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2024/181 EPPO has elected its new Director-General

During the last Council session held in Baku (AZ), on the 24th-25th of September 2024, EPPO member countries elected Ms Olga Lavrentjeva as the new Director-General of EPPO. She will take up her duties on the 1st of January 2025.

Ms Lavrentjeva (Estonia) has more than 20 years of experience in plant health at national and international levels. She has participated in several development cooperation projects to strengthen phytosanitary implementation and control in national administrations of EPPO member countries. She has led the IPPC Implementation and Capacity Development Committee and has actively participated in the development of plant health policies.

Council delegates warmly thanked Mr Nico Horn (current EPPO Director-General) for his dedication to the Organization and wished him a happy retirement at the end of the year.

Source: EPPO Secretariat (2024-09).

Additional key words: EPPO

2024/182 New additions to the EPPO A1 and A2 Lists

In September 2024, the EPPO Council approved the following changes made to the EPPO A1 and A2 Lists of pests recommended for regulation as quarantine pests.

Additions to the A1 List (pests absent from the EPPO region)

- *Chloridea virescens* (Lepidoptera: Noctuidae)

Additions to the A2 List (pests locally present in the EPPO region)

- *Agrilus mali* (Coleoptera: Buprestidae)
- *Fusarium oxysporum* f.sp. *cubense* Tropical race 4 (Hypocreales: Nectriaceae)
- *Hakea decurrens* subsp. *physocarpa* (Proteaceae)
- *Toumeyella parvicornis* (Hemiptera: Coccidae)
- *Zizania latifolia* (Poaceae)

For each individual pest, PRA documents and datasheets have been prepared (or are under development) and will be available in due course in the EPPO Global Database (<https://gd.eppo.int>) and the EPPO Platform on PRAs (<https://pra.eppo.int/>).

Source: EPPO Secretariat 2024-09).

Pictures *Agrilus mali*. <https://gd.eppo.int/taxon/AGRLMA/photos>
Chloridea virescens. <https://gd.eppo.int/taxon/HELIVI/photos>
Fusarium oxysporum f. sp. *cubense* Tropical race 4.
<https://gd.eppo.int/taxon/FUSAC4/photos>
Toumeyella parvicornis. <https://gd.eppo.int/taxon/TOUMPA/photos>
Zizania latifolia. <https://gd.eppo.int/taxon/ZIZLA/photos>

Additional key words: EPPO Lists

Computer codes: AGRLMA, FUSAC4, HELIVI, HKADF, TOUMPA, ZIZLA

2024/183 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 8.

- **New records**

Thrips palmi (Thysanoptera: Thripidae - EPPO A1 List) is reported for the first time from Peru. It was reported in August 2024 from the Amazonas Region (Bagua District). Official measures are applied to eradicate the pest (IPPC, 2024).

The pest status of *Thrips palmi* in Peru is officially declared as: **Present: transient.**

The NPPO of the United Kingdom recently informed the EPPO Secretariat that a breeding population of *Halyomorpha halys* (Hemiptera: Pentatomidae - formerly EPPO Alert List) was found for the first time on its territory. It is noted that *H. halys* had been intercepted in the United Kingdom since 2010, but surveys in the wider environment only found adult specimens (no eggs or juveniles). The breeding population has been observed in one glasshouse in Southeastern England. The climate in the United Kingdom is thought to be generally unsuitable for the establishment of the pest outdoors, but this finding shows that it can establish under protected conditions (NPPO of the United Kingdom, 2024).

The pest status of *Halyomorpha halys* in the United Kingdom is officially declared as: **Present: not widely distributed and not under official control.**

- **Detailed records**

In Brazil, *Plesiommata corniculata* (Hemiptera: Cicadellidae, EU A1 List) is a known vector of *Xylella fastidiosa* (EPPO A2 List) which is the causal agent of citrus variegated chlorosis. During surveys conducted in citrus orchards in 2022-2023, it was first reported from the state of Amazonas (Moreno Franco *et al.*, 2024).

In Peru, citrus canker caused by *Xanthomonas citri* pv. *citri* (EPPO A1 List) was first reported from Peru in March 2023 from the department of Ucayali. As of August 2024, it has also been recorded in the neighbouring department of Loreto (IPPC, 2024).

The pest status of *Xanthomonas citri* pv. *citri* in Peru is officially declared as: **Present: not widely distributed and under official control.**

- **Host plants**

Studies conducted in New York state (US) have confirmed that apple trees (*Malus domestica*) are a host plant of *Anisandrus maiche* (Coleoptera: Curculionidae: Scolytinae). During winter 2024, potted apple trees showing visible signs of ambrosia beetle attacks (i.e. entry/exit holes) were dissected. The presence of galleries with *A. maiche* larvae (and a few adults), and the fungal symbiont (*Ambrosiella cleistominuta*) could be observed. Interestingly, these potted apple trees were also naturally infected by *Erwinia amylovora*, and it is known that adults of *A. maiche* are attracted to the combination of ethanol and isoamyl alcohol which have both been reported as primary components of the volatile blend emitted by *E. amylovora* (Tobin *et al.*, 2024).

During studies conducted in the Republic of Korea on the use of a non-invasive method (sonic tomography) to assess internal injuries caused by wood borers on urban trees, it was shown that *Quercus palustris* (pin oak) can be infested by *Massicus raddei* (Lee *et al.*, 2024). In an

Express PRA (EPPO, 2018), it had been noted that all known hosts of *M. raddei* were of Asian origin. There is now evidence that *Q. palustris*, a species native to North-Eastern USA and planted in the EPPO region (mainly as an ornamental), can also be attacked by this insect.

- Sources:**
- EPPO (2018) Pest risk analysis for *Massicus raddei*. EPPO, Paris. Available at <https://gd.eppo.int/taxon/MALLRA/documents>
 - IPPC website. Official Pest Reports. Peru (PER-05/2 of 2024-08-24) Reporte de *Thrips palmi* - Perú. <https://www.ippc.int/fr/countries/peru/pestreports/2024/08/reporte-de-thrips-palmi-peru/>
 - IPPC website. Official Pest Reports. Peru (PER-03/3 of 2024-08-24) Actualización de la condición de *Xanthomonas citri* pv. *citri* en Perú. <https://www.ippc.int/fr/countries/peru/pestreports/2024/08/actualizacion-de-la-condicion-de-xanthomonas-citri-subsp-citri-en-peru/>
 - Lee BJ, Son S, Jung JK, Park Y (2024) Non-invasive assessment of the internal condition of urban trees infested by two cerambycid beetles, *Aromia bungii* and *Massicus raddei*, using sonic tomography. *Forests* 15(7), 1231. <https://doi.org/10.3390/f15071231>
 - Moreno Franco PV, Froza JA, Pecky NH, Lopes JRS, Lima JLdSB, Acioli ANS (2024) New records of sharpshooters (Hemiptera, Cicadellidae, Cicadellinae) in citrus orchards in Amazonas State, Brazil. *Insects* 15, 649. 13 pp. <https://doi.org/10.3390/insects15090649>
 - NPPO of the United Kingdom (2024-09).
 - Tobin KN, Moore ME, Lizarraga S, Petzoldt J, Reese C, Lovett B, Rivera MJ (2024) First report of *Anisandrus maiche* (Coleoptera: Curculionidae: Scolytinae) infesting apple trees. *Zootaxa* 5506(2), 261-271.

Additional key words: detailed record, host plants, new record, new pest, taxonomy

Computer codes: ANIDMA, HALYHA, MALLRA, PLSOCO, THRIPL, XANTCI, BR, GB, KR, PE, US

2024/184 New and revised dynamic EPPO datasheets are available in the EPPO Global Database

Since March 2020, the EPPO Secretariat has been revising the EPPO datasheets on pests recommended for regulation and creating new datasheets. This project has been supported by an EU grant agreement over a 4.5 year period which ended in September 2024. In this framework, a list of 319 pests had been agreed between the European Commission and EPPO. Since the previous report (EPPO RS 2024/165), the following new and revised EPPO datasheets have been published in the EPPO Global Database, and are the last datasheets prepared in the framework of this EU/EPPO project:

- *Cronartium fusiforme*. <https://gd.eppo.int/taxon/CRONFU/datasheet>
- *Cronartium quercuum*. <https://gd.eppo.int/taxon/CRONQU/datasheet>
- Rose rosette virus (*Emaravirus rosae*). <https://gd.eppo.int/taxon/RRV000/datasheet>

The EPPO Secretariat would like to thank the European Commission for this fruitful collaboration and all the authors (more than 170 experts from all over the world) who produced the 319 datasheets to enable us to complete this successful project.

Source: EPPO Secretariat (2024-09).

Additional key words: publication

Computer codes: CRONFU, CRONQU, RRV000

2024/185 Changes made to the list of regulated pests of Great Britain

The following changes were made to the list of regulated pests of Great Britain (England, Scotland and Wales) since 2020. It may be recalled that Northern Ireland applies EU regulations. The list has been updated in the EPPO Global Database: <https://gd.eppo.int/country/GB/regulated>.

- **List of quarantine pests - Part A (pests not known to occur in Great Britain):**

Additions

Name	Year added	EPPO List
<i>Agrilus bilineatus</i>	2021	A2 List
<i>Agrilus fleischeri</i>	2021	A2 List
<i>Neocerambyx raddei</i>	2021	A1 List
<i>Prodiplosis longifila</i>	2021	A1 List
<i>Eotetranychus sexmaculatus</i>	2022	
<i>Platypus apicalis</i>	2022	
<i>Scolytus morawitzi</i>	2022	A2 List
<i>Citrus exocortis viroid</i>	2023	
<i>Columnea latent viroid</i>	2023	
<i>Pepper chat fruit viroid</i>	2023	
<i>Tomato planta macho viroid</i>	2023	
Chilli veinal mottle virus (<i>Potyvirus capsivenamaculae</i> , ChiVMV)	2024	
<i>Chrysobothris femorata</i>	2024	A1 List
<i>Chrysobothris mali</i>	2024	A1 List
<i>Lycorma delicatula</i>	2024	A1 List

Deletions

Name	Year deleted	EPPO List
<i>Haplaxius crudus</i>	2023	
<i>Coconut lethal yellowing phytoplasma</i>	2023	A1 List
Cowpea mild mottle virus (<i>Carlavirus vignae</i> , CPMMV)	2023	

- **List of quarantine pests - Part B (pests known to occur in Great Britain)**

Addition

Name	Year added	EPPO List
<i>Thaumetopoea processionea</i>	2022	

- **List of provisional quarantine pests for Great Britain**

Additions

Name	Year added	EPPO List
<i>Coleosporium asterum</i>	2021	
<i>Coleosporium eupatorii</i>	2021	
<i>Coleosporium phellodendri</i>	2021	Alert list (formerly)
<i>Dendrolimus spectabilis</i>	2021	Alert list (formerly)
<i>Thecodiplosis japonensis</i>	2021	Alert list (formerly)
<i>Agrilus horni</i>	2022	
<i>Anisandrus maiche</i>	2022	

Name	Year added	EPPO List
<i>Candidatus Phytoplasma fraxini</i>	2022	
<i>Chrysodeixis includens</i>	2022	
<i>Chrysophtharta bimaculata</i>	2022	Alert list (formerly)
<i>Diaporthe phaseolorum</i> var. <i>sojae</i>	2022	A1/A2 (formerly)
<i>Endoclita excrescens</i>	2022	
<i>Ennomos subsignarius</i>	2022	
<i>Euzophera semifuneralis</i>	2022	
Groundnut bud necrosis virus (<i>Orthotospovirus arachinecrosis</i> , GBNV)	2022	
Groundnut ringspot virus (<i>Orthotospovirus arachianuli</i> , GRSV)	2022	
<i>Heterobasidion occidentale</i>	2022	
<i>Hyalesthes obsoletus</i>	2022	
<i>Lambdina fiscellaria</i>	2022	Alert list
<i>Lepidosaphes ussuriensis</i>	2022	A2 List
<i>Lymantria mathura</i>	2022	A2 List
<i>Malacosoma americanum</i>	2022	A1 List
<i>Malacosoma disstria</i>	2022	A1 List
<i>Meloidogyne arenaria</i>	2022	
<i>Meloidogyne enterolobii</i>	2022	A2 List
<i>Meloidogyne javanica</i>	2022	
<i>Naupactus xanthographus</i>	2022	A1 List
<i>Neodiprion abietis</i>	2022	Alert list (formerly)
<i>Orchidophilus</i> spp.	2022	
<i>Pseudomonas avellanae</i>	2022	
<i>Trirachys sartus</i>	2022	A2 List
<i>Xiphinema index</i>	2022	
<i>Coleosporium paederiae</i>	2023	
<i>Crisicoccus pini</i>	2023	A2 List
<i>Dendrolimus superans</i>	2023	A2 List
<i>Platypus quercivorus</i>	2023	
<i>Raffaelea lauricola</i>	2023	Alert list
<i>Raffaelea quercivora</i>	2023	Alert list (formerly)
<i>Sirex nitobei</i>	2023	
<i>Urocerus japonicus</i>	2023	
<i>Agrilus mali</i>	2024 (came into force in November)	A1 List
<i>Lonsdalea populi</i>	2024 (came into force in November)	
<i>Orgyia leucostigma</i>	2024 (came into force in November)	A1 List

- List of regulated non-quarantine pests for Great Britain

Addition

Name	Year added	EPPO List
<i>Thekopsora minima</i>	2022	A2 List

Deletions

Name	Year deleted	EPPO List
<i>Apricot latent virus</i>	2021	
Aucuba mosaic agent and blackcurrant yellows agent combined	2021	

Name	Year deleted	EPPO List
<i>Epidiaspis leperii</i>	2021	
<i>Heterodera fici</i>	2021	
<i>Pseudomonas savastanoi</i> pv. <i>savastanoi</i>	2021	
<i>Diaporthe caulivora</i>	2022	A1/A2 (formerly)

Source: The Phytosanitary Conditions (Amendment) Regulations 2024.
<https://www.legislation.gov.uk/uksi/2024/610/>

Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) 2019/2072 of 28 November 2019 establishing uniform conditions for the implementation of Regulation (EU) 2016/2031 of the European Parliament and the Council, as regards protective measures against pests of plants, and repealing Commission Regulation (EC) No 690/2008 and amending Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) 2018/2019
<https://www.legislation.gov.uk/eur/2019/2072>

Additional key words: regulation

Computer codes: GB

2024/186 EPPO/NEPPO Contingency Exercise Workshop - *Xylella fastidiosa* (Hammamet, TN, 2025-05-26/28): first announcement

An EPPO/NEPPO Contingency Exercise Workshop for a pest outbreak will be held on 2025-05-26/28 in Hammamet, Tunisia. This workshop is organised in collaboration with the FAO Sub-Regional Office Tunisia, the FAO Regional Office Cairo, the European Food Safety Authority (EFSA) and the BeXyl Beyond Xylella Project.

The purposes of the workshop will be to:

1. Simulate the experience of a plant health emergency, using as a scenario a finding of *Xylella fastidiosa*;
2. Experiment with responses to an emergency;
3. Test whether relevant contingency plans are available and fit for purpose;
4. Test availability and relevance of other resources;
5. Provide experience in communicating key messages during an emergency;
6. Learn why and how to develop contingency plans;
7. Learn how to carry out an emergency response exercise.

Please indicate your interest in attending this workshop by Friday 29th November 2024 using the following link: <http://meeting.eppo.int/index.php/U8472>

For more information, consult our webpage:

https://www.eppo.int/MEETINGS/2025_meetings/wk_contingency_workshop

Source: EPPO Secretariat (2024-09).

Additional key words: conference

Computer codes: XYLEFA

2024/187 *Bactrocera dorsalis* does not occur in Greece

In Greece, *Bactrocera dorsalis* (Diptera: Tephritidae - EPPO A1 List) was first reported in June 2024 (EPPO RS 2024/148). One single adult male had been caught in a trap in the urban area of Central Athens (Attica region) during the official national monitoring programme for fruit flies. Following this initial finding, a delimiting survey was conducted: a dense network of traps (both with methyl eugenol attractant and food attractant) was established in an area of 1 km² around the point of capture. As of end of August 2024, no other specimens of *B. dorsalis* were caught. The NPPO of Greece considers that *B. dorsalis* is absent from its territory.

The pest status of *Bactrocera dorsalis* in Greece is officially declared as: **Absent, confirmed by official surveys.**

Source: NPPO of Greece (2024-08).

Pictures *Bactrocera dorsalis*. <https://gd.eppo.int/taxon/DACUDO/photos>

Additional key words: absence

Computer codes: DACUDO, GR

2024/188 Update on the situation of *Bactrocera dorsalis* in France

In France *Bactrocera dorsalis* (Diptera: Tephritidae - EPPO A1 List) is regularly caught in traps as part of the official survey for fruit flies near points of entry but is not considered established (EPPO RS 2019/227, RS 2021/194, RS 2022/189, RS 2023/038).

As no other specimens were caught during surveillance implemented following the findings in 2022 in Alsace, Auvergne-Rhône-Alpes and Ile-de-France regions (EPPO RS 2023/038), the NPPO considers that these earlier findings of the pest were probably due to the entry of infested exotic fruits, and were not outbreaks.

The NPPO of France recently informed the EPPO Secretariat of several isolated findings:

- In Var department (Provence-Alpes-Côte d’Azur region): 2 adults (male) of *B. dorsalis* were caught in two different traps in two municipalities in October 2022, as well as 1 adult in October 2023. All traps were in agricultural sites but located near facilities handling fresh fruit and vegetables. Further inspection and additional trapping did not detect further specimens.
- In Alpes-Maritimes department (Provence-Alpes-Côte d’Azur region): in October 2023, 1 adult was caught in the city of Cannes in a peach orchard, as well as 3 adults in a *Citrus x clementina* orchard in another municipality. Reinforced surveillance is being conducted in 2024.

The pest status of *Bactrocera dorsalis*. in France is officially declared as: **Transient, isolated findings in traps near points of entry, not linked to an outbreak.**

Source: NPPO of France (2024-07).

Pictures *Bactrocera dorsalis*. <https://gd.eppo.int/taxon/DACUDO/photos>

Additional key words: incursion, absence

Computer codes: DACUDO, FR

2024/189 First report of *Euwallacea fornicatus sensu lato* in Spain

The NPPO of Spain recently informed the EPPO Secretariat of the first finding of *Euwallacea fornicatus sensu lato* (Coleoptera: Curculionidae: Scolytinae - EPPO A2 List) on its territory. In the framework of the Multiannual Survey Program for quarantine pests, on the 1st of July 2024, three adults were collected in three traps located in the municipality of Motril (Granada province, Andalucía). The identification of the insects as *Euwallacea fornicatus sensu lato* was confirmed by the Spanish Reference Laboratory in early August 2024. Eradication measures will be taken in accordance with Regulation 2016/2031. They will include mass trapping using white traps baited with attractants. Surveillance will be intensified.

The pest status of *Euwallacea fornicatus sensu lato* in Spain is officially declared as: **Transient, actionable, under eradication.**

Source: NPPO of Spain (2024-08).

Pictures *Euwallacea fornicatus sensu lato*. <https://gd.eppo.int/taxon/XYLBF0/photos>

Additional key words: new record

Computer codes: XYLBF0, ES

2024/190 First report of *Scaphoideus titanus* in Germany

The NPPO of Germany recently informed the EPPO Secretariat of the first report of *Scaphoideus titanus* (Hemiptera: Cicadellidae - main vector of flavescence dorée) on its territory.

In August 2024, adult specimens of *S. titanus* were caught on yellow sticky traps belonging to the Staatliches Weinbauinstitut Freiburg (WBI, Baden-Württemberg) in two different vineyards (*Vitis vinifera*) located 4 km apart. The traps were put into place as part of the national survey programme. The identity of the pest was confirmed by the official laboratory, Landwirtschaftliches Technologiezentrum Augustenberg in Karlsruhe by morphological identification. As *S. titanus* is a vector of Grapevine flavescence dorée phytoplasma (EPPO A2 List), insect specimens were tested for the phytoplasma and found to be negative. Additional traps were installed at both locations to investigate the extent of the outbreak. In total, 225 adult specimens of *S. titanus* were caught on 21 yellow sticky traps. An intensified survey including traps and visual inspections will be carried out until the end of September 2024, as well as in the seasons 2025 and 2026.

The pest status of *Scaphoideus titanus* in Germany is officially declared: **Present, in specific parts of the Member State, where host crop(s) are grown.**

Source: NPPO of Germany (2024-08).

Pictures *Scaphoideus titanus*. <https://gd.eppo.int/taxon/SCAPLI/photos>

Additional key words: new report

Computer codes: SCAPLI, DE

2024/191 First report of *Rhynchophorus ferrugineus* in Uruguay

Rhynchophorus ferrugineus (Coleoptera: Curculionidae - EPPO A2 List), the red palm weevil is reported for the first time from Uruguay (and from South America). *R. ferrugineus* was first reported in 2022 on *Phoenix canariensis* in the department of Canelones. Official measures have been taken. However, as of May 2024, the pest was found to be established and widely distributed in the Southern part of the country, in six departments: Montevideo, Canelones, Maldonado, Florida, San José and part of Colonia. Although its main host is *P. canariensis*, it has been found attacking other palm species, including *Butia odorata* and *Syagrus romanzoffiana*. There are concerns about its possible impact on the native palm species *Butia odorata*. A new contingency plan has been approved.

The situation of *Rhynchophorus ferrugineus* in Uruguay can be described as: **Present, not widely distributed and under official control.**

Source: Ministerio de Ganadería, Agricultura y Pesca (2024-05-17) Información actualizada sobre el picudo rojo de las palmeras. <https://www.gub.uy/ministerio-ganaderia-agricultura-pesca/comunicacion/noticias/informacion-actualizada-sobre-picudo-rojo-palmeras>

Resolución N° 1.283/024 Apruébase el nuevo “Plan de contingencia para *Rhynchophorus ferrugineus* (picudo rojo de las palmeras)”
<https://www.gub.uy/ministerio-ganaderia-agricultura-pesca/institucional/normativa/resolucion-n-1283024-apruebase-nuevo-plan-contingencia-para-rhynchophorus>

Pictures *Rhynchophorus ferrugineus*. <https://gd.eppo.int/taxon/RHYCFE/photos>

Additional key words: new record

Computer codes: RHYCFE, UY

2024/192 First report of *Tecia solanivora* in Peru

Tecia solanivora (Lepidoptera: Gelechiidae - EPPO A2 List) is first reported from Peru. As of August 2024, it was reported from potato production areas in the regions of Cajamarca, Huánuco, Lambayeque, La Libertad, and Piura. Official measures are being applied. These include the intensification of surveillance, restrictions on movement of potato tubers from infested areas, as well as control measures in fields and warehouses.

The pest status of *Tecia solanivora* in Peru is officially declared as: **Present: not widely distributed and under official control.**

Source: IPPC website. Official Pest Reports. Peru (PER-04/3 of 2024-08-24) Reporte de *Tecia solanivora* - Perú.
<https://www.ippc.int/fr/countries/peru/pestreports/2024/08/report-de-tecia-solanivora/>

Pictures *Tecia solanivora*. <https://gd.eppo.int/taxon/TECASO/photos>

Additional key words: new record

Computer codes: TECASO, PE

2024/193 First report of *Scirtothrips ginkgoe* in France and in the EPPO region, and eradication

In August 2023, very severe damage was observed on *Ginkgo biloba* in a place of production covering 180 ha in Gironde department (Nouvelle-Aquitaine region, South-Western France). The *Ginkgo biloba* trees have been grown for over 30 years to produce leaves for the pharmaceutical industry. Symptoms appeared over a few weeks. The French reference laboratory identified the cause of the symptoms to the presence of a thrips, *Scirtothrips ginkgoe* (Thysanoptera: Thripidae). This is the first time that this species, first described in China in 2012, is detected outside its native area in China. It is only known to occur in Zhejiang and was only recorded from *G. biloba*.

To date, the origin of the infestation is unknown. No plants for planting of ginkgo have been introduced into the production place for over 30 years. It may be noted that the site is located less than 3 km from Bordeaux-Mérignac Airport. At the request of regional phytosanitary service, phytosanitary treatments (insecticides) have been applied in the place of production and precautionary measures have been implemented by the producer to prevent the spread of this emerging pest. A monitoring plan was implemented including trapping, leaf beating and visual examination up to June 2024. No specimens of *S. ginkgoe* were found and no damage has been observed. The NPPO of France considered that the pest has been eradicated.

The pest status of *Scirtothrips ginkgoe* in France is officially declared as: **Absent, pest eradicated.**

Source: NPPO of France (2024-08).

Mirab-balou M, Tong XL, Chen XX (2012) A new species of *Scirtothrips* infesting *Ginkgo biloba* in eastern China. *Journal of Insect Science* 12(1), 117.
<https://doi.org/10.1673/031.012.11701>

Additional key words: new record, absence, eradication

Computer codes: SCITGI, FR

2024/194 Revision of the taxonomy of the genus *Pseudips* and impact on *P. mexicanus*

A recent article reviews the taxonomy of the genus *Pseudips* based on morphological characters and a DNA-based phylogeny. As a consequence, the species *Pseudips radiatae* is restored as a distinct species from *Pseudips mexicanus* (Coleoptera: Curculionidae: Scolytinae, EPPO Alert List) to which it had been previously synonymized.

The distribution for *P. mexicanus* is now limited to Mexico (Chiapas, Chihuahua, Coahuila, Distrito Federal, Durango, Hidalgo, Jalisco, Mexico, Michoacán, Morelos, Nuevo León, Oaxaca, Puebla, San Luis Potosí, Tlaxcala, Veracruz) and Guatemala (Totonicapán), whereas all the records in the USA and Canada are now considered to be *P. radiatae*. The authors also noted that *P. radiatae* probably occurs in Baja California (Mexico).

The distribution has been updated accordingly in EPPO Global Database: <https://gd.eppo.int/taxon/IPSXRA/distribution>.

The paper does not address the host range, only mentioning that both species have ‘various *Pinus* spp.’ as host. In EPPO Global database, the following species were removed from the

host list of *P. mexicanus* as they had been specifically reported as hosts in the USA and Canada: *Pinus albicaulis*, *Pinus contorta* var. *latifolia*.

It may be noted that the specimens found in Ireland (EPPO RS 2024/004) have been identified as most closely related to the Mexican population.

Source: Cognato AI, Smith SM (2024) Taxonomic review of *Pseudips* Cognato (Coleoptera: Curculionidae: Scolytinae: Ipini) inferred from morphology and a DNA-based phylogeny. *The Coleopterists Bulletin* **78**(2), 239-254.

Robyn Earl, NPPO of Ireland, personal communication (2024-07).

Pictures *Pseudips mexicanus*. <https://gd.eppo.int/taxon/IPSXRA/photos/>

Additional key words: taxonomy, distribution

Computer codes: IPSXRA, PDIPRA

2024/195 Incursion of *Ips cembrae* in Ireland

The NPPO of Ireland recently informed the EPPO Secretariat of the first record of *Ips cembrae* (Coleoptera: Curculionidae: Scolytinae - EU Annexes) on its territory. Ireland has a protected zone status for this pest. The beetle has never been found or intercepted before in Ireland.

Three *Ips cembrae* beetles were intercepted in a Theysohn trap at a Border Control Post in the municipality of Carrigaline (county of Cork, South-Western Ireland) at the end of July 2024. The finding is suspected to be linked to the recent import through this port of untreated conifer logs with bark attached.

Since the 3 specimens were caught, intensive surveillance of host trees in the vicinity of the port and wider trap checks are being carried out. There have been no further findings of *I. cembrae*. No demarcated area has been established.

The pest status of *Ips cembrae* in Ireland is officially declared as: **Absent, intercepted only.**

Source: NPPO of Ireland (2024-08).

Pictures *Ips cembrae*. <https://gd.eppo.int/taxon/IPSXCE/photos>

Additional key words: incursion, absence

Computer codes: IPSXCE, IE

2024/196 Update on the situation of *Leptinotarsa decemlineata* in Finland

The NPPO of Finland recently informed the EPPO Secretariat that *Leptinotarsa decemlineata* (Coleoptera: Chrysomelidae - EPPO A2 List) has been found on its territory. It can be recalled that *L. decemlineata* has occasionally been found in Finland, but that outbreaks have always been subject to eradication measures and not followed by establishment.

In July and August 2024, outbreaks were detected in Southern Finland: on 2 sites in the municipality of Hamina (Kymenlaakso region) and 2 sites in the municipality of Lappeenranta (South Karelia region). In all four cases, official measures have been taken to eradicate the pest.

The pest status of *Leptinotarsa decemlineata* in Finland is officially declared as: **Present, under eradication.**

Source: NPPO of Finland (2024-07, 2024-08).

Pictures *Leptinotarsa decemlineata*. <https://gd.eppo.int/taxon/LPTNDE/photos>

Additional key words: detailed record

Computer codes: LPTNDE, FI

2024/197 Update of the situation of *Carpomya incompleta* in Spain

The jujube fruit fly *Carpomya incompleta* (Diptera: Tephritidae, EU A1 Quarantine Pest) was first reported in Spain by scientists (EPPO RS 2024/033) in an organic orchard of jujube (*Ziziphus jujuba*) located in Ecija (province of Seville, Andalucía) in 2020 and found again in 2021 and 2022. The regional plant protection service conducted an official survey from March to July 2024 in this site with funnel traps baited with methyl eugenol. Adult fruit flies were captured in July 2024 and officially identified as *Carpomya incompleta* by the Spanish reference laboratory. Eradication measures are being applied and include insecticide treatments and mass trapping.

The pest status of *Carpomya incompleta* in Spain is officially declared as: **Transient, actionable, under eradication.**

Source: NPPO of Spain (2024-08).

Pictures *Carpomya incompleta*. <https://gd.eppo.int/taxon/CARYIN/photos>

Additional key words: detailed record

Computer codes: CARYIN, ES

2024/198 Studies on the flight capabilities of *Polygraphus proximus*

A study has been conducted in Russia to evaluate the flight capabilities of *Polygraphus proximus* (Coleoptera: Curculionidae: Scolytinae - EPPO A2 List). The objective of this study was to determine, through empirical and modeling approaches, the maximum distance that young *P. proximus* beetles can fly under natural conditions. A field experiment was conducted in a region where *P. proximus* occurs (Emelyanovsky district, Krasnoyarsk Krai). An experimental plot of approximately 1.5 x 1.5 km was selected in a zone where *P. polygraphus* is absent (i.e. at least 2 km away from fir stands) and without host trees (i.e. with no large fir trees). The experiment used slabs (sections of bark with a thin sapwood layer) with beetles hibernating under the bark, and traps made of short logs of *Abies sibirica* with no signs of *P. proximus* infestation. The experiment was conducted from May to July 2023, a period during which weather conditions allow flight dispersal. Trap logs were placed at distances ranging from 50 to 1500 m in the four cardinal directions from the release point to attract beetles. Once the overwintering beetles had left the slabs, the number of parental pairs (male and female) on the trap logs and their number per dm² were evaluated. In addition, a model was used to estimate potential flight distances. Experimental data showed that the maximum flight distance of *P. proximus* was 1500 m. Using the model, it was estimated that the potential flight range of *P. proximus* is approximately 3 000 to 5000 m.

Source: Demidko DA, Kulakov SS, Efremenko AA, Babichev NS, Barchenkov AP, Mikhailov PV (2024) Assessing the flight potential of the four-eyed fir bark beetle *Polygraphus proximus* Blandford in natural conditions. *Forests* 15(8), 1316.
<https://doi.org/10.3390/f15081316>

Pictures *Polygraphus proximus*. <https://gd.eppo.int/taxon/POLGPR/photos>

Additional key words: biology

Computer codes: POLGPR

2024/199 New outbreak of *Meloidogyne enterolobii* in Italy

In Italy, *Meloidogyne enterolobii* (EPPO A2 List) had been first found in March 2023 in imported *Ficus microcarpa* plants in Toscana region and subsequently eradicated (EPPO RS 2023/085, RS 2023/139).

In May 2024, *Ficus microcarpa* plants infested by *M. enterolobii* were intercepted in the Netherlands. The plants were marketed by a nursery located in Fiumefreddo di Sicilia (Province of Catania, Sicilia). As a consequence, the NPPO of Italy carried out official inspections in that nursery in July 2024 on the plants from the same batch that remained unsold. The presence of *M. enterolobii* was confirmed in the samples taken. Phytosanitary measures were applied to eradicate the outbreak: they include the destruction of the entire batch of plants, and trace-back and -forward studies. In this nursery, all new lots of host plants of *M. enterolobii* will be subjected to phytosanitary inspections.

The pest status of *Meloidogyne enterolobii* in Italy is officially declared as: **Present, in specific parts of the Member State, where host crop(s) are grown, at low prevalence, under eradication.**

Source: NPPO of Italy (2024-08).

Pictures *Meloidogyne enterolobii*. <https://gd.eppo.int/taxon/MELGMY/photos>

Additional key words: detailed record

Computer codes: MELGMY, IT

2024/200 First report of ‘*Candidatus Liberibacter solanacearum*’ and update on the situation of *Bactericera cockerelli* in Peru

The bacterium causing zebra chip disease of potato, ‘*Candidatus Liberibacter solanacearum*’ (Solanaceae haplotypes are listed in the EPPO A1 List), is reported for the first time in Peru, in the province of Huancabamba (Piura region). Control measures have allowed containment of the pest.

The pest status of ‘*Candidatus Liberibacter solanacearum*’ in Peru is officially declared as: **Present, transient.**

In Peru, the presence of *Bactericera cockerelli* (Hemiptera: Trioziidae - EPPO A1 List), potato psyllid vector of zebra chip disease, was first reported in 2021 (EPPO RS 2022/055) in the province of Huancabamba (Piura region) and is now reported from the potato production areas in the regions of Cajamarca, La Libertad, Piura, and Tumbes (all North-western Peru). An official monitoring programme is implemented to contain the psyllid and IPM is applied to reduce infestation levels.

The pest status of *Bactericera cockerelli* in Peru is officially declared as: **Present, not widely distributed and under official control.**

Source: IPPC website. Official Pest Reports - Peru (2024-08-24): Condición de *Candidatus Liberibacter solanacearum* y su vector. <https://www.ippc.int/fr/countries/peru/pestreports/2024/08/reporte-de-candidatus-liberibacter-solanacearum-y-bactericera-cockerelli/>

Pictures ‘*Candidatus Liberibacter solanacearum*’. <https://gd.eppo.int/taxon/LIBEPS/photos>

Additional key words: new record, detailed record

Computer codes: LIBEPS, PARZCO, PE

2024/201 First report of *Curtobacterium flaccumfaciens* pv. *flaccumfaciens* in Switzerland

The NPPO of Switzerland recently informed the EPPO Secretariat of the first report of *Curtobacterium flaccumfaciens* pv. *flaccumfaciens* (EPPO A2 List) on its territory. In August and September 2024 the bacterium was isolated from symptomatic bean plants (*Phaseolus vulgaris*) growing in four fields: one in the canton of Solothurn, one in the canton of Bern, and two in the canton of Aargau.

Official phytosanitary measures are applied to eradicate the outbreaks. They include restrictions on crop cultivation (no Fabaceae for two years in the infested field) and hygiene measures to prevent further spread.

The pest status of *Curtobacterium flaccumfaciens* pv. *flaccumfaciens* in Switzerland is officially declared as: **Present, under eradication, in specific parts of the country, where host crop(s) are grown.**

Source: NPPO of Switzerland (2024-09).

Pictures *Curtobacterium flaccumfaciens* pv. *flaccumfaciens*. <https://gd.eppo.int/taxon/CORBFL/photos>

Additional key words: new record

Computer codes: CORBFL, CH

2024/202 Cryphonectria carpinicola: addition to the EPPO Alert List

Why: During the last two decades, declining *Carpinus betulus* (European hornbeam) trees have increasingly been reported in the EPPO region. Initial studies conducted in 2015 in Italy identified two causal agents, *Anthostoma decipiens* and an unknown *Endothiella* species. In 2021, further studies on isolates obtained from symptomatic *C. betulus* trees from Austria, Georgia and Switzerland showed that a new fungal species, *Cryphonectria carpinicola* was associated with hornbeam decline. Re-examination of Italian isolates (initially attributed to *Endothiella* sp.) confirmed that they also belonged to *C. carpinicola*. Since then, more reports of the fungus have been made from other Central European countries (Bulgaria, Hungary, Serbia, Slovakia) based on the analysis of both recently collected and preserved isolates dating back to 2007. In 2023, the presence of *C. carpinicola* was discovered in Japan. The sexual form was described there for the first time, however, in Europe where only the asexual form has been observed, thus possibly suggesting that the area of origin of *C. carpinicola* is East Asia. Considering the emergence of *C. carpinicola* in the EPPO region and its probable Asian origin, the EPPO Secretariat thought that it could usefully be added to the EPPO Alert List.

Where: Although, *C. carpinicola* was described as a new species in 2021, reports of declining *C. betulus* have been made in the EPPO region since the 2010s, and the presence of *C. carpinicola* could be confirmed when analyzing dried mycelium which had collected in Bulgaria as early as 2007. In Japan, a fungal strain collected in 1998 from *Castanea crenata* and initially identified as *C. nitschkei* (now *C. japonica*) was shown to be *C. carpinicola*, 33 years after its collection. During a preliminary field study conducted in 2022, *C. carpinicola* was identified in small branches of *Carpinus* sp. fallen on the ground, in the Tengu Highland Forest, Shikoku Island.

EPPO region: Austria, Bulgaria, Georgia, Hungary, Italy, Serbia, Slovakia, Switzerland.

Asia: Japan (Honshu, Shikoku).

On which plants: The main known host is *Carpinus betulus*, although records have been made on *C. japonicus* (in Japan) and *Carpinus* sp. (in Japan and Georgia). There is also one Japanese isolate found on *Castanea crenata* prior to the formal description of the fungus.

Damage: Symptoms of *C. carpinicola* resemble those caused by the well-know pathogen, *C. parasitica* on chestnut (*Castanea* spp.). Affected *Carpinus* spp. trees show bark necrosis on stems and branches, yellow-orange fruiting bodies on branches and trunks, branch and tree dieback.

Dissemination: No information is specifically available for *C. carpinicola*, but as for other *Cryphonectria* species, it is probable that natural spread of fungal spores occurs via wind and rain, as well as by indirect animal vectors (e.g. birds, mammals, insects). In international trade, the fungus may be carried by host plants for planting commercialized for forestry or ornamental purposes, wood, and bark.

Pathways: Plants for planting, wood and bark of host species from countries where *C. carpinicola* occurs.

Possible risks: *Carpinus betulus* is a widespread and ecologically important tree species across temperate Europe. In forests, it occurs in mixed stands with other broadleaf species. In addition, it is widely grown in ornamental nurseries and frequently planted in urban areas. More studies are needed on many aspects of the biology, host range, geographical distribution of *C. carpinicola*. In particular, its exact role in hornbeam decline needs to be further studied, as *C. carpinicola* has been reported to be pathogenic on drought-stressed

trees in urban environments, and often together with *Anthostoma decipiens*. However, it is advisable that particular attention is given to this fungus and the potential threat it might present to *C. betulus*, both in natural and urban environments.

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Additional key words: alert list

Computer codes: CRYNCA

2024/203 Life cycle studies of *Trichilogaster acaciaelongifoliae* in Portugal

Acacia longifolia (Fabaceae) is native to South-Eastern Australia and has been introduced into areas with Mediterranean types climates across the world. In Portugal, it is an invasive plant species in coastal areas. *Trichilogaster acaciaelongifoliae* (Hymenoptera: Pteromalidae) is a bud-galling wasp native to Australia and utilised as a biological control agent in South Africa. It can reduce seed production of *A. longifolia* by 90 %. In 2015, *T. acaciaelongifoliae* was released in Portugal using developed galls imported from South Africa. In Portugal, *T. acaciaelongifoliae* is now established along the coast where it reduces seed production and vegetative growth of the host plant. The life cycle of *T. acaciaelongifoliae* was studied for 1-year in two locations in Portugal (Pataias and São Jacinto) to evaluate how the gall wasp has adapted to the north hemisphere conditions. When *T. acaciaelongifoliae* was first released into Portugal, it had to align the time of adult emergence from the gall with the bud development peak period of *A. longifolia* which occurs in spring and early summer. Initially, *T. acaciaelongifoliae* had lower establishment success though this was overcome by using insects from the founding Portuguese population. The results suggest that *T. acaciaelongifoliae* in the northern hemisphere has a univoltine life cycle. The generations of *T. acaciaelongifoliae* are not completely synchronized both between and within the two locations studied. The life cycle seems to be more advanced in the site located further south, Pataias, where there are a greater number of emergence holes one month earlier compared to more northern populations. The results can be used to implement the release of the biological control agent into new locations.

Source: Nunes AS, López-Núñez FA, Duarte LN, Marchante E, Marchante H (2024) Phenological alignment of a galling insect used as biocontrol agent for an invasive tree following hemisphere translocation. *Biological Control* **197**,105598.

Additional key words: biological control

Computer codes: ACALO, TRLGAC, PT

2024/204 *Trissolcus comperei* (Hymenoptera: Scelionidae) a newly discovered egg parasitoid of *Halyomorpha halys*

Halyomorpha halys (Hemiptera: Pentatomidae - formerly EPP0 Alert List) is a highly polyphagous pest that can attack more than 100 plant species of economic importance. Research into the classical biological control of the pest has identified a number of potential biocontrol agents, in particular egg parasitoids, such as *Trissolcus japonicus* (Hymenoptera: Scelionidae). A new parasitoid has been reported from China (Guizhou Province) parasitising *H. halys* eggs, and has been identified as *Trissolcus comperei*. Laboratory experiments show that that *T. comperei* eggs hatch within 24 hours at 25°C, and at the same temperature, larva, prepupa and pupa developed in 1-3, 4-6 and 7-11 d, respectively. *Trissolcus comperei* can parasitise *H. halys* eggs up to four days old with an emergence rate of approximately 90 % irrespective of the age of the egg. Interestingly, the study showed that the maximum percentage of female progeny of *T. comperei* from parasitised eggs was 93 %. The high proportion of female offspring may promote a fast population increase, potentially increasing its effectiveness as biological control agent for *H. halys*.

Source: Shang CJ, Talamas EJ, Wang X, Chen YM, Zang LS (2024) *Trissolcus comperei*, a newly-reported egg parasitoid of *Halyomorpha halys* from China. *Biological Control* **196**, 105583

Additional key words: biological control

Computer codes: HALYHA, TRSSCO

2024/205 Studies in the proactive biological control of *Lycorma delicatula* in California (US)

Lycorma delicatula (Hemiptera: Fulgoridae - EPPO A1 List) is a polyphagous pest native to China and South-East Asia. It was first detected in the United States in 2014 and has since spread through the Mid-Atlantic region via natural dispersal and human assisted spread. Although *L. delicatula* is not present in California, if it arrives, it will threaten the multi-billion-dollar industry of perennial crops (e.g., grape and nut production). Thus, a proactive (pre-emptive) biological control programme was initiated in California where the aim is to complete all scientific studies to assess the safety of the biological control agent (host range, host specificity and behaviour), before the pest arrives. This would enable the biological control agent to be released rapidly at an early stage of the outbreak while the pest population is low. *Anastatus orientalis* (Hymenoptera: Eupelmidae) is a potential biological control agent and was found parasitising *L. delicatula* eggs in China in 2011. The host feeding behaviour of *A. orientalis* was studied on *L. delicatula* eggs. Parasitism rates were higher after 96 h of exposure time and offspring sex ratio was unaffected by time. Older females (72 h old mated and 120 h mated and unmated) spent more time exploring and ovipositing in *L. delicatula* egg masses compared to younger unmated females. An increase in host feeding behaviour was always associated with increased oviposition behaviour confirming that *A. orientalis* can use the same host egg for feeding and parasitism. Host range testing was conducted with eggs of 34 insect species (both native and non-native to the South-Western United States). The results showed that *A. orientalis* is likely to be polyphagous and can parasitise and develop in host species belonging to two orders (Hemiptera and Lepidoptera) and seven families (Coreidae, Erebidae, Fulgoridae, Lasiocampidae, Pentatomidae, Saturniidae and Sphingidae). Due to the wide host range of *A. orientalis*, it is likely that it poses an unacceptable risk to non-target species and will not be used as a biological control of *L. delicatula* in California.

Source: Gómez Marco F, Hoddle MS (2024) Proactive biological control of spotted lanternfly: Parasitism and host feeding behavior of *Anastatus orientalis* (Hymenoptera: Eupelmidae) on *Lycorma delicatula* (Hemiptera: Fulgoridae) egg masses. *Biological Control* **195**, 105551. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.biocontrol.2024.105551>

Gómez Marco F, Yanega D, Ruiz M, Hoddle MS (2023) Proactive classical biological control of *Lycorma delicatula* (Hemiptera: Fulgoridae) in California (U.S.): Host range testing of *Anastatus orientalis* (Hymenoptera: Eupelmidae). *Frontier in Insect Science* **3**, 1134889. <https://doi.org/10.3389/finsec.2023.1134889>

Additional key words: biological control

Computer codes: LYCMDE, US

2024/206 Sporobolus cryptandrus in Hungary

Sporobolus cryptandrus (Poaceae) was added to the EPP0 Alert List in 2022 due to the species exhibiting invasive behaviour in Hungary (EPP0 RS 2022/071). It is native to North America and reported as an invasive species in Argentina, Australia and the EPP0 region. In the EPP0 region it can invade ruderal habitats, sand dunes and natural grassland. *S. cryptandrus* was originally reported from Hungary in 2016 near the city of Kiskunhalas, in Central Hungary. In July 2022 and spring 2023, two separate surveys in central Hungary were conducted to record the distribution of *S. cryptandrus* in a sand dune system and over a wider area, respectively. In the sand dunes, *S. cryptandrus* was recorded in 39 % of randomly placed quadrats (each 16 m²). In the wider area, when comparing the known distribution in 2016 with the present day records, the increase in distribution extends 46 km in an east-west and 45 km in a north-south direction. Overall, the results show that in 2023, *S. cryptandrus* has populations which are distributed in an area of over 591 km². The spread of *S. cryptandrus* can be attributed to its prolific seed production and dispersal mechanisms (wind dispersed) coupled with its ability to tolerate a wide range of climatic conditions. In some of the areas surveyed, *S. cryptandrus* has become the dominant species indicating that it can have a strong impact on community plant structure and ecosystem functions. This is of concern, as the Pannonian biogeographical region harbours a high number of endemic species and critically endangered habitats.

Source: Kröel-Dulay G, Rigó A, Tanács E, Sztár K, Ónodi G, Aradi E, Bakró-Nagy Z, Biró M, Botta-Dukát Z, Kalapos T, Kelemen A, Laborczi A, Pásztor L, Rabuogi QA, Mojzes A (2024) Explosive spread of sand dropseed (*Sporobolus cryptandrus*), a C4 perennial bunchgrass, threatens unique grasslands in Hungary (Central Europe), *NeoBiota* **95** 59-75.

Pictures *Sporobolus cryptandrus*. <https://gd.eppo.int/taxon/SPZCR/photos>

Additional key words: invasive alien plants

Computer codes: SPZCR, HU

2024/207 Hakea decurrens subsp. physocarpa increases the risk of fire

Hakea decurrens subsp. *physocarpa* (Proteaceae: EPP0 A2 List) is an invasive shrub species native to Australia. In invaded areas, the increased biomass of *H. decurrens* subsp. *physocarpa* may increase fire intensity. Fire can benefit the plant as it can trigger the release of the seeds from the hard seed pods, and in the aftermath of the fire, nutrient enriched soil and reduced competition from other plant species can promote the establishment of the shrub. Models were developed based on experimental data and included different factors: (1) the development stage: early (plants height ≤ 1m) intermediate (> 1m ≤ 2.5m), mature (> 2.5m) and (2) type: standing fuel (plants were uncut) and slashed fuel (vegetation was cut and left on the ground). These combinations were used for three different scenarios: 25 % cover, 50 % cover and 75 % cover under different plant moisture conditions. The models predict that standing plants are more hazardous than slashed plants and fire can increase and spread more with the maturity of the plant. In areas of Portugal at risk of wild fires, early detection and rapid response remains the most cost effective method to manage the invasion of *H. decurrens* subsp. *physocarpa*. Where established populations occur, the priority should be to reduce the presence of mature plants with the application of slash treatments.

Source: Gerber D, Azevedo JC, Mereu M, Silva de Oliveira A, Marchante E, Jacobson TKB, Silva JS (2024) *Hakea decurrens* invasion increases fire hazard at the landscape

scale. *Biological Invasions* 26, 3779-3793. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s10530-024-03410-6>

Additional key words: invasive alien plants

Computer codes: HKADF, PT

2024/208 The invasion risk of *Myriophyllum heterophyllum* in Portugal

Myriophyllum heterophyllum (Haloragaceae: EPPO A2 List) is an aquatic plant native to North America. It is established in a number of countries in the EPPO region and further spread is likely. Dense mats in rivers and lakes can degrade habitats reducing biodiversity and the ecological status of water bodies. Currently, *M. heterophyllum* is absent from Portugal though it is present in neighbouring Spain and there is the potential for introduction with connecting waterbodies. The invasion risk of *M. heterophyllum* to Portugal was estimated using models predicting environmental suitability and the risk of human-mediated introduction. Climatic and environmental variables, and global occurrence data of *M. heterophyllum* were used in the model to predict environmental suitability, and density of aquarium stores were used to give a measure of the risk of human mediated introduction. The model predicts areas of environmental suitability mainly in temperate climate regions along central and northern coastal areas in Portugal. Areas at risk of invasion are concentrated in the Portuguese central and northern coasts and in the two main metropolitan areas, Lisbon and Porto. Within these regions at risk, there are a number of protected areas and therefore it is important to conduct surveillance to confirm the absence of the species and to enable a rapid response in the event of an invasion.

Source: Diogo I, Sillero N, Capinha C (2024) Predicting the risk of invasion by broadleaf watermilfoil (*Myriophyllum heterophyllum*) in mainland Portugal. *Heliyon* 10, e34201. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.heliyon.2024.e34201>

Pictures *Myriophyllum heterophyllum*. <https://gd.eppo.int/taxon/MYPHE/photos>

Additional key words: invasive alien plants

Computer codes: MYPHE, PT

2024/209 European Weed Research Society workshop (2024-10-30/11-02)

A joint workshop of the European Weed Research Society working groups on Invasive Alien Plants and Biological Control will be held in Antalya Türkiye from the 30th of October to the 2nd of November 2024. The workshop aims to review and discuss recent advances and developments regarding the most problematic invasive alien plant species, as well as the benefits, opportunities and limits of biological control. The workshop is divided into seven sessions: (1) current status of the most problematic invasive alien plants, (2) new plant invasions in agriculture, forestry, ruderal habitats and aquatic ecosystems, (3) potential opportunities and challenges of biological control for the management of invasive alien plants, (4) public acceptance and attitude towards invasive alien plants and biological control, (5) COST action regarding the biological control of invasive alien plants in Europe, (6) future collaboration between the two working groups, and (7) a field trip.

For further information on registration see the workshop website: <https://ewrs.org/en/info/Events/Biological-Control-as-a-Tool-for-Managing-Invasive-Alien-Plants>

Source: EPPO Secretariat (2024-09).

Additional key words: conference, invasive alien plants

Computer codes: TR

2024/210 17th EMAPI conference (Christchurch, NZ, 2025-09-02/05)

The 17th International Conference on the Ecology and Management of Alien Plant Invasions (EMAPI) will be held in Christchurch, New Zealand from 2nd to 5th September 2025. The themes of the conference include risk assessment tools for invasion, impact and response, management of invasive plants in protected areas, the role of communities and citizens in plant invasions, the impact of invasive plants on ecosystem services, the threat of plant invasions on islands, climate change and plant invasions, biocontrol of environmental weeds and managing pathways of plant invasions.

Key dates:

2025/02/15: Abstract submission deadline

2025/05/01: Early bird registration closes

Conference website: <https://confer.eventsair.com/emapi2025/>

Source: EPPO Secretariat (2024-09).

Additional key words: conference, invasive alien plants

Computer codes: NZ