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21 Bld Richard Lenoir
75011 Paris

Tel: 33 1 45 20 77 94
E-mail: hq@eppo.int

Web: www.eppo.int
GD: gd.eppo.int

2025/028 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**

Stephanitis pyrioides (Heteroptera: Tingidae – formerly EPPO Alert List), the azalea lace bug was first recorded in Spain in Galicia and in Catalunya in potted plants of *Rhododendron indicum* and *R. japonicum* respectively in September and November 2022 (Riba-Flinch, 2023).

Xylosandrus compactus (Coleoptera: Curculionidae: Scolytinae - formerly EPPO Alert List) is reported for the first time from Croatia. It was identified in 2023 on the island of Lokrum on several host plants, including laurel (*Laurus nobilis*), holm oak (*Quercus ilex*), laurustinus (*Viburnum tinus*), olive (*Olea* sp.), myrtle (*Myrtus communis*), strawberry tree (*Arbutus unedo*), pittosporum (*Pittosporum tobira*), carob tree (*Ceratonia siliqua*), and mock privet (*Phillyrea* sp.) (Pernek et al., 2025).

Retithrips syriacus (Thysanoptera: Thripidae) is first reported in Algeria. The species was observed in Khenchela Province (north-eastern Algeria), on grapevine (*Vitis vinifera)* and *Parthenocissus quinquefolia* in private gardens (Hayet & Soua, 2024).

- **Detailed records**

In Japan *Anoplophora glabripennis* (Coleoptera: Cerambycidae – EPPO A2 List) has been first recorded in 2020 in Hyogo Prefecture (Honshu island) (EPPO RS 2022/181), and later in Aichi, Toyama, Saitama, Ibaraki, Fukushima, and Miyagi prefectures (RS 2022/204). Since then, it has further spread within Honshu island to the prefectures of Yamaguchi, Nagano, Hiroshima, Tochigi, Gifu, and Chiba. It is recorded causing damage to street trees such as *Cercidiphyllum japonicum*, *Ulmus parvifolia*, *Aesculus turbinata*, and *Salix* spp.

In Australia, *Euwallacea perbrevis,* one of the species of *Euwallacea fornicatus sensu lato* (Coleoptera: Scolytinae, EPPO A2 List) was first found in Sydney (New South Wales), in March 2022 in association with *Fusarium obliquiseptatum* on box elder *(Acer negundo)*. The two species have also been reported from avocado (*Persea americana*) in Queensland (Callaghan et al., 2024). **Present, not widely distributed and not under official control**.

In India, *Euwallacea perbrevis,* one of the species of *Euwallacea fornicatus sensu lato* (Coleoptera: Scolytinae, EPPO A2 List) is causing wilting on cocoa trees (*Theobroma cacao*) in association with a *Fusarium* sp. in Karnakata (India) (Thube *et al*., 2024).

In China *Pochazia shantungensis* (Hemiptera: Ricaniidae - EPPO Alert List) occurs in Guangxi (Jiang et al., 2023).

In France *Pochazia shantungensis* (Hemiptera: Ricaniidae - EPPO Alert List) had so far only been found in southern France (EPPO RS 2025/007). It was found for the first time in north-eastern France in January 2025. Four larvae were detected in Grand-Est region (Haut-Rhin department) in a small greenhouse of a botanical garden on a rare tree species (*Sophora toromiro*) that had been grown from seed. All host plants in the greenhouse have been

inspected but no further specimens were found. Surveys with traps are implemented (NPPO of France, 2025).

In the USA *Ralstonia pseudosolanacearum* (EPPO A2 list) is first reported causing bacterial wilt of ginger (*Zingiber officinale*) grown under tunnels in Minnesota in 2023-2024. The origin of the outbreak was linked to imported ginger rhizomes from Peru (Chiu *et al.*, 2025).

In Spain, *Thrips parvispinus* (Thysanoptera: Thripidae – formerly EPPO Alert List) was first reported in 2017 in ornamental plants in greenhouses (EPPO RS 2019/204). Since then, the pest has spread and is now reported to be causing damage to a number of vegetables, such as capsicum in greenhouses, in the regions of Andalucia, Comunidad Valenciana and Murcia (Cantó *et al.*, 2024).

- **Eradications**

In Germany, cotton leaf curl Gezira virus (*Begomovirus gossypigeziraense,* CLCuGV - EU A1 Quarantine pest as 'Begomovirus') was first recorded in 2022 (EPPO RS 2022/246) on *Lavatera* plants for planting. Eradication measures were applied, and the outbreak is now considered eradicated (NPPO of Germany, 2025)
The pest status of cotton leaf curl Gezira virus in Germany is officially declared as: **Absent, pest eradicated**.

In Belgium, sweet potato chlorotic stunt virus *(Crinivirus ipomeae,* SPCSV) was first found in 2022 on sweet potatoes *(Ipomoea batatas)* (EPPO RS 2022/245). Phytosanitary measures were applied and the outbreak is considered eradicated (NPPO of Belgium, 2025). It may be noted that SPCSV is no longer a quarantine pest for the EU (RS 2024/166).
The pest status of sweet potato chlorotic stunt virus in Belgium is officially declared as: **Absent, pest eradicated**.

In Belgium, tomato ringspot virus (*Nepovirus lycopersici*, ToRSV - EPPO A2 List) was first found in January 2024 on three plants for planting of *Malus domestica* (RS 2024/135). A survey was conducted and did not detect ToRSV in other host plants in the place of production. No nematode vectors were detected in the soil. The infected trees were incinerated. The outbreak is considered eradicated (NPPO of Belgium, 2025). It may be noted that ToRSV is now a Regulated Non-Quarantine Pest for the EU (RS 2024/166).
The pest status of tomato ringspot virus in Belgium is officially declared as: **Absent, pest eradicated**.

- **New pests and taxonomy**

In Uruguay, a survey identified root rot of nursery and young *Eucalyptus smithii* in southern and south-eastern Uruguay. Morphological and molecular investigations revealed this was caused by three fungal (Nectriaceae) species *Calonectria pauciramosa, Dactylonectria novozelandica* and a new fungal species *Ilyonectria charruensis* sp. nov. Inoculation tests fulfilling Koch's postulates confirmed that *I. charruensis* is pathogenic to *E. smithii* (Benedetti *et al.*, 2024).

Staphylococcus warneri (Bacillales: Staphylococcaceae), a bacterial pathogen of humans and animals, is emerging as a plant pest in Iran where it causes canker disease in *Prunus* sp. Inoculation tests fulfilling Koch's postulates confirmed that *S. warneri* is pathogenic to almond (*P. dulcis*), apricot (*P. armeniaca*), peach (*P. persica*) and nectarine (*P. persica* var. *nucipersica*) and sour cherry (*P. cerasus*) (Asadi et al., 2024; Dehghan-Niri & Rahimian, 2016).

Four *Xiphinema* nematode species, *X. diffusum, X. simile, X. vuittenezi* and *X. zagrosense,* were reported to cause damage for the first time on bananas (*Musa* spp.) in Syria during an official survey between 2021 and 2022 (Ali *et al.*, 2024).

Sources:

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NPPO of France (2025-02).
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Additional key words: detailed record, eradication, new record, new pest, taxonomy

Computer codes: 1XIPHG, ANOLGL, CLCUGV, CYLDPA, EUWAPE, ILYONO, POCZSH, STEPPY, RALSPS, RETTSY, SPCSV0, STASWA, THRIPV, TORSV0, XIPHDF, XIPHSI, XIPHVU, XYLBFO AU, BE, CN, DE, DZ, ES, ES, FR, IN, IR, JP, SY, US, UY

2025/029 Recent updates in the EPPO Global Database

The EPPO Global Database is continuously updated with new information. Here are some recent updates.

The following new EPPO datasheet has been published in the EPPO Global Database
- *Zizania latifolia* (EPPO A2 List): https://gd.eppo.int/taxon/ZIZLA/datasheet

The following new or revised distribution maps are available:
- Clavibacter nebraskensis: https://gd.eppo.int/taxon/CORBNE/distribution
- *Gnathotrichus sulcatus* (EPPO A1 List) https://gd.eppo.int/taxon/GNAHSU/distribution
- *Phyllostachys aurea* : https://gd.eppo.int/taxon/PLLAR/distribution
- *Sasa palmata* : https://gd.eppo.int/taxon/SAFPA/distribution

The host lists of the following pests have been recently reviewed and completed:
- Beet leaf curl virus (EPPO A2 List): https://gd.eppo.int/taxon/BLCV00/hosts
- *Ciborinia camelliae* (EPPO A2 List): https://gd.eppo.int/taxon/SCLECA/hosts
- *Cronartium himalayense* (EPPO A1 List): https://gd.eppo.int/taxon/CRONHI/hosts
- *Gymnosporangium juniperi-virginianae* (EPPO A1 List): https://gd.eppo.int/taxon/GYMNJV/hosts
- Leucinodes orbonalis (EPPO A1 List): https://gd.eppo.int/taxon/LEUIOR/hosts
- *Orgyia pseudotsugata* (EPPO A1 List): https://gd.eppo.int/taxon/ORGYPS/hosts
- *Pseudomonas syringae* pv. *persicae* (EPPO A2 List): https://gd.eppo.int/taxon/PSDMPE/hosts
- *Scolytus morawitzi* (EPPO A2 List): https://gd.eppo.int/taxon/SCOLMO/hosts

Many new pictures have been added on potato pests.

Source: EPPO Secretariat (2025-02).

Additional key words: publication, database

Computer codes: ZIZLA, SAFPA, GNAHSU, BLCV00, SAFPA, SCLECA, CRONHI, GYMNJV, LEUIOR, ORGYPS, SCOLMO

2025/030 First report of *Spodoptera frugiperda* in Bulgaria

Fall armyworm, *Spodoptera frugiperda* (Lepidoptera: Noctuidae – EPPO A2 List), is reported for the first time in Bulgaria. In October 2023, during a study on Noctuidae moth populations across Bulgaria one specimen (1 female) was captured, using food lure, in an ancient oak forest in Chirpan, Stara Zagora Province, then in early November three specimens (2 females, 1 male) were captured in black light traps in a diverse landscape in Parvomay, Plovdiv Province (both provinces in southern Bulgaria) and two specimens (2 males) in pheromone traps in maize fields in Knezha, Pleven province (northern Bulgaria). The identity of the pest was confirmed by morphological and molecular analysis. The authors suggest that the pest may have migrated north through the east Balkans. It is unclear if the species could overwinter and establish in Bulgaria.

In addition, official surveys for *S. frugiperda* have been conducted since 2021 by the NPPO of Bulgaria. Surveys were intensified in 2023 and 2024 following this finding and did not find *S. frugiperda*.

The pest status of *Spodoptera frugiperda* in Bulgaria is officially declared as: **Absent, the entire country is pest free.**

Source: NPPO of Bulgaria (2025-02).

Szanyi S, Barta M, Velchev D, Beshkov S, Mumford S, Todorov I, Nagy A, Varga Z, Tóth M, Toshova T (2025) First report of a migratory pest, the fall armyworm, *Spodoptera frugiperda* (JE Smith, 1797)(Lepidoptera, Noctuidae) from Bulgaria. *Insects* **16**(2), 134. https://doi.org/10.3390/ insects16020134

Pictures *Spodoptera frugiperda*. https://gd.eppo.int/taxon/LAPHFR/photos

Additional key words: new record **Computer codes:** LAPHFR, BG

2025/031 First report of *Epitrix brevis* in Italy and in the EPPO region

The NPPO of Italy recently informed the EPPO Secretariat of the first finding of *Epitrix brevis* (Coleoptera: Chrysomelidae) on its territory. This is a first finding for the EPPO region.
In February 2025, the University of Naples reported to the Campania Plant Protection Service the discovery of ten adult specimens of *Epitrix brevis* previously collected in the municipality of Omignano (province of Salerno, Campania region), on the weed *Solanum nigrum*. The infested plants showed damage to the leaves. The specimens were collected in May and July 2024 along the edge of a mountain road. The identity of the species was confirmed by morphological analysis by a specialist of this taxonomic group, and by molecular analysis. The Campania Phytosanitary Service in collaboration with the University of Naples has prepared an express PRA whose results foresee the adoption of initial phytosanitary measures, such as appropriate surveys on the territory.
Epitrix brevis is a North American flea beetle feeding on solanaceous plants. So far, it has only been reported from Canada and the USA. Very limited data exists on this species. Other *Epitrix* species damaging potato tubers are regulated in the EU (*Epitrix cucumeris*, *Epitrix papa*, *Epitrix subcrinita* and *Epitrix tuberis)*

The pest status of *Epitrix brevis* is Italy is officially declared as: **Transient, actionable, under surveillance.**

It may be noted that signs of infestation on potato tubers by an unidentified *Epitrix* species had been observed in November 2024 in Emilia-Romagna region (northern Italy) (EPPO RS 2024/238). The NPPO of Italy conducted a survey in the outbreak location with sweep nets, and inspection of volunteer potato plants. No evidence of the pest was found. Preventive phytosanitary measures will be applied in 2025 and include restriction on cropping solanaceous crops, control of weed hosts, and cleaning of machinery used in the infested field.

Source: NPPO of Italy (2024-12, 2025-02)

Additional key words: new report, detailed report **Computer codes:** 1EPIXG, EPIXBR, EPIXSP, IT

2025/032 Update on the situation of *Dacus ciliatus* in Cyprus

Dacus ciliatus (Diptera: Tephritidae – EPPO A2 List) was first reported in Cyprus in June 2024 (EPPO RS 2024/146) on cucumbers (*Cucumis sativus*), zucchini (*Cucurbita pepo*), watermelon (*Citrullus lanatus)* and melon (*Cucumis melo*). The NPPO of Cyprus has been carrying out an official survey across the island since this first report. As a result, the pest was identified in 16 new areas including new infestations in Nicosia and Limassol districts, which were previously pest-free, and new locations in Larnaca and Ammochostos districts where the pest had already been found. The total infested area is now 12.03 ha, previously it was 6.11 ha, and includes both greenhouses and small fields.
Official phytosanitary measures aiming at eradicating *D. ciliatus* are applied. This includes the demarcation of the area around infested fields, insecticide treatments, destruction of infested fruits. Surveys are continuing throughout the island.

The pest status of *D. ciliatus* in Cyprus, is officially declared as: **Present, under eradication.**

Source: NPPO of Cyprus (2025-01).

Pictures *Dacus ciliatus*. https://gd.eppo.int/taxon/DACUCI/photos

Additional key words: detailed record **Computer codes:** DACUCI, CY

2025/033 Update on the situation of *Draeculacephala robinsoni* in France

Draeculacephala robinsoni (Hemiptera: Cicadellidae) was recorded for the first time in France in 2021 across 4 sites in Pyrénées-Orientales department (Occitanie region) (EPPO RS 2022/085). The entire genus *Draeculacephala* is regulated as a quarantine pest under EU Regulation 2019/2072.

In July 2024 a naturalist photographed a specimen of *D. robinsoni* in Lattes (Hérault department, Occitanie region) and submitted it to INRAE which confirmed the identity by molecular analysis. The NPPO conducted intensive monitoring but did not find any insects during three subsequent light-trapping operations on the same site or in sweeping activities by phytosanitary services across Occitanie.

The NPPO noted that this unofficial detection occurred 2400 m from a demarcated area for *Xylella fastidiosa* for which some species of the *Draeculacephala* genus are vectors.

The pest status of *Draeculacephala robinsoni* in France is officially declared as: **Present, only in some parts of the Member State concerned, at low prevalence.**

Source: NPPO of France (2025-01)

Pictures *Draeculacephala robinsoni*. https://gd.eppo.int/taxon/DRAERO/photos

Additional key words: detailed record **Computer codes:** DRAERO, FR

2025/034 Update on the situation of *Euwallacea fornicatus sensu lato* in Germany

In Germany, *Euwallacea fornicatus sensu lato* (Coleoptera: Scolytinae, EPPO A2 List) was detected in several tropical greenhouses and eradication measures have been taken (EPPO RS 2021/033, RS 2021/059, RS 2023/005).

A new outbreak of *Euwallacea fornicatus sensu lato* was found in a tropical greenhouse used for touristic purposes in Brandenburg in August 2022. In July 2023 the fungus *Fusarium euwallaceae* was also detected on *Magnolia champaca* plants in the greenhouse. As *F. euwallaceae* is considered an obligate symbiont of *Euwallacea fornicatus sensu stricto*, this may suggest that the beetle is *Euwallacea fornicatus sensu stricto*. Infested plants included *Ficus natalensis* subsp. *leprieurii, Clerodendrum quadriloculare* and *Ficus microcarpa*. All infested plants were destroyed.

The NPPO of Germany recently informed the EPPO Secretariat of a new finding of *Euwallacea fornicatus sensu lato* on its territory. The pest was found by staff in a newly-built greenhouse in a botanical garden in Nordrhein-Westfalen in December 2024 on a single *Adansonia digitata* tree. The identity of the pest was confirmed by a PCR test. This plant had been delivered in 2023 from another EU Member State. Official measures will be taken, including the establishment of a demarcated area of 1700m^2 corresponding to the greenhouse.

The pest status of *Euwallacea fornicatus sensu lato* in Germany is officially declared as: **Present, only in some parts of the Member State concerned, only in greenhouses, under eradication.**

Source: NPPO of Germany (2023-08, 2025-01)

Pictures *Euwallacea fornicatus sensu lato*. https://gd.eppo.int/taxon/XYLBFO/photos

Additional key words: detailed record **Computer codes:** EUWAWH, FUSAEW, XYLBFO, DE

2025/035 Establishment of *Paysandisia archon* in Switzerland

In Switzerland the palm borer moth *Paysandisia archon* (Lepidoptera: Castniidae – EPPO A2 List) had been found in nurseries and eradicated (EPPO RS 2010/145, RS 2020/119).
In 2023, the establishment of *P. archon* had been documented for the first time in southern Switzerland where it is infesting cultivated and naturalized non-native palms (including the invasive palm *Trachycarpus fortunei*). The pest, or damage attributed to it, has been recorded in the canton of Ticino (municipalities of Brissago, Porto Ronco, Ronco sopra Ascona, San Antonino, Gudo, and Lugano). The authors considered that the pest was likely

to have been introduced with infested imported palms for planting and recommended measures to slow its spread.

The situation of *Paysandisia archon* in Switzerland can be described as: **Present, not widely distributed and not under official control**.

Source: Fehr V, Minetti A, Conedera M, Pezzatti GB (2024) First evidence of establishment of the palm borer moth *Paysandisia archon* (Burmeister, 1879) in southern Switzerland. *BioInvasions Records* **13**(4), 901-908.

Pictures *Paysandisia archon*. https://gd.eppo.int/taxon/PAYSAR/photos

Additional key words: detailed report **Computer codes:** PAYSAR, CH

2025/036 Update on the situation of *Aleurocanthus spiniferus* in Croatia

In Croatia, *Aleurocanthus spiniferus* (Hemiptera: Aleyrodidae – EPPO A2 List) was first found in 2012 in a garden centre in Split (EPPO RS 2015/047). In September 2018 another outbreak was reported in Vitaljina, Dubrovnik-Neretva county in a small mandarin orchard (EPPO RS 2018/192). Other outbreaks were detected in 2019-2024 along the coast. As eradication of the pest in Croatia was no longer considered possible in certain areas, demarcated areas were defined where containment measures are applied in the counties of Dubrovnik-Neretva, Split-Dalmatia, Šibenik-Knin and Primorje-Gorski Kotar (EU Regulation 2024/589).

Since February 2024, the NPPO of Croatia has defined further demarcated areas in Dubrovnik-Nerevta county and Split-Dalmatia county where containment measures will be applied. This includes a new infested zone in the municipality of Slivno with a buffer zone in Pojezerje in Dubrovnik-Nerevta County and new infested zones in the municipalities of Stari Grad, Vrbanj, Vis, Supetar, Dugi Rat and Omiš and new buffer zones in Split and Vas in Split-Dalmatia County. Containment is proving difficult as the pest may remain undetected in private properties.

Outside of demarcated areas, eradication measures continue to be implemented including insecticide treatments and destruction of infested plant material.

The pest status of *Aleurocanthus spiniferus* in Croatia is officially declared as: **Present, not widely distributed and under official control.**

Source: NPPO of Croatia (2025-02).

Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) 2024/589 of 20 February 2024 amending Implementing Regulation (EU) 2022/1927 as regards the list of demarcated areas for containment of *Aleurocanthus spiniferus* (Quaintance) OJ L 2024/948. http://data.europa.eu/eli/reg_impl/2024/589/oj

Pictures *Aleurocanthus spiniferus*. https://gd.eppo.int/taxon/ALECSN/photos

Additional key words: detailed record, containment **Computer codes:** ALECSN, HR

2025/037 First report of *Empoasca fabalis* in mainland Europe

Empoasca fabalis (Hemiptera: Cicadellidae), a leafhopper pest native to tropical and subtropical regions of North and South America, has been reported for the first time in mainland Europe during an survey in south-west Portugal on sweet potato (*Ipomoea batatas)*. It was detected during surveys in 2019 in Alentejo, on two farms. It was previously reported from the island of Madeira (Portugal) in 2020 and the island of La Palma (Islas Canarias, Spain) in 2000.

E. fabalis has a wide host range in its area of origin. In Madeira it has been recorded on 66 plant species across 30 different families. During infestations *E. fabalis* causes whitish spots, necrotic spots and leaf curling which compromises overall plant growth. As the area of cultivation of sweet potato is growing in the EPPO region, it may be useful to monitor the spread of this species in the EPPO region.

Source: Aguin-Pombo D, Boavida C, Valdiviesso T, Trindade CS, Backus E, Mateus C (2024) *Empoasca fabalis* DeLong (Hemiptera: Cicadellidae) in European sweet potatoes: records, leaf damage, and Auchenorrhyncha insights. *Phytoparasitica* **52**(4), 66. https://doi.org/10.1007/s12600-024-01176-0

Aguin-Pombo D, Freitas N (2020) *Empoasca fabalis* (Hemiptera: Cicadellidae): first report of an invasive pest of sweet potatoes in Portugal (Madeira Island). *Zootaxa*. **4838**(1), 143-146. https://doi.org/10.11646/zootaxa.4838.1.9

Lorenzo JM & Hermoso de Mendonza A (2000) Presencia de la especie americana *Empoasca fabalis* DeLong, 1930 (Hemiptera, Cicadellidae) en la isla Canaria de La Palma. *Boletín de la Asociación española de Entomología* **24**, 267.

Additional key words: new report **Computer codes:** EMPOFB, PT

2025/038 *Cylindrocopturus furnissi*: an emerging pest of Douglas fir in the USA

Cylindrocopturus furnissi (Curculionidae: Conoderinae) was considered a minor pest in North America that infrequently caused twig disfigurement of Douglas fir (*Pseudotsuga menziesii*) in natural environments. However, since the late 2010s it has been reported as an emerging pest of Douglas-fir and true fir species (*Abies procera* and *A. nordmanniana*) in Christmas tree or conifer seedling production in the north-west USA. It is reported that even minor aesthetic damage from *C. furnissi* infestation can prevent export and significantly affect production of Christmas trees.

Source: Whitney TD, Chastagner G (2024) Insecticide efficacy and emergence timing of the Douglas-fir twig weevil. *Journal of Economic Entomology* **117**(3), 942-950. https://doi.org/10.1093/jee/toae048

Pictures *Cylindrocopturus furnissi*. https://gd.eppo.int/taxon/CYLPFU/photos

Additional key words: new record, new host plant **Computer codes:** CYLPFU, US

2025/039 *Ips hauseri* does not occur in Russia

Ips hauseri (Coleoptera: Curculionidae: Scolytinae, EPPO A2 List) had been listed as being present in a restricted area of Russia (Southern Altai territory, which is part of Western Siberia) in the EPPO Datasheet published in 2005, based on a monograph on bark beetles by

VN Stark (1952). It has also been recorded as present in Eastern Siberia and the Russian Far East by some authors. A recent article by Petrov and Kulinich reviewed the data supporting the presence of this species in Russia.
The authors note that the Natural History Museum in Budapest (Hungary) houses a specimen collected in Usinsk in the Western Sayan Mountains in southern Siberia but there is no other information on finding this species in Russia. They consider that the records of presence in Russia may be linked to the monograph on bark beetles of the USSR by Stark (1952), where the information about the presence of *I. hauseri* in the southern Altai refers only to the part that now belongs to the territory of Kazakhstan.
Similarly, there is no specimen supporting the presence of the pest in eastern Siberia and the Russian Far East.

Source: Petrov AB, Kulinich OA (2024) Trophic specialization features of bark beetle *Ips hauseri* Reitter, 1895 (Coleoptera, Curculionidae: Scolytinae) in coniferous forests of Kazakhstan [Особенности пищевой специализации короеда Ips hauseri Reitter, 1895 (Coleoptera, Curculionidae: Scolytinae) в хвойных лесах Казахстана]. *Euroasian entomological journal* 23(5), 283-286.

Stark VN (1952) Koroedy. Zhestkokrylye // Fauna SSSR. Vol.31. Moscow–Leningrad: Izdatel´stvo Akademii Nauk SSSR. 462 p. [In Russian].

Personal communication with Dr Kulinich (2025-01).

Pictures *Ips hauseri*. https://gd.eppo.int/taxon/IPSXHA/photos/

Additional key words: absence, denied record **Computer codes:** IPSXHA, RU

2025/040 First report of *Cryphonectria carpinicola* in the United Kingdom

The NPPO of the United Kingdom recently informed the EPPO Secretariat of the first finding of *Cryphonectria carpinicola* (EPPO Alert List) on its territory. It was detected on hornbeam (*Carpinus betulus*) at five distinct sites in the wider environment in south-east England. It has been associated with dieback of mature hornbeam specimens.
No statutory action is currently being taken at these locations, but pruning of hornbeam has been ceased to mitigate against further spread whilst investigations into the species and surveys are ongoing to determine the extent of the distribution.
Photos were kindly provided for the EPPO Global Database.

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

Source: NPPO of the United Kingdom (2025-01)

Pictures *Cryphonectria carpinicola*. https://gd.eppo.int/taxon/CRYNCA/photos

Additional key words: first report **Computer codes:** CRYNCA, GB

2025/041 First report of *Austropuccinia psidii* in the EPPO region

Austropuccinia psidii (EPPO Alert List) is reported for the first time in Switzerland. The fungus was first observed to cause bright yellow pustules on a bonsai of *Syzygium buxifolium,* in a garden centre in May 2024. Many *Syzygium* species have already been reported as hosts, but this is a first report for *S. buxifolium*. Further surveys at four other garden centres, from the same European chain, in Switzerland found *S. buxifolium* infected by *A. psidii*. At each site the presence was confirmed by molecular tests. The strains were further identified as belonging to the pandemic biotype. Inoculation tests fulfilling Koch's postulates confirmed that *A. psidii* is pathogenic to *S. buxifolium* and common myrtle *(Myrtus communis)*.
The infected bonsai plants were traced back to a nursery in the Netherlands that had imported plants from China (EPPO RS 2024/212).
All infected plants were destroyed. However the pest status of *A. psidii* in Switzerland is unclear, as it is not known if infected plants had been distributed within Switzerland before the report and whether the fungus could establish in the country considering its climatic requirements.

This report highlights the risk of introducing *A. psidii* into the EPPO region via the trade of host plants from areas where the disease occurs. The authors underlined that, as the retailer had a Europe wide distribution network, infected plants may have been distributed in other countries where the climate is more favourable and host plants more widely present than in Switzerland.

Source: Ruffner B, Beenken L, Kupper Q, Mittelstrass J, Schuler P, Stewart JE, Caballero JI, Winiger R, Prospero S (2024) First report of *Austropuccinia psidii* on *Syzygium buxifolium* grown as indoor bonsai in Europe. *New Disease Reports* **50** (2), e70011. https://doi.org/10.1002/ndr2.70011

Pictures *Austropuccinia psidii*. https://gd.eppo.int/taxon/PUCCPS/photos

Additional key words: new host, new record, incursion **Computer codes:** PUCCPS, CH

2025/042 *Ralstonia solanacearum* detected in surface water in France

In France, *Ralstonia solanacearum* (EPPO A2 List) causing brown rot of potato (*Solanum tuberosum*) is under official control and annual surveys are conducted. In July 2024, *R. solanacearum* was detected by the Regional Directorate of Food, Agriculture and Forestry of Centre-Val De Loire in a sample of water collected from the Loir river in the municipality of Cloyes-les-Trois-Rivières (department of Eure-et-Loir, Centre-Val de Loire region). Phytosanitary measures have been applied within the municipality, including a prohibition on using water from the Loir for irrigation of Solanaceae plants. In addition, all farmers in the Eure-et-Loir department are required to declare water use from the Loir to the authorities.

The situation of *R. solanacearum* in France can be described as: **Present, under eradication.**

Source: Anonymous (2024) Présence de la bactérie Ralstonia dans une partie du Loir. Direction régionale de l'alimentation de l'agriculture et de la forêt du Centre-Val de Loire. https://draaf.centre-val-de-loire.agriculture.gouv.fr/detection-de-la-bacterie-ralstonia-en-eure-et-loire-communique-a1817.html?mtm_campaign=rss-actus

Pictures *Ralstonia solanacearum*. https://gd.eppo.int/taxon/RALSSL/photos

Additional key words: detailed record **Computer codes:** RALSSL, FR

2025/043 Update on the situation of *Ceratocystis platani* in France

In France, outbreaks of *Ceratocystis platani* (EPPO A2 List) have been reported across southern regions (Aquitaine, Corse, Midi-Pyrénées, Languedoc-Roussillon, Provence-Alpes-Côte d'Azur, Rhône-Alpes) since the 1940s and Pays-de-la-Loire and Ile-de-France in 2019 (EPPO RS 2019/188). In France, a number of demarcated areas have been defined in Auvergne-Rhône-Alpes, Nouvelle-Aquitaine, Occitanie, Provence-Alpes-Côte d'Azur where measures are aimed at containment. In the rest of the territory, eradication measures are applied according to Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) 2022/1629.

In 2007, *C. platani* was considered to be eradicated from Corse. The NPPO of France recently detected a new occurrence of *Ceratocystis platani* in two municipalities in Corse (Haute-Corse department) on one plane tree (*Platanus* sp.) in June 2024 and on another in September 2024. Demarcated areas have been established. This includes an infected zone of a radius of 35m and a buffer zone that encompasses each municipality. 23 plane trees, including the two infected trees, will be uprooted.
In both municipalities, plantation of plane trees in the infected zones is forbidden. Official annual surveillance on plane trees in the buffer zone will be carried out.

C. platani has also been detected in June 2022 in Centre-Val de Loire resulting in an increase in the size of the infected zone and on a plane tree in Nouvelle-Aquitaine in February 2021 where a new demarcated area has been established. Scattered outbreaks have also been reported across demarcated areas within Ile-de-France and Auvergne-Rhône-Alpes. Containment measures will be applied.

The pest status of *Ceratocystis platani* is officially declared as: **Present, only in some parts of the Member State concerned, under containment, in case eradication is impossible.**

Source: NPPO of France (2025-01, 2025-02).

Arrêté du 31 janvier 2025 relatif à la lutte contre *Ceratocystis platani* (CERAFP) agent pathogène du chancre coloré du platane.
https://www.legifrance.gouv.fr/eli/arrete/2025/1/31/AGRG2237643A/jo/texte

EU (2022) Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) 2022/1629 of 21 September 2022 establishing measures for the containment of C*eratocystis platani* (J.M. Walter) Engelbr. & T.C. Harr. within certain demarcated areas (OJ L 245, 14, ELI: http://data.europa.eu/eli/reg_impl/2022/1629/oj

Pictures *Ceratocystis platani*. https://gd.eppo.int/taxon/CERAFP/photos

Additional key words: detailed record **Computer codes:** CERAFP, FR

2025/044 Update of the situation of *Curtobacterium flaccumfaciens* pv. *flaccumfaciens* in Belgium

In Belgium, *Curtobacterium flaccumfaciens* pv. *flaccumfaciens* (EPPO A2 List) was first isolated from faba beans (*Vicia faba*) in the province of Oost-Vlaanderen (arrondissement of Gent) in 2021 (EPPO RS 2022/110). Eradication measures were taken and ended in 2024. This outbreak is considered eradicated.

The pathogen was found again in August 2024 in small plots (10 m^2) of beans (*Phaseolus vulgaris*) grown for variety trials in the province of Antwerpen. The seed originated from the USA. An investigation is ongoing to know if other fields were sown with the same lot of seeds. Official measures have been applied and include the destruction of infected seed and the prohibition of growing host plants in the infested plots.

The pest status of *Curtobacterium flaccumfaciens* pv. *flaccumfaciens* in Belgium is officially declared as: **Present, not widely distributed and under official control (eradication).**

Source: NPPO of Belgium (2024-10, 2025-01).

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

Additional key words: eradication, detailed record **Computer codes:** CORBFL, BE

2025/045 Revision on the taxonomy on *Curtobacterium flaccumfaciens*

Curtobacterium flaccumfaciens pv. *flaccumfaciens* (EPPO A2 List) causing bacterial wilt of Fabaceae (such as *Phaseolus vulgaris, Glycine max, Vicia faba*) is regulated by a number of countries worldwide.
Recent research by Osdaghi *et al*. showed that strains pathogenic to beans are assigned to three species: *Curtobacterium flaccumfaciens, Curtobacterium poinsettiae* and *Curtobacterium aurantiacum*.

Curtobacterium flaccumfaciens* pv. *flaccumfaciens corresponds to strains pathogenic on Fabaceae with yellowish appearance on common nutrient media. These strains are found on all continents.

Curtobacterium poinsettiae primarily corresponds to strains pathogenic on poinsettia (*Euphorbia pulcherrima*). These strains show an orange/salmon appearance on common nutrient media. The species also contains strains pathogenic on Fabaceae. A pathovar designation should still be given to these strains (e.g. *C. poinsettiae* pv. *fabae*). *C. poinsettiae* is the elevation to species level of *Curtobacterium flaccumfaciens* pv. *poinsettiae* which has caused bacterial wilt of poinsettia in the USA since the 1950s and 1960s. There is no published record on its presence in the EPPO region.
It may be noted that the current strains of *Curtobacterium* pathogenic on poinsettia present in Europe are assigned to *Curtobacterium flaccumfaciens*. A pathovar designation should still be given to these strains (e.g. *C. flaccumfaciens* pv. *euphorbiae*).

Curtobacterium aurantiacum is a new species. So far, all strains in this species are pathogenic on bean (*Phaseolus vulgaris*) and have a reddish appearance on common nutrient media. So far, these strains are only found in Iran.

It may be noted that these new taxonomic names were effectively published but not validly published under the rules of the International Code of Nomenclature of Prokaryotes (Bacteriological Code) and they still await validation.
However, as these changes have practical implication for quarantine purposes, they have been implemented in EPPO Global Database, with a new code created for *Curtobacterium aurantiacum*. The EPPO Standard PM 7/102 Diagnostic protocol for *Curtobacterium flaccumfaciens* pv. *flaccumfaciens* is being revised.

Source: Osdaghi E, Taghavi SM, Hamidizade M, Kariminejhad M, Fazliarab A, Maleki HH, Baeyen S, Taghouti G, Jacques M-A, Van Vaerenbergh J & Portier P (2024) Multiphasic investigations imply transfer of orange-/red-pigmented strains of the bean pathogen *Curtobacterium flaccumfaciens* pv. *flaccumfaciens* to a new species as *C. aurantiacum* sp. nov., elevation of the poinsettia *pathogen C. flaccumfaciens* pv. *poinsettiae* to the species level as *C. poinsettiae* sp. nov., and synonymy of *C. albidum* with *C. citreum*. *Systematic and Applied Microbiology* **47**, 126489. https://doi.org/10.1016/j.syapm.2024.126489

EPPO Panel on Diagnostic in Bacteriology and European Reference Laboratory (EURL) for pests on plants - bacteria (2025-02).

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

Additional key words: taxonomy, new species **Computer codes:** CORBFL, CORBPO, CURTAU

2025/046 First report of *Clavibacter nebraskensis* in South Africa

Clavibacter nebraskensis causes Goss's wilt and leaf blight of maize (*Zea mays*). It is a(n) (re)emerging disease in the USA and has recently been reported from Mexico (EPPO RS 2024/137).

C. nebraskensis was detected in several localities in four provinces in South Africa. Samples were collected from maize farms in Parys (Free State Province), Fochville, Lichtenburg, Potchefstroom (North-West Province) and Carletonville (Gauteng Province) where testing was carried out using molecular techniques (PCR and sequencing). The presence of the bacterium was also reported in the Eastern Cape, through visual inspection on samples.
Surveys in other parts of the country are conducted where host plants are produced, and no further detections have occurred so far. Phytosanitary measures are being implemented in

the affected farms. The Department of Agriculture, Land Reform and Rural Development is continuing with research to understand the epidemiology and management of the pest to support local maize producers while conducting delimiting surveys to determine the extent of the spread of the disease.

The pest status of *Clavibacter nebraskensis* in South Africa is officially declared as: **Present: not widely distributed and under official control.**

Source: IPPC website. Official Pest Reports- South Africa (2025-01-14): Notification on the detection of *Clavibacter michiganensis* subsp. *nebraskensis*, Goss' Wilt on maize, in the Republic of South Africa https://www.ippc.int/fr/countries/south-africa/pestreports/2025/01/notification-on-the-detection-of-clavibacter-michiganensis-subsp-nebraskensis-goss-wilt-on-maize-in-the-republic-of-south-africa/

Additional key words: new record **Computer codes:** CORBNE, ZA

2025/047 *Clavibacter nebraskensis* causing Goss's wilt of maize: addition to the EPPO Alert List

Why: *Clavibacter nebraskensis* causes Goss's wilt and leaf blight of maize in North America. In recent years, its occurrence and impact has increased in the USA, and it was recently reported from Mexico and South Africa. Considering its potential impact on maize in the EPPO region, the EPPO Secretariat considered it useful to add it to the EPPO Alert List.

Where: *C. nebraskensis* was first described in the USA, but recent research suggests that it may originate from Mexico.
Africa: South Africa.
North America: Canada (Alberta, Manitoba), Mexico, United States of America (Colorado, Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Louisiana, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, Nebraska, North Dakota, South Dakota, Texas, Wisconsin, Wyoming).

On which plants: Maize (*Zea mays*) is the only economic host. A number of Poaceae species are reported to act as secondary hosts for *C. nebraskensis*.

Damage: *C. nebraskensis* is a Gram-positive, non-flagellated, non-spore forming, aerobic coryneform bacterium that forms yellow colonies on most growth media. It causes large (2–15 cm) tan to grey elongated oval lesions with wavy, irregular water-soaked margins on maize leaves. The lesions often start at the leaf tip or are associated with wounding caused by hail or wind damage. Early infection may become systemic and cause seedlings to wilt, wither, and die. Significant yield losses of up to 50% have been recorded.
Goss's wilt symptoms, development, and effect on yield are similar to those caused by *Pantoea stewartii* subsp. *stewartii* (EPPO A2 List). In fact, *C. nebraskensis* was once considered a more virulent and orange-coloured strain of *P. stewartii* subsp. *stewartii*.
Goss's wilt and leaf blight became a major maize disease in the 1970s in the USA before nearly disappearing in the mid-1980s. It unexpectedly re-emerged in 2004 in Colorado and Nebraska, spreading across the central High Plains and expanding to other Midwest states, including Indiana. The re-emergence of the disease is thought to be favoured by new cultural practices such as continuous cropping, reduced tillage, and overhead sprinkler irrigation, as well as climate change. There is no chemical treatment available to control Goss's wilt in the field. *C. nebraskensis*-resistant hybrids have been recently developed.

Dissemination: Seed transmission occurs in maize, although at very low rates. In the areas where the pest is present, the main source of inoculum is infected plant debris.

Pathways: seed of *Zea mays* from countries where the pest occurs.

Possible risks: Maize is an economically important crop which is cultivated across the EPPO region. The disease occurs in areas with climates similar to the ones in the EPPO region and is likely to cause similar impacts.

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EPPO RS 2025/048

Panel review date – Entry date 2025-02

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

2024/048 Emergence of *Ceratobasidium theobromae* as a pest of cassava, and first report in the Americas

Ceratobasidium theobromae (syn. *Rhizoctonia theobromae)* is a known pathogen causing vascular-streak dieback of cocoa *(Theobroma cacao)* in South-East Asia and Melanesia.
Since 2020, an emerging disease (cassava witches' broom disease) was observed in cassava (*Manihot esculenta*) in South-East Asia. Symptoms include dwarfism, weak sprouts with short petioles and vascular necrosis. Whereas cassava witches' broom disease has been associated with phytoplasmas (e.g. '*Candidatus* Phytoplasma asteris' and '*Candidatus* Phytoplasma luffae') in some South-East Asian countries, in others (Cambodia, Laos, the Philippines, Vietnam), it was shown to be associated to the fungus *C. theobromae,* although Koch's postulates have not yet been fully verified on cassava. In 2023 similar symptoms were observed in cassava-growing communes in French Guiana and in the neighbouring Brazilian state of Amapa. It is suspected that infected plants for planting of cassava (stem cuttings) are the pathway of spread for the pathogen. These first findings in the Americas underlines

the need to take quarantine measures to prevent further spread of this disease in cassava (and cocoa) growing regions.

Finally, it may be noted that the causal agent of vascular streak dieback of ornamental plants (EPPO Alert List), is closely related to *Ceratobasidium theobromae* but is now considered a separate species of *Ceratobasidium* (EPPO RS 2024/110).

Source: Anses (2025) Avis relatif à l'évaluation du risque lié à *Ceratobasidium theobromae* pour les DROM. 40pp. Available at https://www.anses.fr/fr/content/SANTVEG2024-SA-0147 and https://pra.eppo.int/pra/f9888ba8-506c-4924-8138-39f582b4d792/

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Additional key words: new record, new host plant **Computer codes:** ONCOTH, BR, GF, KH, LA, PH, VN

2025/049 *Phyllostachys aurea* in the EPPO region: addition to the EPPO Alert List

Why
Phyllostachys aurea (Poaceae) is recorded as an established species in the EPPO region where it can form dense stands. In 2025, the EPPO Panel on Invasive Alien Plants prioritised a list of bamboo species and *P. aurea* was identified as a priority for Pest Risk Analysis (PRA). However, the Panel noted there is little information on its impact in the EPPO region and therefore the species should be added to the Alert List, with the aim to collect further information on established populations and evidence of impact.

Geographical distribution
EPPO region: France, Italy, Portugal, Spain
Africa: Cameroon, Madagascar, Reunion
Asia: China (Fujian, Zhejiang), Taiwan, Vietnam
Central America and the Caribbean: Costa Rica, Cuba, Honduras
North America: Mexico, USA (Alabama, Arkansas, California, Florida, Georgia, Hawaii, Kentucky, Louisiana, Maryland, Mississippi, North Carolina, Oregon, South Carolina, Tennessee, Texas, Virginia)
South America: Ecuador
Oceania: Australia (New South Wales, Queensland, South Australia, Victoria), New Zealand

Morphology
Culms 2-8 m tall, 2-3 cm diameter, cylindrical or grooved, green, golden-yellow when old, smooth glabrous. Culm-sheaths 12-18 cm long, deciduous, green or light orange-yellow when fresh, with purple red or light green ribbed striation and brown spots on outer surface, covered with short white hairs towards the base.

Biology and Ecology
P. aurea is a running bamboo with leptomorph rhizomes. It is a long-lived perennial bamboo species. Seed is rarely produced.

Habitats
P. aurea can grow in full sun and it can also tolerate shaded conditions. It is tolerant to a wide range of soil types. In the EPPO region habitats at risk include riparian and woodland habitats.

Pathways for movement
Plants for planting: *P. aurea* is traded as a garden ornamental plant and it is popular in gardens and parks. There is the potential that rhizomes can be discarded as garden waste. Natural spread is from the spread of rhizomes. If growing near rivers, rhizomes can be incorporated into the water body and spread downstream.

Impacts
Phyllostachys aurea can form dense monocultures in the natural environment which can act to outcompete and displace native plant species. When it invades woodland habitats it can have a negative impact on woodland regeneration. The rhizomes can have negative impact on infrastructure in urban areas.

Control

Bamboos can be difficult to control due to their extensive underground rhizomes. Chemical herbicides can be used but these must be applied carefully in natural habitats. Rhizomes can be excavated from the ground but this is labour intensive and any remaining small fragments can regenerate into viable plants.

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Pictures

Phyllostachys aurea. https://gd.eppo.int/taxon/PLLAR/photos

Additional key words: Alert List, Invasive alien plant

Computer codes: PLLAR

2025/050 First report of *Andropogon abyssinicus* in the Canary Islands (Spain)

The genus *Andropogon* (Poaceae) contain approximately 130 grass species mainly native to Africa and the Americas. The genus contains a number of economically important pasture species, ornamentals, and invasive species, e.g. *A. virginicus* (EPPO A2 List). In 2011, a population of *Andropogon* was discovered on the island of La Palma (Spain) and subsequently identified as *A. distachyos*, a species which is considered possibly native to the island. However, following recent molecular research and further field work, these plants were identified as *A. abyssinicus*, a species native to eastern Africa. In La Palma, *A. abyssinicus* occurs in the east of the island at altitudes between 200 and 270 m a.s.l. and is found along road embankments, in wooded areas and agricultural areas. The pathway of introduction is not known. It may have been introduced as an experimental pasture grass, a lawn grass (as pure seed or as a contaminant) or as a contaminant of grain.

Source: Verloove F, Leliaert F, Gregor T, Otto R (2024) *Andropogon abyssinicus* R. Br. ex Fresen. (Andropogoneae, Panicoideae, Poaceae), another cryptic invader in La Palma (Canary Islands, Spain). *BioInvasions Records* **13(4)**, 871-889. https://doi.org/10.3391/bir.2024.13.4.03.

Additional key words: Invasive alien plant, new record **Computer codes:** ANOAB, ES

2025/051 *Ipomoea* species in Greece, Iran and Türkiye

Ipomoea is a large and diverse group of annual or perennial climbing vines, shrubs or small trees in the family Convolvulaceae. There are approximately 20-25 widespread invasive alien species of *Ipomoea* reported from tropical countries throughout the world. Greece, Türkiye and Iran form a longitudinal gradient which stretches from 21° west. These countries have some similarities in habitat and climatic characteristics which are suitable for the establishment of *Ipomoea* species. As a result, new introductions and negative impacts have been recorded in all three countries (Table 1). For example, in Greece, *I. hederacea* is problematic in cotton, maize and other spring crops. It causes problems at harvest due to it climbing on the crop. In Türkiye, *I. hederacea* has recently been recorded as a problematic species along with *I. purpurea* and *I. triloba*. These species are reported from agricultural areas where they have the potential of negatively impacting yields of cotton, eggplant, peanut, soybean, maize, pomegranate and citrus.

Table 1. *Ipomoea* species in Greece, Türkiye and Iran

Species/country	Status	Year of introduction	Habitat
Greece			
Ipomoea batatas	Transient	>1962	Agricultural
Ipomoea hederacea	Established	1994	Ruderal/Agricultural
Ipomoea indica	Established	1972	Ruderal/Agricultural
Ipomoea purpurea	Established	1986	Ruderal/Agricultural
Türkiye			

Ipomoea batatas	Transient	1900	Ruderal/Agricultural
Ipomoea coccinea	Established	2016	Ruderal/Agricultural
Ipomoea hederacea	Established	1999	Ruderal/Agricultural
Ipomoea hederifolia	Established	2016	Agricultural
Ipomoea indica	Established	2018	Ruderal
Ipomoea lobata	Transient	2023	Ruderal
Ipomoea nil	Established	Unknown	Unknown
Ipomoea purpurea	Established	1918	Ruderal/Agricultural
Ipomoea tricolor	Established	2016	Ruderal/Agricultural
Ipomoea triloba	Established	2000	Natural habitats
Iran			
Ipomoea batatas	Transient	1970-1980	Ruderal/Agricultural
Ipomoea cairica	Established	2002	Agricultural
Ipomoea carnea	Established	2002	Agricultural
Ipomoea coccinea	Transient	2020	Agricultural
Ipomoea hederacea	Invasive	2010	Ruderal/Agricultural
Ipomoea indica	Invasive	2019	Forest/Agricultural
Ipomoea lacunosa	Established	2018	Ruderal/Agricultural
Ipomoea x leucantha	Established	2010	Ruderal/Agricultural
Ipomoea purpurea	Established	1949	Ruderal/Agricultural
Ipomoea tricolor	Transient	2010	Agricultural
Ipomoea triloba	Established	2008	Agricultural

Source: Sohrabi S, Yazlik A, Bazos I, Gherekhloo J, Kati V, Kitiş YE, Arianoutsou M, Kortz A, Pyšek P (2025) Alien species of *Ipomoea* in Greece, Türkiye and Iran: distribution, impacts and management. *NeoBiota* **97**, 135-160. https://doi.org/10.3897/neobiota.97.131827

Additional key words: Invasive alien plant

Computer codes: IPOBA, IPOHE, IPOAC, PHBPU, IPOCC, IPOHF, IPOAC, QAMLO, IPONI, IPOTO, IPOTR, IPOCA, IPOCN, IPOCC, IPOHE, IPOAC, IPOLA, IPOLE, GR, IR, TR

2025/052 Seed production in European populations of *Ludwigia grandiflora*

Ludwigia grandiflora (Onagraceae: EPPO A2 List) is a perennial aquatic helophyte native to South and Central America and is invasive in Africa, the USA and the EPPO region. In its invasive range, *L. grandiflora* spreads by floating propagules. The primary mode of reproduction is asexual, but sexual reproduction is known from the native range, and has occasionally been observed in France and California. To study if Belgian populations of *L. grandiflora* can reproduce sexually, seed was collected from 18 populations. Seed germination was studied in Petri dishes under a 12/12h light/dark regime and at 14 - 24°C temperature regime in growth chambers. In total, seed from 14 populations germinated with one population showing a 77 % germination rate. Sexual reproduction may promote the long distance dispersal of propagules

of *L. grandiflora*. Seed may be spread via waterflow and water birds. As part of a management plan, populations of *L. grandiflora* should be controlled before individual plants have the opportunity to form viable seeds. Removing vegetative biomass at the early stage of an infestation and managing the seed bank can help to prevent the establishment and spread of seedlings.

Source: Delange OC, Minuti G, Stiers I (2024) Germination of the invasive water Primrose *Ludwigia grandiflora* in Belgium and potential implications for management. *Aquatic Biology* **198**, 103865. https://doi.org/10.1016/j.aquabot.2024.103865.

Pictures *Ludwigia grandiflora*. https://gd.eppo.int/taxon/LUDUR/photos

Additional key words: Invasive alien plant **Computer codes:** LUDUR, BE

2025/053 The spread and impact of *Pinus contorta* in Iceland

Pinus contorta (Pinaceae) is a fast growing pine which can produce good quality timber in regions which are suboptimal for many tree species used for timber production. Native to western North America, *P. contorta* has been introduced to the EPPO region, New Zealand, and South America where it is reported as invasive in some regions. In Iceland, it has been widely planted since the beginning of the 20th century. In the natural area of the Steinadalur valley (south-east part of the island), the distribution of *P. contorta* has been mapped since 1985. Between 2010 and 2021, the distribution of *P. contorta* has increased tenfold from 0.25 km^2 in 2010 to 2.39 km^2 in 2021. The mean annual spread rate of *P. contorta* increased significantly, from 8.5 ± 2.4 m per year between 1985–2010 to 61.6 ± 40.2 m per year between 2010–2021. Local rates of spread also shifted, with minimum rates rising from 3.4 m/year in 2010 to 8.3 m/year in 2021, and maximum rates increasing from 13.4 m/year to 119.3 m/year over the same period. Elevational spread was also shown, with the highest recorded elevation rising from 70 m in 1985 to 116 m in 2010, and 170 m in 2021. As the population has expanded it has invaded natural heathland and birch forests reducing native plant species richness and diversity. This spread into natural areas can have potential impacts at higher trophic levels, including bird populations, where breeding sites can be lost. Managing the spread of *P. contorta* from plantations and in areas of high conservation should be implemented to avoid the loss of biodiversity and ecosystem services.

Source: Wasowicz P, Óskarsdóttir G, Þórhallsdóttir ÞE (2025) Lodgepole pine (*Pinus contorta* Douglas ex Loudon) invasion in subarctic Iceland: evidence from a long-term study. *NeoBiota* **97**, 47–66.

Additional key words: Invasive alien plant, detailed record **Computer codes:** PIUCN, IS

2025/054 *Arctotheca calendula* in North Africa

Arctotheca calendula (Asteraceae: EPPO List of Invasive Alien Plants) is a short lived herbaceous plant which was first introduced into Europe as a garden ornamental in the early 18th century.

Native to South Africa, *A. calendula* is recorded in the EPPO region in countries in the Mediterranean basin. In North Africa, *A. calendula* is present over a wide area in northern Tunisia and a smaller area in north-east Algeria. In these areas it has spread considerably since it was first recorded, with populations ranging from 6 m^2 in pasture and crops (in Algeria) to covering 25 ha along roadsides and wet meadows (in Tunisia). The pathway of introduction in Tunisia is thought to be as a contaminant of clover seed imported from Australia, whereas for Algeria, the pathway of introduction is unknown but could be as a contaminant of peanut seed. Spread within each country may be facilitated by migratory birds and dispersal by livestock. Water and wind can also act to spread propagules. *Arctotheca calendula* is resistant to a number of herbicides which reduces the likelihood of success using this control method. Manual control methods can be applied, including hand pulling though this would be labour intensive where the species covers large areas.

Source: Sakhraoui N, El Mokni R, Hadef A, Rais H, Verloove F, Essl F (2024) Current distribution and status of *Arctotheca calendula* (L.) Levyns (Asteraceae) in Algeria and Tunisia (North Africa). *BioInvasions Records* 13(2), 319-333. https://doi.org/10.3391/bir.2024.13.2.03.

Pictures *Arctotheca calendula*. https://gd.eppo.int/taxon/AROCA/photos

Additional key words: Invasive alien plant, detailed record **Computer codes:** AROCA, DZ, TN