations which can act as sources for further spread into uninvaded areas. The invasion risk of the species into local wetlands is increased in this area by water management, and wetland habitat modification and urbanisation. Measures should be implemented to limit the expansion of the population.

Source: Khbbach A, Libiad M, Ennabili A (2019) Invasion increasing risk of Al Jawahir Wadi lentic habitats by *Pistia stratiotes* L. (North-Central Morocco). *Botanica Complutensi*, **43**, 97-107.

Photos: *Pistia stratiotes*. https://gd.eppo.int/taxon/PIIST/photos

Additional key words: invasive alien plants, detailed record **Computer codes:** PIIST MA

2020/062 *Pistia stratiotes* in Slovenia

Pistia stratiotes (Araceae: EPPO A2 List) is a popular ornamental plant in aquaria and gardens ponds. However, since its introduction into the EPPO region, the species has shown invasive tendencies and it can form mats over waterbodies that can negatively affect native biological diversity. *P. stratiotes* was first observed in an oxbow lake (a thermal water body) along the Sava River in Southeast Slovenia in 2001, and each spring, the species spreads to cover almost the whole surface of the lake. When comparing historic indigenous macrophyte records and comparing these to surveys conducted in 2011, only a third of previously recorded indigenous species were identified. However, these species were only recorded in areas (6 %) where *P. stratiotes* did not occur on the lake. Three species that disappeared are listed on the Red data list: *Myriophyllum spicatum* (vulnerable) and *Najas marina* (vulnerable) and *Potamogeton trichoides* (endangered). With climate change, other areas within the EPPO region may become suitable for the establishment of *P. stratiotes* which will threaten indigneous species. Control and management of the species is essential to prevent to loss of native biodiversity.

Source: Jaklič M, Koren Š, Jogan N (2020) Alien water lettuce (*Pistia stratiotes* L.) outcompeted native macrophytes and altered the ecological conditions of a Sava oxbow lake (SE Slovenia). *Acta Botanica Croatica*, DOI: 10.37427/botcro-2020-009.

Photos: *Pistia stratiotes*. https://gd.eppo.int/taxon/PIIST/photos

Additional key words: invasive alien plants **Computer codes:** PIIST SI

2020/063 The impact of *Phytolacca americana* on ground-dwelling forest arthropods

Phytolacca americana is native to North America and widespread within the EPPO region. Within the EPPO region, the species occurs in clear-cut areas, along hedgerows and wasteland (e.g. in Switzerland) along field margins, canals and coastal areas. The species is found in forest plantations in Hungary and in disturbed woodlands. In France, the species can be found in riparian habitats, clearings and forest edges, near dwellings, in wastelands, railway stations, old quarries, rubble, and corn crops. A study was conducted in three forest locations in the southern part of the Rhineland-Palatinate (upper Rhine Valley), Germany. At each location, six paired plots were selected where each pair consisted of one site invaded by *P. americana* and one site which is free from the plant (as a control). In each site, three pitfall traps were installed in the ground between July and September 2016. The traps were emptied every two weeks and the ground dwelling arthropods were sorted into taxonomic groups. Additionally, the percentage cover of native plants and *P. americana* was estimated at each site. In total, over 56 000 ground dwelling arthropods were identified during the course of the study. When comparing arthropod numbers with the percentage cover of vegetation, it was clear that *P. americana* significantly influenced the arthropod community. Carabid density was significantly lower in invaded sites compared to native sites. Acari showed a higher abundance in invaded sites compared to uninvaded and in contrast, the abundance of the cricket *Nemobius sylvestris* was negatively affected by *P. americana*. Future studies could be conducted to evaluate the potential impact on ecosystem functioning, for example litter decomposition of *P. americana* especially as the leaves contain toxins.

Source: Schirmel J (2020) Differential effects of American pokeweed (*Phytolacca americana)* invasion on ground-dwelling forest arthropods in southwest Germany. *Biological Invasions* **22,** 1289-1298.

Photos: *Phytolacca americana*. https://gd.eppo.int/taxon/PHTAM/photos

Additional key words: invasive alien plants **Computer codes: PHTAM,** DE

2020/064 Postponed: 16th International Symposium on Aquatic Plants Aarhus, Denmark

The 16th International Symposium on Aquatic Plants which was due to take place in Aarhus (Denmark) between 15th – 19th June 2020 has been postponed to the 14th – 18th June 2021.

Source: Conference website: http://www.internationalaquaticplantsgroup.com/index.html

Additional key words: conference, invasive alien plants **Computer codes:** DK