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* Please note that the original version of this Reporting Service included by mistake an article numbered 2025/201 *Bidens mottle virus, an emerging pest of sunflower in South Africa* which had already been published in the July issue (under number 2025/181). This online version does not include this duplicate article, and the numbering of the following articles has been amended accordingly.

2025/187 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**

Drosophila suzukii (Diptera: Drosophilidae – EPPO A2 List) is first reported from Honduras. During a survey to monitor the evolution of local populations of *Drosophila melanogaster*, two male specimens of *D. suzukii* were collected from rotten fruits (species not specified) in November 2024 in an area dedicated to coffee agroforestry in Comayagua department. The identity of the specimens was confirmed by morphological tests. Valladares *et al*. (2025) suggest that the pest was introduced through imported fruits. **Present, not widely distributed**.

In Chile, the invasive aphids *Greenidea ficicola* and *Greenidea psidii* (both Hemiptera: Sternorrhyncha: Aphididae) were found for the first time in December 2021. *G. ficicola* was found on weeping fig (*Ficus benjamina*) and *G. psidii* was found on guava (*Psidium guajava*) trees in the city of Arica, Arica y Parinacota region. The identity of the aphids was confirmed by morphological and molecular testing (Sepúlveda *et al.*, 2025). **Present, not widely distributed.**

In Greece, *Singhiella simplex* (Hemiptera: Sternorrhyncha: Aleyrodidae – formerly EPPO Alert List) was recorded for the first time in Athens and the surrounding suburbs of Athens, Attica region. *S. simplex* was found on *Ficus* sp. trees showing yellowing and heavy symptoms typical of whitefly infestation. The identity of the pest was confirmed by morphological and molecular testing. Stathakis *et al*. (2025) suggest that *S. simplex* is likely to be already widespread in Greece as there are many suitable host plants present. *Encarsia protransvena* (Hymenoptera: Aphelinidae) was also observed parasitizing *S. simplex* (Stathakis *et al.*, 2025). **Present.**

In Mexico, *Thrips parvispinus* (Thysanoptera: Thripidae – formerly EPPO Alert List) was found for the first time during inspections in a bell pepper (*Capsicum annuum*) field in November 2024 near Navolato, Sinaloa state. 29 female and five male specimens were recovered from a one-hectare field. Payán-Arzapalo *et al*. (2025) believe that *T. parvispinus* was most likely introduced through infested material from the USA. **Present, not widely distributed.**

Bacterial leaf blight of rice caused by *Xanthomonas oryzae* pv. *oryzae* (EPPO A1 List) is first reported from Kenya. In June 2023, typical symptoms were observed on rice plants in the coastal region of Kenya (Taita–Taveta county). The identity of the pest was confirmed by molecular tests (Nganga et al., 2025). So far only *Xanthomonas oryzae* pv. *oryzicola* (EPPO A1 List) was known to occur in Kenya (EPPO RS 2018/102). Further surveys are needed to clarify the spatial distribution and prevalence of *X. oryzae* pv. *oryzae* in other regions of Kenya. **Present.**

- **Detailed records**

In Oregon (US), *Dickeya dianthicola* (EPPO A2 List) was detected for the first time in May 2023 in potato (*Solanum tuberosum*) plants showing plant stunting, stem and root rot. The identity of the pest was confirmed by molecular testing. Infected plants originated from a single potato seed lot submitted to a seed lot trial conducted at Oregon State University. Ma

et al (2025) report that the isolates from infected plants were genetically distinct from isolates identified in infections in Eastern USA and Canada. **Present.**

In Morocco, *Penthimiola bella* (Hemiptera : Cicadellidae) was known to occur on avocado *(Persea americana)* (EPPO RS 2019/033). During surveys in 2023-2024, it was first reported in citrus orchards (Haddad et al., 2025). **Present.**

In Brazil, *Ralstonia pseudosolanacearum* (EPPO A2 List) is reported for the first time in the state of Alagoas. During a survey conducted between January 2018 and September 2019, *R. pseudosolanacearum* was reported on chilli pepper (*Capsicum frutescens*) and tomato (*Solanum lycopersicum*) plants in Leste Alagoano mesoregion. *R. solanacearum* (EPPO A2 List) was already known to occur in Alagoas. It was detected on symptomatic banana (*Musa acuminata*), aubergine (*Solanum melongena*), and tomato in Agreste and Leste Alagoano mesoregions. The identity of the pests was confirmed by multiplex and repetitive sequenced-based PCR testing and sequencing (de Oliveira *et al.*, 2025). **Present.**

- **Eradication**

In Japan Potato spindle tuber viroid (*Pospiviroid fusituberis*, PSTVd – EPPO A2 List) was first detected in tomato in Fukushima prefecture in 2008 (EPPO RS 2012/061), and in dahlia in Yamanashi prefecture in 2009. A nationwide survey was then conducted and revealed the occurrence in 15 prefectures: in Hokkaido (Hokkaido prefecture), Honshu (Aichi, Akita, Chiba, Fukushima, Hyogo, Nagano, Niigata, Wakayama, Yamagata, Yamanashi prefectures), Shikoku (Kagawa, Kochi prefectures), Kyushu (Fukuoka, Kagoshima prefectures). Official measures have been implemented to prevent the spread and to eradicate the pest, and PSTVd has not been detected since 2021. As a result, PSTVd has been considered eradicated in 2024 (NPPO of Japan, 2025)

The pest status of Potato spindle tuber viroid in Japan is officially declared as: **Absent, pest eradicated**.

- **New host plants**

In Thailand, during inspections on solanaceous crops grown in greenhouses, *Tuta absoluta* (Lepidoptera: Gelechiidae – EPPO A2 List) was found for the first time on Indian nightshade (*Solanum lasiocarpum*) (Vivekanandhan *et al.*, 2025). The pest caused leaf deformation and in severe cases yellowing, drying and fruit drop.

Sources: de Oliveira YD, Carvalhais LC, Assunção IP, de Andrade Lima GS, dos Santos SL, de Souza EB, Vieira WO, Silva AM (2025) *Ralstonia* species infecting *Solanaceae* and banana occur at different relative abundances in distinct regions of Alagoas state, Brazil. *Tropical Plant Pathology* **50**(1), 62 https://doi.org/10.1007/s40858-025-00749-6

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Additional key words: detailed record, eradication, absence, new record, new host plants

Computer codes: DROSSU, ENCAPR, ERWICD, GNORAB, GREEFI, GREEPS, PETHBE, PSTVD0, RALSPS, RALSSL, RALSSO, THRIPV, XANTOR, BR, CL, GR, HN, JP, KE, MA, MX, TH, US

2025/188 Recent updates in the EPPO Global Database

The EPPO Global Database is continuously updated with new information. Some recent updates are listed here.

The following new EPPO datasheets have been published in the EPPO Global Database:
- *Harringtonia lauricola* (EPPO Alert List) https://gd.eppo.int/taxon/RAFFLA/datasheet
- *Meloidogyne graminicola* (EPPO A2 List) https://gd.eppo.int/taxon/MELGGC/datasheet
- *Orgyia leucostigma* (EPPO A1 List) https://gd.eppo.int/taxon/HEMELE/datasheet

Since January 2025, over 1000 photos of pests and plants have been added to the EPPO Global Database. The EPPO Secretariat warmly thanks the experts who have provided photos.

Source: EPPO Secretariat (2025-08).

Additional key words: publication, database, datasheet

Computer codes: HEMELE, MELGGC, RAFFLA

2025/189 *Lagria villosa* (Coleoptera: Tenebrionidae): addition to the Alert List

Why: Lagria villosa (Coleoptera: Tenebrionidae) is highly polyphagous beetle native to Africa. In South America, where it has been introduced, it has been reported to cause significant economic damage to a range of crops when conditions are hot and dry, including strawberries (*Fragaria* × *ananassa*), soybean (*Glycine max)* and potatoes (*Solanum lycopersicum*). The pest is not known to occur in the EPPO region, but *L. villosa* has been intercepted in the Netherlands and in Finland on imported plant produce. Considering these interceptions and its potential to cause damage were it to establish, the NPPO of the Netherlands suggested that *L. villosa* could be usefully added to the EPPO Alert List.

Where*: L. villosa* is native to Africa and is believed to be widespread across western, south-eastern and eastern Africa. *L. villosa* was introduced to Brazil in 1976 and has since spread to neighbouring countries.

Africa: Benin, Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Democratic Republic of Congo, Cote d'Ivoire, Ethiopia, Ghana, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Kenya, Liberia, Malawi, Nigeria, Rwanda, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Togo, Zimbabwe
South America: Argentina, Bolivia, Brazil (Bahia, Espirito Santo, Mato Grosso, Minas Gerais, Rio de Janeiro, Santa Catarina, São Paulo), Paraguay

On which plants: *L. villosa* is a highly polyphagous pest with a wide host range, the full extent of which is not yet known. The host range of *L. villosa* includes the following species: *Ananas comosus, Brassica rapa* subsp. *sylvestris, Coffea arabica, Cucumis sativus, Fragaria* × *ananassa, Glycine max, Lactuca sativa, Musa* × *paradisiaca, Oryza sativa, Phaseolus vulgaris, Prunus persica, Psophocarpus tetragonolobus, Sorghum bicolor, Solanum lycopersicum, Solanum tuberosum, Vitis labrusca* and *Zea mays.*

Damage: Damage is caused when adults feed on the leaves, flowers, fruits, grains and seeds of several crop species, causing direct crop losses. The larvae of *L. villosa* are detritivores and can live in or on the soil, but have also been found on fruits of host plants. There is limited literature on *L. villosa* but some reports suggest infestation is highest during hot and dry conditions, especially when host plants are under water stress. *L. villosa* has also been reported to vector plant pathogens including *Pseudomonas syringae* pv. *garcae*, *Pseudomonas cichorii*, *Fusarium subglutinans*, *Burkholderia gladioli*.

Dissemination: Adult beetles can fly. This is believed to be the main mechanism of its spread across South America, although no data is available on adult flight potential. In international trade, *L. villosa* is likely to move on plants for planting and plant products of its host plants. It has been intercepted on imported fruits, leaves or stems of host plants (in the Netherlands on chewing khat (*Catha edulis*), table grapes (*Vitis vinifera*) and stems of basil (*Ocimum basilicum*) and in Finland on table grapes).

Pathways: host plants for planting, fruit, foliage, grain, seed? from countries where *L. villosa* occurs

Possible risks: Many crop species which are hosts of *L. villosa* are grown across the EPPO region. Interceptions made by the Netherlands and Finland have shown that *L. villosa* has the potential to enter the EPPO region via trade. In an Express-PRA carried out by the Julius Kühn-Institut (2022) it was considered that *L. villosa* could establish in southern Mediterranean countries, where climatic conditions are similar to areas of South America where it has become a pest. The wide host range and flight potential of *L. villosa* suggest

that, were it to be introduced to the EPPO region, it could spread, as has happened across South America. Natural enemies have been observed in South America but more research is needed on their ability to control populations of *L. villosa*. There is little evidence of damage in its native range in Africa and damage in South America appears limited to hot and dry weather events, so the extent of potential damage to the EPPO region remains unclear.

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Additional key words: Alert List **Computer codes:** LAGRVL, PSDMCI, PSDMGC, GIBBFS

2025/190 *Proagopertha lucidula*, an invasive pest spreading westward in the EPPO region

The apple fairy chafer *Proagopertha lucidula* (Coleoptera: Scarabaeidae) is first recorded from Kazakhstan. It was observed in 2025 in the south-eastern part of the country (Almaty and Zhetysu oblasts), located over 100 km from the border with China (Xinjiang province). *P. lucidula* is an important pest of fruit and ornamental crops in China and the Russian Far East.

So far, it was known to occur in Russian Far East, North and South Korea, China (Anhui, Gansu, Hebei, Heilongjiang, Henan, Jiangsu, Jilin, Liaoning, Neimenggu, Sichuan, Shaanxi, Shandong, Shanxi, Xinjiang).

P. lucidula has a life cycle similar to that of *Popillia japonica* (Coleoptera: Scarabaeidae - EPPO A2 List): the larvae feed on plant roots while adults feed on the flowers, buds, leaves or fruit of host plants. It is very polyphagous, with damage recorded on many Rosaceous plants such as apple (*Malus* spp.) and pear (*Pyrus* spp.) trees but also other species such as grapevine (*Vitis vinifera*), elm (*Ulmus* spp.) and poplar (*Populus* spp.).

Temreshev (2025) considers that these findings may be due to an extension of the geographical range supported by climate change or by an accidental introduction via plant material or soil from China. He considers that introductions to Kyrgyzstan and Uzbekistan

are also likely and notes that the emergence of the beetle is earlier (April to May) in Kazakhstan than in the rest of its range in Asia (May to mid-June or June to August).

Previous research showed that *P. lucidula* may be caught in traps used to detect *Popillia japonica*.

Source: Temreshev II (2025) A new invasive species *Proagopertha lucidula* (Faldermann, 1835)(Coleoptera, Scarabaeidae, Rutelinae) for Kazakhstan. *Acta Biologica Sibirica* **11**, 715-725.

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Pictures *Proagopertha lucidula*. https://gd.eppo.int/taxon/PROGLU/photos

Additional key words: new record **Computer codes:** PROGLU, KZ

2025/191 First report of *Selenothrips rubrocinctus* in Madeira (PT)

Selenothrips rubrocinctus (Thysanoptera: Thripidae, EPPO Alert List) is first reported in Madeira. Specimens were observed on avocado (Persea americana) and Arbutus unedo in 2 sites in the municipality of Funchal. In Macaronesia, the species was already known to occur in Cabo Verde.

In the same article, Aguiar et al. (2024) note that the following thrips species (Thysanoptera: Thripidae) have also been recorded for the first time in Madeira: *Echinothrips americanus* (formerly EPPO Alert List), *Frankliniella schultzei*, *Pezothrips kellyanus* (formerly EPPO Alert List), *Scirtothrips aurantii* (EPPO A1 List, see also EPPO RS 2024/099).

Source: Aguiar AM, Cravo D (2024) New records of thrips (Thysanoptera: Terebrantia and Tubulifera) for Madeira Archipelago and Selvagens Islands and the first record of the thrips parasitoid Thripastichus gentilei (Del Guercio, 1931)(Hymenoptera: Eulophidae). *Boletim do Museu de História Natural do Funchal* No. LXXIV, Art. 369

Pictures *Selenothrips rubrocinctus*. https://gd.eppo.int/taxon/SLENRU/photos

Additional key words: new record **Computer codes:** ECHTAM, SLENRU, PEZTKE, PT

2025/192 Update on the situation of *Popillia japonica* in Germany

In Germany specimens of *Popillia japonica* (Coleoptera: Scarabaeidae – EPPO A2 List) have been occasionally caught in traps but the species was not considered established (EPPO RS 2021/007, RS 2022/010, RS 2022/165). Official surveys and awareness raising campaigns are conducted. The NPPO of Germany recently informed the EPPO Secretariat of several findings and the establishment of demarcated areas on its territory.

- Baden-Württemberg

A demarcated area was first established in March 2025 in Baden-Württemberg, in the district of Lörrach (region of Freiburg) as the infested and buffer zones of the outbreak in Basel (Switzerland) extend partly to Germany. Official measures, including the prohibition of disposing of untreated green waste and soil outside the demarcated area, are applied. In

July 2025, 2 individual beetles were caught in 2 different traps in the buffer zone: one close to a freight station and lorry parking area, and one close to the car park of a big hotel. It is considered that both beetles were hitchhikers. 20 more traps were installed close to the findings but as of August 2025 no other beetles have been caught there. For this reason, no further infested area has been demarcated in the district of Lörrach.

Another demarcated area was established in July 2025 in the area of Freiburg where isolated beetles had been caught since 2021 (RS 2022/165). In June 2025 1 male beetle was caught in a trap, and in July 2 male beetles were caught in the same trap and one female beetle was found in a private garden. Eradication measures are initiated.

In August 2025 one male beetle was caught in a trap close to the railway line in an area where no beetles had previously been trapped. There is currently no indication of an established population in that area.

- Bavaria

One male beetle was caught for the first time in this region in a trap located near Lindau, less than 1000 m away from the border to Austria in August 2024. The trap was located close to a motorway that leads to the south including known demarcated areas in Switzerland and Italy. Further traps were installed, and another male beetle was caught two weeks later in a trap located about 4.5 km north-west of the first one. In July 2025 two and then four more male beetles were caught in the same pheromone trap near Lindau as the first beetle in 2024. No indication of an established population could be found so far.

- Brandenburg

One male beetle was first caught in a trap in July 2025. The trap was set up in a nursery where two traps were already placed in 2024. The beetle was most probably a hitchhiker. There is no indication of an established population. Intensive surveys are carried out.

- Hessen

One male beetle was found in July 2025 in a private garden in Trebur (Hesse) by an individual who reported the suspected finding to the regional plant protection service which carried out the identification. A delimiting survey is being conducted in an area of 2 km radius. As of the end of August 2025, 4 more beetles have been caught in 3 different traps, and a demarcated area is being established.

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

Source: NPPO of Germany (2025-03, 2025-07, 2025-08).

EU (2023) Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) 2023/1584 of 1.8.2023 on measures to prevent the establishment and spread of *Popillia japonica* Newman and on measures for the eradication and containment of that pest within certain demarcated areas of the Union territory. OJL 194, p. 17–38. http://data.europa.eu/eli/reg_impl/2023/1584/oj

Pictures *Popillia japonica*. https://gd.eppo.int/taxon/POPIJA/photos

Additional key words: new report **Computer codes:** POPIJA, DE

2025/193 Incursion of *Popillia japonica* in Belgium

In Belgium official surveys (including pheromone traps) for *Popillia japonica* (Coleoptera: Scarabaeidae – EPPO A2 List) have been carried out yearly from 2020 onwards. Awareness raising activities have also been conducted and a platform allows the general public to report this pest and other quarantine pests (https://observations.be/species/Q-organismen/species/). In early July 2025, a suspicious observation was reported on this platform: a dead beetle was found in a warehouse of an industrial company that had recently imported a consignment (not subjected to plant health regulations) from an infested area in Europe). The competent authority inspected the site and detected a second dead beetle. Both beetles were officially identified as *Popillia japonica*. Surveillance (including traps) was set up in the surrounding area, but no beetles have been caught as of August 1st.

The pest status of *Popillia japonica* in Belgium is officially declared as: **Absent, confirmed by survey.**

Source: NPPO of Belgium (2025-08).

Press release: https://favv-afsca.be/fr/decouverte-de-scarabees-japonais-morts-en-belgique-lafsca-appelle-la-vigilance

Pictures *Popillia japonica*. https://gd.eppo.int/taxon/POPIJA/photos

Additional key words: incursion, absence **Computer codes:** POPIJA, BE

2025/194 Update on the situation of *Euwallacea fornicatus sensu lato* in Germany

In Germany, *Euwallacea fornicatus sensu lato* (Coleoptera: Scolytinae, EPPO A2 List) was first found in a tropical greenhouse in January 2021 in Thüringen (EPPO RS 2021/033), and has since been eradicated. *E. fornicatus* was later found in a tropical greenhouse in Berlin in March 2021 on 136 shrubs and trees of *Ficus* sp., *Mangifera indica*, *Clusia rosea* and *Heteropanax* sp. and official eradication measures were taken (RS 2021/059). Further beetles were found in traps in the same greenhouse in September 2022 (RS 2023/005). In August 2022 another outbreak was reported in a tropical greenhouse in Brandenburg (RS 2025/034) and in December 2024 *E. fornicatus sensu lato* was reported in a greenhouse in Nordrhein-Westfalen in a single *Adansonia digitata* tree (RS 2025/034).

The NPPO of Germany recently informed the EPPO Secretariat that since May 2023 no further *E. fornicatus* have been found in the greenhouse in Berlin. Therefore, the outbreak in Berlin is considered eradicated.

Following the finding in the greenhouse in Nordrhein-Westfalen, two traps were installed in the greenhouse in February 2025. One beetle was caught in the trap and further infested plants of *Ficus religiosa, Triplaris americana* and *Moringa drouhardii* were found with *E. fornicatus* larvae. Official phytosanitary measures have been taken including destruction of all infested plants. In July 2025, the number of traps was increased from 2 to 5 and weekly monitoring continues.

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

Source: NPPO of Germany (2025-07, 2025-08).

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

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

2025/195 Update on the situation of *Scirtothrips aurantii* and *Scirtothrips dorsalis* in the Netherlands

In July 2025, the NPPO of the Netherlands informed the EPPO Secretariat that *Scirtothrips aurantii* (Thysanoptera: Thripidae – EPPO A1 List) and *Scirtothrips dorsalis* (Thysanoptera: Thripidae – EPPO A2 List) had been eradicated from its territory.

S. dorsalis had previously been found in 2019 and 2022 in connection with imported plants and had been successfully eradicated (EPPO RS 2019/182, RS 2022/204, RS 2023/010). *S. dorsalis* was reported again on ornamental plants alongside the first finding of *S. aurantii* at the end of October 2024 in a commercial greenhouse in Altena municipality, Noord-Brabant province (RS 2025/004). Following the finding, official phytosanitary measures were implemented, including incineration of infested plants and cleaning of the infested greenhouse. Between March and July 2025, no *S. dorsalis* or *S. aurantii* have been caught in traps in the greenhouse and the outbreak is considered eradicated.

In August 2025, the NPPO of the Netherlands informed the EPPO Secretariat that *S. dorsalis* was found again on 31 July 2025 on bonsai plants of *Podocarpus macrophyllus* at a nursery (greenhouse). The infestation was detected during a post-import monitoring inspection. The infestation was found on a lot of *P. macrophyllus* plants (1721 plants) in one compartment of the greenhouse (0.2 ha). In this compartment bonsais of other plant species are present (*Buxus harlandii, Camellia japonica, Ginkgo biloba, Ilex microphylla, Ilex crenata, Loropetalum chinense, Metasequoia glyptostroboides, Pseudolarix amabilis, Rhododendron indicum, Syzygium buxifolium* and *Zelkova parvifolia)* and will be inspected to check if they are infested. Official measures were taken and include prohibition of movement of all plants in the compartment as well as applications of plant protection products, hygienic measures to prevent spread of the pest out of the compartment, and traps to monitor the presence of the pest. Other compartments at the site of production have been inspected on 1 August 2025 and no indication of the presence of *S. dorsalis* was found. All plants present were imported from China. Forward tracing is ongoing.

The pest status of *Scirtothrips aurantii* in the Netherlands is officially declared as: **Absent, pest eradicated.**

The pest status of *Scirtothrips dorsalis* in the Netherlands is officially declared as: **Transient, actionable, under eradication.**

Source: NPPO of the Netherlands (2025-07, 2025-08).

Pictures *Scirtothrips aurantii*. https://gd.eppo.int/taxon/SCITAU/photos
Scirtothrips dorsalis. https://gd.eppo.int/taxon/SCITDO/photos

Additional key words: eradication, detailed record **Computer codes:** SCITAU, SCITDO, NL

2025/196 One beetle of *Anoplophora chinensis* found in Nordrhein-Westfalen, Germany

Anoplophora chinensis (Coleoptera: Cerambycidae – EPPO A2 List) was first reported in Germany in 2008 on imported *Acer palmatum* from China (EPPO RS 2008/115), this was later determined to be an isolated finding that did not lead to the establishment of the pest (RS 2008/156). Further isolated findings of adult *A. chinensis* were reported in 2009 (RS 2009/174) and 2014 (RS 2014/183). *A. chinensis* was declared to be eradicated from Germany in September 2017.

Recently, the NPPO of Germany informed the EPPO Secretariat of an isolated finding of a single male beetle in a private garden in Nordrhein-Westfalen in July 2025. It is considered that *A. chinensis* probably emerged from a bonsai *Acer* sp. plant that had been purchased and planted in the spring of 2025. The plant showed an exit hole and leaf damage on the young twigs. It was destroyed. Official surveys did not detect further signs of infestation in the garden or in its vicinity. The NPPO of Germany considers that this is an isolated finding and not an outbreak. Trace back investigations are ongoing.

The pest status of *Anoplophora chinensis* in Germany is officially declared as: **Absent, pest eradicated.**

Source: NPPO of Germany (2025-08).

Pictures *Anoplophora chinensis*. https://gd.eppo.int/taxon/ANOLCN/photos

Additional key words: incursion, absence **Computer codes:** ANOLCN, DE

2025/197 First report of *Austropuccinia psidii* in Portugal

The NPPO of Portugal recently informed the EPPO Secretariat of the first finding of myrtle rust *Austropuccinia psidii* (EPPO Alert List) in Portugal. During university research in May 2025, *A. psidii* was detected on common myrtle *(Myrtus communis)* and *Lophomyrtus x ralphii* cv. 'Purpurea' in five botanical gardens in the parishes of Alcântara, Ajuda, Belém and Santo António, Lisbon region. No symptoms were observed on other Myrtaceae (*Agonis flexuosa*, *Callistemon rigidus*, *C. viminalis*, *Eucalyptus* spp., *Eugenia involucrata*, *E. uniflora*, *Lophostemon confertus*, *Melaleuca armillaris*, *M. elliptica*, *Metrosideros excelsa*) in the affected gardens. The identity of the pest was confirmed by molecular testing. Five other gardens across Lisbon were surveyed and no symptoms were observed. The origin of the outbreak is not known. Official measures are implemented and aimed at eradication. They include uprooting and destruction of infected plants by incineration, pruning of surrounding host plants showing mild symptoms, application of preventative fungicide treatment on surrounding plants, and disinfection of any tools used.

This is the first report of *A. psidii* on outdoor Myrtaceae in Europe.

The pest status of *Austropuccinia psidii* in Portugal is officially declared as: **Present, under eradication.**

Source: NPPO of Portugal (2025-07).

Ramos AP, Garcia C, Melo I, Maia F, Soares AL, Talhinhas P (2025) First report of *Austropuccinia psidii* causing myrtle rust on outdoor Myrtaceae in Europe. *Plant Disease* (early view) https://doi.org/10.1094/PDIS-07-25-1433-PDN

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

Additional key words: new record **Computer codes:** PUCCPS, PT

2025/198 First report of *Austropuccinia psidii* in Taiwan

In Taiwan, the presence of myrtle rust *Austropuccinia psidii* (EPPO Alert List) on eucalyptus was recorded in 1992 but there were no records of it after this.
In April and May 2025, rust symptoms were observed on leaves of *Melaleuca leucadendra*, *Rhodomyrtus tomentosa*, *Syzygium cumini*, *S. jambos*, and *Syzygium* sp. (all Myrtaceae) in central and northern Taiwan on the campuses of National Chiayi University and National Taiwan University. The identity of the pathogen was confirmed by morphological and molecular tests. On *M. leucadendra* and *S. jambos*, the pathogen caused wilt and death of young shoots and suckers.

The situation of *Austropuccinia psidii* in Taiwan can be described as: **Present, not widely distributed.**

Source: Yeh Y-H, Kirschner R (2025) Outbreak of the myrtle rust *Austropuccinia psidii* on Myrtaceae in Taiwan. Fungal Science **40**(1), 1–8

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

Additional key words: new record **Computer codes:** PUCCPS, TW

2025/199 New report of lettuce infectious yellows virus in Spain

Lettuce infectious yellows virus (*Crinivirus lactucaflavi*, LIYV – EPPO A1 List) was first reported in Spain (and in the EPPO region) in 2021 on lettuce plants (*Lactuca sativa*) in a greenhouse in the País Vasco Region and rapidly eradicated (EPPO RS 2021/160).
The NPPO of Spain recently informed the EPPO Secretariat that LIYV was found again on its territory. In May 2025, an official research institute reported to the Plant Protection Center of Bizkaia (Pais Vasco Region), that a crop of *Beta vulgaris* for seed production grown within a greenhouse in Derio municipality (Bizkaia province, País Vasco Region), showed widespread virus-like symptoms. Symptoms included chlorotic and mosaic leaf patterns, with some bronze discoloration. Samples were collected and sent for analysis to the National Reference Laboratory. The identity of the virus was confirmed by RT-PCR. The crop consisted of 115 plants intended for G1 seed production. LIYV is known to be transmitted by the whitefly *Bemisia tabaci* (Hemiptera: Aleyrodidae - EPPO A2 List), but this pest was not found in the greenhouse. All plants in the greenhouse were destroyed by incineration, except 9 that were retained for seed production. Seeds from these 9 plants will be tested to check for virus presence and to evaluate possible seed transmission of LIYV (under isolated conditions).

The pest status of lettuce infectious yellows virus in Spain is officially declared as: **Present, under eradication.**

Source: NPPO of Spain (2025-08).

Pictures *Crinivirus lactucaflavi*. https://gd.eppo.int/taxon/LIYV00/photos

Additional key words: new report, aetiology **Computer codes:** LIYV00, ES

2025/200 Tomato brown rugose fruit virus is officially confirmed in Egypt

In Egypt, tomato brown rugose fruit virus (*Tobamovirus fructirugosum*, ToBRFV – EPPO A2 List) was first reported in 2019 on tomato (*Solanum lycopersicum*) but this record was considered invalid by the NPPO of Egypt (EPPO RS 2020/125). ToBRFV was later detected in capsicum samples collected in 2016-2017 (RS 2024/049), but further surveys were needed to confirm the presence of the pest.

The NPPO of Egypt recently confirmed the presence of ToBRFV on its territory. During official surveys conducted in 2025, the virus was found in tomato fruit samples in the Fayoum and Ismailia governorates. The NPPO of Egypt is carrying out surveillance.

The pest status of tomato brown rugose fruit virus in Egypt is officially declared as: **Present, with limited distribution.**

Source: NPPO of Egypt (2025-08).

Pictures *Tobamovirus fructirugosum*. https://gd.eppo.int/taxon/TOBRFV/photos

Additional key words: detailed record **Computer codes:** TOBRFV, EG

2025/201 First report of *Aphelenchoides besseyi* in Portugal

In January 2021, during routine phytosanitary inspections of imported rice seeds (*Oryza sativa*) in Portugal, the nematode *Aphelenchoides besseyi* (EPPO A2 List) was detected in seeds imported from Italy. Following the interception, national phytosanitary measures were implemented including enhanced surveillance. In subsequent surveys, *A. besseyi* was found in January 2022 in three rice grain samples from a paddy field in Alcácer do Sal, in the rice growing region of the Sado basin (Alentejo region). During surveys in January 2024, *A. besseyi* was also detected in the rice growing region of the Mondego basin (Coimbra district, Centro region). In April 2024, *A. besseyi* was detected in five rice samples in Salvaterra de Magos in the rice producing area of Tagus basin (Alentejo region). This is the first time that *A. besseyi* is reported from Portugal.

The situation of *Aphelenchoides besseyi* in Portugal can be described as: **Present, not widely distributed.**

Source: Inacio ML, Mora Rusinque LC, Nóbrega F, Varela R (2025) Detection of *Aphelenchoides besseyi* in major rice-growing regions of Portugal: tracing a possible introduction pathway through seed trade. *Plant Disease* (early view)

Pictures *Aphelenchoides besseyi*. https://gd.eppo.int/taxon/APLOBE/photos

Additional key words: new record **Computer codes:** APLOBE, PT

2025/202 First report of *Meloidogyne enterolobii* in Saudi Arabia

The root-knot nematode *Meloidogyne enterolobii* (EPPO A2 List) is reported for the first time from Saudi Arabia. In September 2023, tomato plants (*Solanum lycopersicum*) with stunting and yellowing symptoms were observed in tomato fields in Najran and Jazan regions (in the southern part of the country). Uprooting of plants revealed galled roots. The identity of the pest was confirmed using morphological and molecular testing.
In the Middle East, *M. enterolobii* was so far only known to occur in Egypt where it was first reported in 2023 (EPPO RS 2023/140).

Source: Yusuf AG, Al-Yahya F, Saleh AA (2025) First report of guava root-knot nematode (*Meloidogyne enterolobii*) infecting tomato (*Solanum lycopersicum*) in Saudi Arabia. *Plant Disease* (early view) https://doi.org/10.1094/PDIS-05-25-1039-PDN

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

Additional key words: new record **Computer codes:** MELGMY, SA

2025/203 First report of *Amaranthus tuberculatus* in Portugal

Amaranthus tuberculatus (Amaranthaceae - EPPO A2 List) is an annual dioecious non-native species to the EPPO region with transient and established occurrences known in a number of EPPO countries. In the EPPO region, *A. tuberculatus* grows mainly in ruderal sites and along riverbanks, and to a lesser extent in crop fields. During recent fieldwork in Portugal, several populations of *A. tuberculatus* were found along the banks of the River Tagus, upstream of Porto de Muge (parish of Valada, region of Oeste e Vale do Tejo). *A. tuberculatus* was found at numerous locations, between Azambuja and Azinhaga, over a distance of approximately 60 km. The further upstream, the more numerous the *A. tuberculatus* plants were. Near Azinhaga, *A. tuberculatus* grows abundantly along the lower stretch of the Almonda River, a tributary of the Tagus. At all locations, *A. tuberculatus* was found growing on sand and gravel riverbanks. Both male and female plants were found and the total population is estimated to be in the tens of thousands of individuals. Currently, *A. tuberculatus* was not found in the extensive agricultural areas which border the Tagus river. However, if a similar spread is seen in Portugal as in other countries (e.g. Italy), *A. tuberculatus* could cause economic damage to this area.

Source: Verloove F (2026) The North American weed *Amaranthus tuberculatus* (Amaranthaceae) new to Portugal: previously overlooked or spreading rapidly? *Acta Botanica Croatica*, DOI: 10.37427/botcro-2026-010.

Pictures *Amaranthus tuberculatus*. https://gd.eppo.int/taxon/AMATU/photos

Additional key words: new record, invasive alien plant **Computer codes:** AMATU, PT

2025/204 First report of *Phacelia tanacetifolia* in Tunisia

Phacelia tanacetifolia (Boraginaceae) is an annual species and is native to North America (USA: Arizona, California and Nevada, Mexico). It is widespread in the EPPO region where it is planted to support bee populations, and it can also be found in ruderal habitats including waste land and along roadsides. *P. tanacetifolia* is reported for the first time in Tunisia where one population of approximately 25 plants was reported from Menzel Ennour municipality (Monastir governorate) The population covered approximately one hectare. The origin of this population is unknown. However, the population is at the edge of a cultivated field and there is the potential that the species was introduced as a contaminant of annual crop seeds. Alternatively the pathway of introduction may have been an accidental escape from individuals planted as garden ornamentals. *P. tanacetifolia* is considered a transient alien plant in Tunisia.

Source: El Mokni AA, Mokni R, El Mokni R (2025) *Phacelia tanacetifolia* Benth. (Hydrophylloideae, Boraginaceae): a first report as casual alien to the vascular flora of Tunisia. *Hacquetia*, DOI: 10.3986/hacq-2025-0013

Additional key words: new record, invasive alien plant **Computer codes:** PHCTA, TN

2025/205 First report of *Eleocharis caduca* in Montenegro

Eleocharis caduca (Poaceae) is an annual grass species native to Africa. In Europe, the status of *E. caduca* is considered uncertain. In Italy, *E. caduca* is considered as a native species. In 2023, *E. caduca* was reported for the first time in Montenegro in the south-east of the country in a coastal area near the town of Donji Štoj. Here, *E. caduca* forms a stable population on areas that have been managed by heavy machinery. Currently the population covers approximately one hectare. The introduction pathway is unknown but it is likely that the species has entered as a contaminant of used machinery. Alternatively, the population may have been introduced by migratory birds, from known populations in North Africa or Italy. *E. caduca* is considered an established alien plant in Montenegro.

Source: Mesterházy A, Romanov R, Verloove F (2025) *Eleocharis caduca* (Cyperaceae), a new alien species in Montenegro and the Balkan Peninsula. *Phytologia Balcanica* **31**, 81-86

Additional key words: new record, invasive alien plant **Computer codes:** ELOCD, ME