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2026/085 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**

During a survey conducted in September 2021 to detect viruses in *Capsicum* crops in Benin, the following viruses were detected by PCR**:** pepper mild mottle virus (*Tobamovirus capsici* – PMMoV), potato yellow mosaic virus (*Begomovirus tuberosi* – PYMV- EU Quarantine Pest), tomato spotted wilt virus (*Orthotospovirus tomatomaculae*- TSWV - EPPO A2 List). This is the first report of PYMV in Africa (Missihoun *et al.*, 2025)**. Present, widely distributed**.

Fusarium foetens (EPPO A2 List) was recorded for the first time in the Palestinian Territories in spring 2024 on coriander (*Coriandrum sativum*)(Alkowni *et al.,* 2026). This is the first record of coriander as a host of *F. foetens*. **Present.**

Grapevine berry inner necrosis virus (*Trichovirus necroacini,* GINV – EU Quarantine pest) is recorded for the first time in Australia. GINV has been detected in grapevines (*Vitis vinifera*) and rootstocks across Australia's eastern seaboard, which comprises of the coastal regions of Victoria, New South Wales and Queensland states (Plant Health Australia, 2026). **Present, not widely distributed and under official control.**

Platypus quercivorus (Coleoptera: Curculionidae: Platypodinae) was found during quarantine inspection in Hawaii (US). Chamorro *et al*. (2026) considered it unlikely to be established. **Absent, intercepted only**.

- **Detailed records**

In China, *Megalurothrips usitatus* (Thysanoptera: Thripidae) occurs on cowpeas (*Vigna unguiculata*) in Shandong in the northern part of the country (Tian *et al*., 2025). So far it was only known to occur in the southern part of China.

In India, '*Candidatus* Phytoplasma ziziphi'' (EU Quarantine pest) subgroup 16Sr V-B is first reported causing a tree decline on sweet cherry (*Prunus avium*). Symptoms were observed in 2023–2024 in cherry orchards in Himachal Pradesh (Chauhan *et al.,* 2025).

In China, *Diaporthe vaccinii* (EPPO A2 List) was known to occur in Shandong province on *Vaccinium* sp. (EPPO RS 2018/068). It is first reported from Jiangsu province where it has caused severe leaf spot disease on *Magnolia figo* in July and August 2025 (Xu *et al.,* 2026). This is the first report of *M. figo* as a host of *D. vaccinii*. So far, *D. vaccinii* had only been reported on *Vaccinium* spp.

In Poland, the presence of brown spot needle blight caused by *Lecanosticta acicola* (EPPO A2 List) was observed in many sites along the coast of the Baltic Sea. It was found on *Pinus mugo,* as well as, to a lesser extent, on *P. sylvestris* and *P. nigra* during surveys conducted between 2023 and 2025. The disease has spread westwards since its first detection (Boroń *et al*., 2025).

In India, *Liriomyza sativae* (Diptera: Agromyzidae - EPPO A2 List) is first reported from Tamil Nadu state (Srinivasan *et al.,* 2026).

In China, the wood wasp *Sirex ermak* (Hymenoptera: Siricidae – EPPO A2 List) occurs in Xinjiang (Ge *et al.*, 2025).

- **New host plants**

New solanaceous host plants are recorded for *Leucinodes orbonalis* (Lepidoptera: Pyralidae, EPPO A1 List): *Solanum violaceum, S. trilobatum,* and *S. lasiocarpum* (Thirumalaisamy *et al.*, 2026).

Rapeseed (*Brassica napus)* is first reported as a host of *Meloidogyne graminicola* (EPPO A2 List). Root knots were observed on *B. napus* plants growing in fields in Hubei province (China) and were found to be infested with *M. graminicola* in October 2024 (Yu *et al.*, 2026).

Commelina communis (Commelinaceae) is first reported as a host of tomato brown rugose fruit virus (*Tobamovirus fructirugosum*, ToBRFV – EPPO A2 List). ToBRFV was detected on symptomatic *C. communis* plants, growing as weeds in a greenhouse with tomato (*Solanum lycopersicum*) plants that also tested positive for ToBRFV in Shandong province (China) in May 2024 (Wang *et al.*, 2026). This is the first report of ToBRFV on a plant from the Commelinaceae family and the first on a monocotyledonous plant. *C. communis* is also grown as an ornamental plant.

Apple chlorotic leaf spot virus (*Trichovirus mali*, ACLSV – EU RNQP) is first reported infecting guava (*Psidium guajava)*. It was detected in Himachal Pradesh (India) on seven guava trees showing leaf symptoms. Previously, ACLSV was only known from crops in the Rosaceae family.

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

Computer codes: ACLSV0, DIAPVA, FUSAFO, GINV00, LIRISA, MEGTUS, MELGGC, PMMOV0, PYMV00, SCIRAC, SIRXER, TOLCDN, TSWV00, AU, BJ, CN, IL, IN, PL

2026/086 New outbreaks of quarantine pests in the Russian Federation

The Federal Service for Veterinary and Phytosanitary Surveillance of the Russian Federation prepared a National Report gathering information on the situation of quarantine pests in the Russian Federation as of the 31st of December 2025.

Quarantine areas were established for the first time for the following pests:
- *Lecanosticta acicola (syn. Mycosphaerella dearnessi* (EPPO A2 List)
- *Hymenoscyphus fraxineus* (syn. *Chalara fraxinea*, EUEA A1 List)
- *Monilinia fructicola* (EUEA A1 List) (in Primorsky Territory).

The report does not provide details on the location and size of the outbreaks for those pests.

Source: Ministry of Agriculture of the Russian Federation (2026) НАЦИОНАЛЬНЫЙ ДОКЛАД о карантинном фитосанитарном состоянии территории Российской Федерации в 2025 году [National report on the quarantine status on the territory of the Russian Federation in 2025], 22 pp (in Russian).

https://fsvps.gov.ru/files/naczionalnyj-doklad-o-karantinnom-fitosanitarnom-sostoyanii-territorii-rossijskoj-federaczii-v-2025-godu/

Additional key words: new record **Computer codes:** CHAAFR, MONIFC, SCIRAC, RU

2026/087 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 datasheets for pests have been recently published in the EPPO Bulletin and are now maintained as dynamic datasheet in the EPPO Global Database (see RS 2026/109 for invasive plants):

- *Dendroctonus valens* (EPPO A1 List): https://gd.eppo.int/taxon/DENCVA/datasheet
- *Ceratocystis ficicola* (EPPO A2 List): https://gd.eppo.int/taxon/CERAFC/datasheet
- *Crisicoccus pini* (EPPO A2 List): https://gd.eppo.int/taxon/DACLPI/datasheet

The distribution maps have been revised for the following pests:

- *Planococcus lilacinus*. https://gd.eppo.int/taxon/PLANLI/distribution
- *Frankliniella australis*. https://gd.eppo.int/taxon/FRANCS/distribution
- *Puccinia kuehnii*. https://gd.eppo.int/taxon/PUCCKU/distribution
- *Puccinia melanocephala*. https://gd.eppo.int/taxon/PUCCML/distribution
- *Ophelimus maskelli*. https://gd.eppo.int/taxon/OPHEMA/distribution

Source: EPPO Secretariat (2026-04).

Additional key words: publication, database, datasheet **Computer codes:** DACLPI, DENCVA, FRANCS, OPHEMA, PLANLI, PUCCKU, PUCCML

2025/088 First report of *Cylas puncticollis* in Spain

The African sweet potato weevil *Cylas puncticollis* (Coleoptera: Apionidae) is first reported from Spain.
The weevil had caused significant damage to sweet potato crops (*Ipomoea batatas*) in the southern part of the province of Alicante (Comunitat Valenciana) in recent cropping seasons. The pest damages both the foliage and the tubers. In 2025 it was considered to affect 30% of the 800 ha of sweet potato in the Vega Baja region in the municipalities of Guardamar, Rojales, Catral, San Fulgencio, Almoradí and Orihuela.

It may be noted that in January 2024, *C. puncticollis* had been found in sweet potato tubers originating from Spain in a supermarket in Hungary (EPPO RS 2024/145).

The situation of *Cylas puncticollis* in Spain can be described as**: Present, not widely distributed (only in Alicante province).**

Source: Phytoma (2025-09-08) Un gorgojo amenaza la producción de boniato en la Vega Baja. https://www.phytoma.com/noticias/noticias-de-actualidad/un-gorgojo-amenaza-la-produccion-de-boniato-en-la-vega-baja

Pictures: *Cylas puncticollis*. https://gd.eppo.int/taxon/CYLAPU/photos

Additional key words: new record **Computer codes:** CYLAPU, ES

2026/089 *Cylas puncticollis* (Coleoptera: Apionidae - African sweet potato weevil): addition to the EPPO Alert List

Why: *Cylas puncticollis* is a damaging pest of sweet potato in Africa. It was recently recorded in Spain. Considering the increasing cultivation of sweet potato in the EPPO region, and the potential impact of *C. puncticollis*, the EPPO Panel on Phytosanitary Measures recommended that it is added to the Alert List.

Where:
Until the recent record in Spain, *C. puncticollis* was only known to occur in Africa and seems to be the dominant *Cylas* species in East Africa.
EPPO Region: Spain (only in Alicante province)
Africa: Benin, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cabo Verde, Cameroon, Central African Republic, Chad, Congo, Congo (Democratic Republic of), Cote d'Ivoire, Ethiopia, Ghana, Guinea, Kenya, Madagascar, Malawi, Mali, Mozambique, Nigeria, Rwanda, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Somalia, Sudan, Tanzania (United Republic of), Uganda, Zambia

On which plants: The main host of *C. puncticollis* is sweet potato (*Ipomoea batatas*). It was also recorded as a pest of cotton (*Gossypium* spp.). A number of other species in the Malvaceae family are recorded as feeding hosts.

Damage: *C. puncticollis* damages leaves, stems, and roots of sweet potatoes. Adults feed on the leaves, and larvae bore into the stems and tubers. Early infestations can cause mortality to seedlings. Larval tunnelling and secondary rots reduce the size and number of roots. Severe infestations render the crop unsuitable for consumption. Infested tubers cannot be stored for a long time as the pest may continue its development in them.

Dissemination: Adults can fly for up to 1000 m. They can also crawl, though the exact distance is unknown. Long-distance dispersal is through the movement of infested sweet potato tubers and plants for planting.

Pathways: plants for planting and tubers of sweet potato, other hosts plants for planting?

Possible risks: *C. puncticollis* is a major pest of sweet potato in Africa and was recorded as causing damage in southern Spain. Sweet potato is a minor crop in the EPPO region, but its cropping is increasing. The main limitation to the impact of *C. puncticollis* in the EPPO region is related to its climatic requirements as it requires annual mean temperatures of 18°–35°C to complete its life cycle. Existing climatic modelling did not suggest that the pest could establish in the EPPO region. However, it could establish in a limited part of Spain. Considering the impact of climate change, and the fact that sweet potatoes are also grown under greenhouses, it is useful to prevent its introduction in the EPPO region.

Sources

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EPPO RS

Panel review date – Entry date 2026-04-

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

2026/090 First report of *Pochazia shantungensis* in Switzerland

The NPPO of Switzerland recently informed the EPPO Secretariat of the first finding of *Pochazia shantungensis* (Hemiptera: Ricaniidae – EPPO Alert List) on its territory.

In January 2025, a private individual recorded the presence of a specimen of *P. shantungensis* in the canton of Basel-Landschaft on the internet platform iNaturalist. The NPPO of Switzerland contacted the individual and obtained a dried specimen of *P. shantungensis* which was confirmed as being *P. shantungensis* by the National Reference

Laboratory in October 2025. No further *P. shantungensis* have been recorded. The original specimen had been recorded on a plant bought in Italy, and no phytosanitary measures have been applied as the NPPO of Switzerland considers that the individual is a hitchhiker and that the species has not established. No eggs were recorded on the plant.

The pest status of *Pochazia shantungensis* in Switzerland is officially declared as: **Absent, pest no longer present for reasons other than eradication.**

Source: NPPO of Switzerland (2026-04).

Pictures: *Pochazia shantungensis*. https://gd.eppo.int/taxon/POCZSH/photos

Additional key words: new record **Computer codes:** POCZSH, CH

2026/091 First report and eradication of *Scirtothrips dorsalis* in Greece

Scirtothrips dorsalis (Thysanoptera: Thripidae – EPPO A2 List) was first detected in Greece in Kriti in June 2025 in the Regional Unit of Chania in a consignment of avocado (*Persea americana*) plants for planting imported from Spain. Official measures were taken. Further surveillance with traps did not detect the pest. The outbreak is considered eradicated.

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

Source: Directorate of Agricultural Economy of the Prefectural Government of Kastoria (2025-06-20) Ενημέρωση σχετικά με την εμφάνιση του επιβλαβούς οργανισμού καραντίνας, *Scirtothrips dorsalis*. [Update on the occurrence of the quarantine pest, Scirtothrips dorsalis]. https://kastoria.pdm.gov.gr/enimerosi-schetika-me-tin-emfanisi-tou-epivlavous-organismou-karantinas-scirtothrips-dorsalis/

NPPO of Greece (2026-04).

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

Additional key words: incursion, eradication, absence **Computer codes:** SCITDO, GR

2026/092 Update on the situation of *Scirtothrips dorsalis* in Brazil

In Brazil, *Scirtothrips dorsalis* (Thysanoptera: Thripidae – EPPO A2 List) was first recorded in a greenhouse in 2018 in the state of Ceará (EPPO RS 2020/216) and later on cocoa plants (*Theobroma cacao*) grown outdoors in Bahia state (RS 2023/055).

Surveys conducted in 2021 and 2022 detected *S. dorsalis* for the first time in the states of Espírito Santo, Maranhão, Minas Gerais, Piauí and São Paulo. 52 specimens (38 females, 10 males and 4 larvae) were reported on rose bushes (*Rosa* sp.) in Minas Gerais in surveys in August 2021, November 2021 and March 2022. 8 adults (7 females and 1 male) were reported on macadamia trees (*Macadamia integrifolia*) in Espírito Santo in February 2021. 27 specimens (17 females, 4 males and 6 larvae) were reported on *M. integrifolia* in São Paulo in February and March 2021. One female adult, one male adult and one larva were found on *Capsicum* sp. in Piauí state in November 2022. In addition, the presence of 12 female adults

collected in 2012 was reported on passion fruit (*Passiflora edulis*) in Maranhão state. The identity of the pest was confirmed by morphological testing. Alves *et al*. (2026) consider that the spread of *S. dorsalis* in Brazil poses a threat to crop species in Brazil as these findings are in agriculturally important areas. The EPPO Secretariat did not previously have a record of *M. integrifolia* as a host plant of *S. dorsalis*.

The situation of *Scirtothrips dorsalis* in Brazil can be described as: **Present, not widely distributed.**

Source: Alves EC, Marinho-Prado JS, Silva NM, Souza B, Moriya LM, Piza PL, Lima ÉF (2026) Spread of the polyphagous pest *Scirtothrips dorsalis* (Thysanoptera: Thripidae) in Brazilian crops. *Phytoparasitica* **54**(2), 45. https://doi.org/10.1007/s12600-026-01380-0

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

Additional key words: new record, new host **Computer codes:** SCITDO, BR

2026/093 Update on the situation of *Toumeyella parvicornis* in Italy

In Italy, the pine tortoise scale *Toumeyella parvicornis* (Hemiptera: Coccidae - EPPO A2 List) was first found in Campania region in 2014 and later in Rome (Lazio region) in 2018 (EPPO RS 2021/082), in Abruzzo and Puglia regions in 2021 (RS 2021/191), in Toscana region in 2022 (RS 2022/083RS 2025/091,RS 2024/128) and in Marche region in 2024 (RS 2025/091).

- Abruzzo

Following surveys from January to March 2026, *T. parvicornis* was confirmed on symptomatic stone pines (*Pinus pinea)* in three additional sites in the municipalities Chieti (Chieti province) and Cepagatti (Pescara province) located in the buffer zone of a previous outbreak in Chieti municipality. In January 2026, during surveys, new outbreaks of *T. parvicornis* were detected on symptomatic *P. pinea* trees in Rosciano and Alanno municipalities (Pescara province) and in a pine forest in the municipality of Martinsicuro (Teramo province). Phytosanitary measures have been applied in line with the Regional Emergency Plan.

- Toscana

In March 2026, a new outbreak of *T. parvicornis* was reported on 62 recently planted *P. pinea* in a public square in Firenze.
The outbreak in Tirrenia (municipality of Pisa) found in July 2023 (RS 2024/128) has spread despite the official measures. As of January 2026, *T. parvicornis* was reported in Viareggio municipality (Lucca province), Collesalvetti municipality (Livorno province) and San Giuliano Terme, Pisa, Cascina and Vecchiano municipalities (Pisa province). Eradication of this outbreak is considered impossible due to the size of the infested area (770 ha) and the climatic and environmental conditions. Containment measures are applied.

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

Source: NPPO of Italy (2025-03, 2026-01, 2026-02,2026-03).

Pictures: *Toumeyella parvicornis*. https://gd.eppo.int/taxon/TOUMPA/photos

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

2026/094 Update on the situation of *Toumeyella parvicornis* in France

In France, the pine tortoise scale *Toumeyella parvicornis* (Hemiptera: Coccidae – EPPO A2 List) was first detected in a private garden on stone pines (*Pinus pinea)* in the peninsula of Saint Tropez (Var department, Provence-Alpes-Côte d'Azur region) and the pest then spread to other municipalities of the department (EPPO RS 2021/240, RS 2023/062). Official measures are applied.
As a result of official surveys, 149 outbreaks have been detected in Var department. Infested areas have been delimited and are located in the following municipalities: Bormes-les-Mimosas, Cavalaire-sur-Mer, Cogolin, Collobrieres, Fréjus, Gassin, Gonfaron, Grimaud, Hyères, La Croix-Valmer, La Garde-Freinet, La Môle, La Motte, Le Lavandou, Le Muy, Le Plan-de-la-Tour, Les Arcs, Les Mayons, Puget-sur-Argens, Ramatuelle, Rayol-Canadel-Sur-Mer, Roquebrune-sur-Argens, Sainte-Maxime, Saint-Tropez, Vidauban. A buffer zone has also been established, 5-km around the infested areas.
Official measures include the obligation to report any finding and prune or destroy infested plants, as well as the prevention of movement of infested plant material out of the demarcated area. Infested material should be finely ground.

The pest status of *Toumeyella parvicornis* in France is officially declared as: **Present, only in some parts of the Member State concerned.**

Source: DRAF Provence-Alpes-Côte d'Azur (2026)
- Arrêté préfectoral du 25/03/2026 définissant le périmètre de la zone délimitée relative à Toumeyella parvicornis, la cochenille tortue du pin https://draaf.paca.agriculture.gouv.fr/IMG/pdf/25032026_arrete_prefectoral_toumeyella.pdf
- - Mesures de lutte contre la cochenille tortue du pin (Toumeyella parvicornis) https://draaf.paca.agriculture.gouv.fr/IMG/pdf/07042026_mesures_de_lutte_contre_la_cochenille_tortue_du_pin_toumeyella_parvicornis_.pdf

Pictures: Toumeyella parvicornis. https://gd.eppo.int/taxon/TOUMPA/photos

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

2026/095 Update on the situation of *Xylotrechus chinensis* in France

In France, the tiger longicorn beetle *Xylotrechus chinensis* (Coleoptera: Cerambycidae – EPPO Alert List) was first recorded 2018 in Sète (Hérault department, Occitanie region) and in Le Bouscat (Gironde department, Nouvelle-Aquitaine region) (EPPO RS 2018/220, RS 2019/098). Official measures, including surveys, are applied since 2023 (RS 2023/061). Further outbreaks have been detected since.

Occitanie
The number of infested municipalities has increased over the years: 1 municipality in 2018, 29 at the end of 2022, 36 at the end of 2023, 58 at the end of 2024. By the end of 2025, 104 municipalities were officially found to be infested in three neighbouring departments, along the Mediterranean coast: Hérault (85 municipalities), Gard (17) and Aude (2).

Nouvelle-Aquitaine
The number of infested municipalities has increased over the years but is still limited to the Gironde department: 1 municipality in 2018, 21 at the end of 2022, 63 at the end of 2025.

Source: DRAFF Occitanie (2025-12-11)
Xylotrechus chinensis ou longicorne tigre : point de situation (fin 2025).
https://draaf.occitanie.agriculture.gouv.fr/xylotrechus-chinensis-ou-longicorne-tigre-point-de-situation-fin-2025-a9698.html

DRAFF Nouvelle-Aquitaine (2025-11-28) *Xylotrechus chinensis* (longicorne-tigre)
https://draaf.nouvelle-aquitaine.agriculture.gouv.fr/xylotrechus-chinensis-ou-longicorne-tigre-a2504.html

Pictures: *Xylotrechus chinensis*. https://gd.eppo.int/taxon/XYLOCH/photos

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

2026/096 Update on the situation of *Platynota stultana* in Italy

In Italy, the omnivorous leafroller *Platynota stultana* (Lepidoptera: Tortricidae– EPPO A2 List) was first recorded in Puglia region in 2022 (EPPO RS 2023/058).

From 2023 to 2024, *P. stultana* has been occasionally reported across northern and southern Italy, although it is not clear if these findings are occasional occurrences or show the establishment of the pest in the areas where they have been found (Trematerra, 2025):

- Lazio: in September and October 2023, in Latina province.
- Toscana: in August 2023, in Capannoli municipality (Pisa province).
- Liguria: in June and July 2023, in the Ceriale municipality (Savona province),
- Puglia: in September 2023, in Carovigno municipality (Brindisi province) and in Lecce municipality (Lecce province), in October 2024 in Melendugno municipality (Lecce province).
- Sicilia: in September 2023, November 2023 and November 2024, in Milazzo municipality (Messina province).

In Campania region, *P. stultana* was first reported in 2024 in four municipalities in the province of Napoli (Portici, Castellammare di Stabia, Cercola, Sant'Anastasia) (RS 2025/055). Goglia *et al*. (2026) report further findings, all in Napoli province. In November 2024, one male individual was reported in San Gennaro Vesuviano municipality collected in a sweep net. During further sampling in 2025, 25 females and 31 males were reported again in the municipality of Sant'Anastasia on wild *Conyza* sp., two males were caught in a light trap in Castellammare di Stabia and 48 females and 40 males were reported for the first time in the municipality of San Giorgio a Cremano on wild *Conyza* sp. plants. The identity of the pest was confirmed by morphological and molecular techniques. Goglia *et al*. (2026) considers that *P. stultana* is established in southern Italy as male and female adults have been found over multiple years and adults emerged in cages of wild *Conyza sp*. plants suggesting adults can reproduce in the field. No findings or damage of *P. stultana* have been reported on crop hosts.

The situation of *Platynota stultana* in Italy can be described as: **Present, not widely distributed and not under official control.**

Source: Goglia L, Formisano G, Guastaferro VM, Albano L, Crispo DG, Griffo R, Di Prisco G, Giorgini M (2026) The invasive nearctic pest *Platynota stultana* Walsingham (Lepidoptera: Tortricidae) is established in southern Italy. *Insects* **17**(1), 122. https://doi.org/10.3390/insects17010122

Trematerra P (2025) The invasive *Platynota stultana* Walsingham increases its spread in Europe (Lepidoptera Tortricidae). *Redia* **108**, 211–212.

Pictures: *Platynota stultana*. https://gd.eppo.int/taxon/PLAAST/photos

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

2026/097 First report of *Phytophthora pluvialis* in Ireland

The NPPO of Ireland recently informed the EPPO Secretariat of the first finding of *Phytophthora pluvialis* (EPPO Alert List) on its territory.
Annual surveys have been carried out in Ireland for *P. pluvialis* since 2022. A potentially infested forest plantation near Macroom (Cork County) was identified in October 2023 when symptomatic western hemlock (*Tsuga heterophylla*) and Douglas fir (*Pseudotsuga menziesii*) were observed. Numerous samples have been tested since 2022, of which one sample, from the forest plantation mentioned above, taken in 2023 tested positive for *P. pluvialis* by real-time PCR. Efforts have continued since then to isolate the pathogen from symptomatic *T. heterophylla* samples and from water sources on site by leaf baiting. In February 2026, *P. pluvialis* was detected from *T. heterophylla* leaf baits in water from the forest plantation. No official measures are applied.
Phytophthora ramorum (EU isolates) (EPPO A2 List) has also been detected at the site in western hemlock and Douglas fir. *P. ramorum* was first confirmed in Japanese larch (*Larix kaempferi*) in Irish forests in 2010 (EPPO RS 2010/150) and has been a serious forest health issue since, causing severe damage to Japanese larch.

The pest status of *Phytophthora pluvialis* in Ireland is officially declared as: **Present, at low prevalence, in specific parts of the Member State, where host crop(s) are grown**.

Source: NPPO of Ireland (2026-03).

Pictures: *Phytophthora pluvialis*. https://gd.eppo.int/taxon/PHYTUV/reporting

Additional key words: new record **Computer codes:** PHYTUV, PHYTRA, IE

2026/098 New reports of viruses infecting *Capsicum* crops in Saudi Arabia

During the growing seasons 2021-2022, a survey was conducted in *Capsicum* crops in different regions of Saudi Arabia. A total of 319 plant samples were collected showing virus-like symptoms (mottling, mosaic, chlorosis, leaf distortion, dwarfing, stunted growth, and necrotic lesions of leaves and fruits). These samples were tested using DAS-ELISA using specific antibodies against a selection of viruses.

The authors report the following viruses for the first time in pepper crop in the world:
- Andean potato latent virus (*Tymovirus latandigenum,* APLV, EPPO A1 List). This is also the first record outside of South America.
- Potato leafroll virus (*Polerovirus PLRV,* EU Quarantine Pest)
- Potato virus V (*Potyvirus vetuberosi*)

This resulted in the first detection of seventeen viruses on *Capsicum* in Saudi Arabia. The EPPO Secretariat had no previous record of the following viruses for the country: pepino mosaic virus (*Potexvirus pepini*, PepMV – EPPO A2 List), potato yellow mosaic virus (*Begomovirus tuberosi* – PYMV- EU Quarantine Pest), tomato chlorotic spot virus (*Orthotospovirus tomatoflavi,* TCSV). This is the first report of PYMV in Asia.

Source: Khalid Z, Amer MA, Amir M, Zaman M, Hussain K, Al-Shahwan IM, Al-Saleh MA (2025) Serological detection of important new viruses infecting pepper crop in Saudi Arabia. *Advancements in Life Sciences* **12**(2), 378-383.

Additional key words: new records, new host plant **Computer codes:** APLV00, PEPMV0, PLRV00, PVV000, PYMV00, TCSV00, SA

2026/099 Update on the situation of *Clavibacter nebraskensis* in South Africa

Clavibacter nebraskensis (EPPO Alert List) which causes Goss's wilt and leaf blight of maize (*Zea mays*) was first reported in South Africa in 2024 (EPPO RS 2025/046). The pathogen was then detected in four provinces (Free State, North West, Gauteng and Eastern Cape). Official measures were taken and a delimiting survey was conducted in 2025. As a result, *C. nebraskensis* was detected in four additional provinces and it is currently considered present in eight provinces: Eastern Cape, Free State, Gauteng, Limpopo, Mpumalanga, Northern Cape, North West, and Western Cape.

C. nebraskensis is regulated in South Africa with the objective to prevent its spread to pest-free areas by restricting movement of host material and agricultural equipment such as harvesters from infested areas to non-infested areas

The pest status of *Clavibacter nebraskensis* in South Africa is officially declared as: **Present.**

Source: IPPC website. Official Pest Reports- South Africa (2026-04-08) Notification of the change in status of *Clavibacter michiganensis* subsp. *nebraskensis*, Goss' Wilt on maize, in the Republic of South Africa. https://www.ippc.int/fr/countries/south-africa/pestreports/2026/04/notification-of-the-change-in-status-of-clavibacter-michiganensis-subsp-nebraskensis-goss-wilt-on-maize-in-the-republic-of-south-africa/

Department of Agriculture of South Africa. Press release (2025-04-08) Pest alert: Change in status of Goss's Wilt (Clavibacter michiganensis subsp. Nebraskensis) of maize in South Africa. https://www.nda.gov.za/images/Newsroom/Media%20Releases/2026/media-statement-pest-alert-change-in-status-of-gosss-wilt-clavibacter-michiganensis-subsp_-nebrasken_p77984.pdf

Pictures: *Clavibacter nebraskensis*. https://gd.eppo.int/taxon/CORBNE/photos

Additional key words: detailed record **Computer codes:** CORBN, ZA

2026/100 Update on cucurbit yellow vine disease caused by *Serratia ureilytica*

Cucurbit yellow vine disease (CYVD - formerly EPPO Alert List; EPPO RS 1999/134) was considered to be caused by the Gram-negative bacterium *Serratia marcescens* (Enterobacteriaceae). However, Mphande *et al.* (2025) recently showed that CYVD is caused by *Serratia ureilytica*, and that this species belongs to the *S. marcescens* complex. CYVD was observed for the first time in the USA in 1988 in Oklahoma and Texas (EPPO RS 1999/134). It has expanded its distribution and currently has a wide distribution in the USA, East of the Rocky Mountains. CYVD has been reported on watermelon (*Citrullus lanatus*), melon (*Cucumis melo*), courgette and pumpkin (*Cucurbita pepo*), and giant pumpkin (*Cucurbita maxima*). Affected plants show leaf yellowing, stem elongation, phloem discoloration, stunting, vine decline and collapse. Disease incidence can reach up to 100%. The squash bug *Anasa tristis* (Heteroptera: Coreidae), which feeds on cucurbits, was previously known to vector the bacterium. Mphande *et al.* (2025) demonstrated experimentally that two beetles could also act as vectors: the spotted cucumber beetle (*Diabrotica undecimpunctata howardi*, EPPO A1 List) and the striped cucumber beetle

(*Acalymma vittatum*) (both Coleoptera: Chrysomelidae). Both species have sometimes been observed in CYVD-infested fields in the absence of *A. tristis*.
Limited data is available on *S. ureilytica*. It was described from water in West Bengal (India) in 2005. Like *S. marcescens* (EPPO RS 2026/102), it has been reported from the environment and described as a human and animal pathogen. It was not possible to fully document its distribution.
It is worth noting that, to date, CYVD has not been reported outside of the USA. The bacterium causing a leaf chlorosis and necrosis disease on squash (*Cucurbita pepo* var. *styriaca*) in Iran (Sedighian *et al.*, 2018) was not closely-related to strains from cucurbits causing CYVD, but to strains of *S. marcescens* isolated from bell pepper (*Capsicum annuum*) and maize (*Zea mays*).

Information on *Serratia ureilytica* has been added to EPPO Global Database: https://gd.eppo.int/taxon/SERRUR

Source: Bhadra B, Roy P, Chakraborty R (2005) *Serratia ureilytica* sp. nov., a novel urea-utilizing species. International *Journal of Systematic and Evolutionary Microbiology* **55**, 2155-2158.

JKI (2019) Express PRA for *Serratia marcescens*. Julius Kühn-Institute, Germany. Available at https://pra.eppo.int/pra/0e916861-b044-44c5-83b2-269a406f4b45

Mphande K, LaSarre B, Paulsen AA, Hartung R, Badilla-Arias S, Gleason ML, Beattie GA (2025) Bacteria that cause cucurbit yellow vine disease fall within the *Serratia ureilytica* species of the *S. marcescens* complex and can be vectored by cucumber beetles. *Phytopathology* **115**(6), 606-617.

Rodriguez-Herrera KD, Pethybridge SJ, Reiners S, Nault B, Swingle B, Smart CD (2026) Cucurbit Yellow Vine Disease. A new bacterial disease of cucurbits in N.Y. caused by *Serratia ureilytica*. Cornell Vegetables. https://www.vegetables.cornell.edu/pest-management/disease-factsheets/cucurbit-yellow-vine-disease/

Sedighian, N., Taghavi, S.M., Osdaghi, E, Shams-Bakhsh M (2018) *Serratia marcescens* associated with squash leaf chlorosis and necrotic spots in Iran. *Journal of Plant Pathology* **100**, 85–89.

Wong-Villareal A, Ruiz-Sánchez E, Cua-Basulto M, Espinosa-Zaragoza S, González-Sánchez AA, Ramos-Carbajal E, Góngora-Gamboa C, Garruña-Hernández R, Romero-Tirado R, Moreno-Basurto G, Pinson-Rincón EP (2025) Acaricidal activity of biosurfactants produced by *Serratia ureilytica* on *Tetranychus urticae* and their compatibility with the predatory mite *Amblyseius swirskii*. *Microbiology Research* **16**(7),150.

Additional key words: taxonomy, detailed record, one health

Computer codes: SERRUR, US, IN

2026/101 Plant diseases associated with the bacterium *Serratia marcescens*

While *Serratia marcescens* (Enterobacteriaceae) was initially thought to cause cucurbit yellow vine disease (CYVD), it has now been shown that the disease is caused by *S. ureilytica* (EPPO RS 2026/101). However, various other plant diseases have been attributed to *S. marcescens* and, in the absence of further information, are still considered to be caused by *S. marcescens*, such as: soft rot on bell pepper (*Capsicum annuum*) in Venezuela, yellow wilt on sunflower (*Helianthus annuus*) in the Russian Federation, leaf necrosis on oleander (*Nerium oleander*) in Hungary, decay of onion (*Allium cepa*) in Ukraine, leaf rot on cannabis (*Cannabis sativa*) in the USA, leaf chlorosis and necrosis on squash (*Cucurbita pepo* var.

styriaca) and central bud rot of date palm (*Phoenix dactylifera*) in Iran, black rot of orange fruit (*Citrus sinensis*) in Bangladesh, as well as, in China, whorl rot on maize (*Zea mays*), soft rot on cherry tomato (*Solanum lycopersicum*), seed necrosis on lotus (*Nelumbo nucifera*), root rot on fuzi (*Aconitum carmichaelii*), soft rot of ginger rhizomes (*Zingiber officinale*).
Serratia marcescens is widely present in the environment such as in water, soil, vertebrates, insects and plants. Some strains have been found associated with diseases in humans, animals, corals and plants, while some others are considered to be endophytes, plant growth promoting, or as potential biocontrol agents. *S. marcescens* appears to have a wide distribution worldwide. Many records relate to human pathogenic strains. It was not possible to fully document its distribution.

The information on *S. marcescens* in EPPO Global Database has been updated: https://gd.eppo.int/taxon/SERRMA

Source: Abbasi A, Ilkhan L (2026) First report of *Serratia marcescens* causing central bud rot of date palm (*Phoenix dactylifera* L.) in Iran. *Australasian Plant Pathology* **55**, 25.

Fodor A, Palkovics L, Végh A (2022) First report of *Serratia marcescens* from oleander in Hungary. *Phytopathologia Mediterranea* 61(2), 311-317.

Fu M, Zhang X, Chen B, Li M, Zhang G, Cui L (2021) Characteristics of Isolates of *Pseudomonas aeruginosa* and *Serratia marcescens* associated with post-harvest fuzi (*Aconitum carmichaelii*) rot and their novel Loop-mediated isothermal amplification detection methods. *Frontiers in Microbiology* 12, 705329. https://doi.org/10.3389/fmicb.2021.705329

Hasan MF, Islam MA, Sikdar B (2022) First report of *Serratia marcescens* associated with black rot of *Citrus sinensis* fruit , and evaluation of its biological control measures in Bangladesh. *F1000Research* **9**, 1371. https://doi.org/10.12688/f1000research.27657.2)

Huang K, Li H, Pang M, Yang D, Zhang W (2020) *Serratia marcescens*: a key pathogen caused ginger rhizomes soft rot disease. *Journal of plant diseases and protection* **127**, 379–391.

JKI (2019) Express PRA for *Serratia marcescens*. Julius Kühn-Institute, Germany. Available at https://pra.eppo.int/pra/0e916861-b044-44c5-83b2-269a406f4b45

Kuang W, Gong X, Lin Y, Chen L, Zheng X, Tang J, Shi X, Sun X, Zhang L, Cui R (2023) First report of *Serratia marcescens* causing seed necrosis on *Nelumbo nucifera* in China. *Crop Protection* **173**, 106379.

Ovcharenko L, Voznyuk T, Zaetz I, Potopalsky A, Reva O, Kozyrovska N (2011) Polybiotrophy of *Serratia marcescens*, a causative agent of an onion disease in arid zone of the South of Ukraine. *Microorganisms in Industry and Environment*. pp 106-110.

Sedighian N, Taghavi SM, Osdaghi E, Shams-Bakhsh M (2018) *Serratia marcescens* associated with squash leaf chlorosis and necrotic spots in Iran. *Journal of Plant Pathology* **100**, 85–89.

Yan K, Liu K, Chang J, Jing Z, Li J, Yu Y, Zhang S (2024) Inhibition mechanism of water-soluble chitosan–curdlan composite coating on the postharvest pathogens of *Serratia marcescens* and *Pseudomonas syringae* in cherry tomatoes. *Microorganisms* **12**, 1149. https://doi.org/10.3390/microorganisms12061149

Additional key words: detailed record, new host plants, one health

Computer codes: SERRMA, BD, CN, HU, IR, RU, UA, US, VE

2026/102 New findings of Grapevine flavescence dorée phytoplasma in Germany

In Germany, Grapevine flavescence dorée phytoplasma (EPPO A2 List) was found in one plant of grapevine (*Vitis vinifera*) in Rheinland-Pfalz in 2020 (EPPO RS 2021/040) and eradicated (RS 2022/172).

At the end of 2025, as part of national surveys, Grapevine flavescence dorée phytoplasma was detected again in grapevine plants (*Vitis vinifera)* in three locations in Baden-Württemberg:

- Two in different vine nurseries: as no vectors are present in these areas, it is assumed that the infestations originate from the initial planting material. Tracing investigations are ongoing. All plants of either the same rootstock or scion were destroyed or underwent hot water treatment.
- One in young grapevine plants planted in a vineyard in 2024. The vineyard is located in the infested area for *Scaphoideus titanus* (RS 2024/190). Official measures are applied.

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

Source: NPPO of Germany (2025-11).

Pictures: Grapevine flavescence dorée phytoplasma. https://gd.eppo.int/taxon/PHYP64/photos

Additional key words: detailed report **Computer codes:** PHYP64, DE

2026/103 First report of *Lamprotettix nitidulus* as a vector of Flavescence dorée in France and Germany

A survey was conducted in vineyards of Palatinate (Germany) and Alsace (France) on possible reservoir plants and alternative vectors for Grapevine flavescence dorée phytoplasma (EPPO A2 List) between 2016 and 2019.
Among the 12 main wild woody plants and liana species sampled in the environments of vineyards, only alders (*Alnus* spp.) were infected by Grapevine flavescence dorée phytoplasma.
The following insect species were showed to carry Grapevine flavescence dorée phytoplasma: *Allygus* spp., *Euscelidius variegatus, Fieberiella florii, Japananus hyalinus, Lamprotettix nitidulus, Orientus ishidae, Synophropsis lauri*.
The native *Lamprotettix nitidulus* (Hemiptera: Cicadellidae) was confirmed as a vector by transmission trials.

Source: Jarausch B, Abidon C, Biancu S, Salar P, Desqué D, Roques M, Runne M, Jarausch W, Markheiser A, Maixner M, Meistermann E (2026) The role of reservoir plants and alternative vectors for the spread of Flavescence dorée (FD) phytoplasmas in FD-free regions: *Lamprotettix nitidulus* identified as a new vector. *Journal of Pest Science* **99**(1), 35.

Additional key words: aetiology, vector **Computer codes:** LAMXNI, PHYP64, DE, FR

2026/104 Eradication of *Meloidogyne chitwoodi* in Switzerland

In Switzerland, an outbreak of *Meloidogyne chitwoodi* (EPPO A2 List) was detected in a carrot *Daucus carota*) field in Bern canton at the end of November 2021 (EPPO RS 2022/012). This outbreak has now been eradicated.

The pest status of *Meloidogyne chitwoodi* in Switzerland is officially declared as: **Absent, pest eradicated.**

Source: NPPO of Switzerland (2026-04).

Pictures: *Meloidogyne chitwoodi*. https://gd.eppo.int/taxon/MELGCH/photos

Additional key words: eradication, absence **Computer codes:** MELGCH, CH

2026/105 Potential of an annual hemiparasitic plant as a biological control agent against *Solidago gigantea* and *Symphyotrichum lanceolatum*

Melampyrum arvense (Orobanchaceae) is an annual hemiparasitic species native to the EPPO region. It obtains nutrients from host plants by attaching to their root system. The potential of *M. arvense* as a biological control agent against two North American plant species present in the EPPO region, *Solidago gigantea* (Asteraceae: EPPO List of Invasive Alien Plants) and *Symphyotrichum lanceolatum* (Asteraceae), was assessed. An experiment was established at six sites in the Czech Republic where *S. gigantea* and *S. lanceolatum* were dominant. At each site, two treatments and a control were carried out in different plots: mowing with biomass removal twice a year—in late July and October, mowing twice a year plus sowing of *M. arvense* in the first autumn. Throughout the experiment growth parameters of the two alien plant species were measured (percentage cover, height and below-ground biomass). Mowing alone reduced the growth of both alien plants. Mowing plus the addition of *M. arvense* had a greater effect reducing the cover of *S. gigantea* from 90 to 8 % and the cover of *S. lanceolatum from* 78 to 12 %. *M. arvense* reduced the below-ground biomass of both hosts by more than 80 %. The study shows the potential of using *M. arvense* as a biological control agent which can also help to facilitate restoration of the invaded area.

Source: Knotková K, Těšitelová T, Knotek A, Axmanová I, Chytry H, Pleskoná Z, Preislerová Z, Těšitel J (2025) Biocontrol by a native hemiparasite: rapid suppression of noxious invasive plants in a field experiment. *Journal of Applied Ecology* **62**(12), 3514-3524. https://doi.org/10.1111/1365-2664.70183

Additional key words: biocontrol, invasive alien plants **Computer codes:** ASTLN, MEAAR, SOOGI, CZ

2026/106 Assessing genetic lineages of the biological control agent *Megamelus scutellaris* in its native range

Megamelus scutellaris (Hemiptera: Delphacidae) is a biological control agent for *Pontederia crassipes* (Pontederiaceae: EPPO A2 List), one of the world's most invasive aquatic plant species. *P. crassipes* is native to South America and has been introduced into the EPPO region where it has been observed to cause significant negative impacts including blocking water channels, degrading biological diversity, and providing breeding grounds for mosquitoes. *M. scutellaris* has previously been utilised as a biological control agent against *P. crassipes* in the USA and South Africa. *M. scutellaris* has a wide native range, from the Amazon River basin to the Río de la Plata basin, including Argentina, Uruguay, northern Peru, and southern Brazil. Salinas et al. collected populations of *M. scutellaris* from different climatic regions in the native range for release in the USA and South Africa. They found that in its native range, *M. scutellaris* has three main genetic lineages associated with major river basins and ecoregions. Genetic differences within the native range were shown to be strongly associated with climate differences and environmental isolation. Assessing genetic differences at a biogeographical scale can help to inform climatic matching between the native range and recipient regions, which can increase the success of biological control.

Source: Salinas NA, Poveda-Martinez D, Rodriguero MS, Smith MC, Brentassi MA, Sosa AJ (2026) Landscape genomics and evolutionary history of *Megamelus scutellaris*, a biocontrol agent of the invasive water hyacinth (*Pontederia crassipes*). *Evolutionary Applications* **19**, e70208. https://doi.org/10.1111/eva.70208

Additional key words: biocontrol, invasive alien plants **Computer codes:** EICCR, MEGUSC, AR, BR, PE, US, UY, ZA

2026/107 Combined effects of biological control agents on host populations of *Drosophila suzukii*

Drosophila suzukii (Diptera: Drosophilidae – EPPO A2 List) is a frugivorous fly native to East Asia. It has spread to many regions worldwide, including other parts of Asia, the Americas, Africa and the EPPO region. Hymenoptera parasitoids are important biological control agents that can parasitise *D. suzukii* larvae and pupae though there is little research that has been conducted in combining both for the management of *D. suzukii*. This was evaluated using the larval parasitoid *Leptopilina japonica* (Hymenoptera: Figitidae) and 2 pupal parasitoids, *Trichopria drosophilae* (Hymenoptera: Diapriidae) and *Pachycrepoideus vindemmiae* (Hymenoptera: Pteromalidae). Experiments were conducted using blueberries as the host to raise *D. suzukii* where individual berries were infested with 5, 10, 15, 20, 25 or 30 eggs. Following the development of the larvae to the second instar, or to the pupae, a single mated female parasitoid (either *L. japonica*, *T. drosophilae*, or *P. vindemmiae*) was introduced. Experiments were also conducted where all three parasitoids were released, over time into a cage containing developing *D. suzukii* larvae. For both experiments, measurements were taken including the number of offspring produced, host stinging without oviposition-induced mortality, and total host mortality caused by the parasitoids. Individually, all three parasitoids showed increased efficiency with increased host density though *L. japonica* showed higher mortality at high densities (≥20 hosts) compared to the pupal parasitoids. Population suppression experiments found that the combined release of *L. japonica* and *T. drosophilae* achieved the optimal control, reducing the number of *D. suzukii* adults after 45 days. Using biological control agents in combination can have increased impact on the host population, however other studies have shown that combined effects of biological control agents can have reduced effectiveness (EPPO RS 2025/132).

Source: Bin SY, You Q, Bai QR, Zhang Y, Sun JW, Zang LS (2026) Individual and combined effects of larval and pupal parasitoids in the control of *Drosophila suzukii* (Diptera: Drosophilidae): implications for biological control. *Journal of Economic Entomology*. **119**(2), 831–839. https://doi.org/10.1093/jee/toaf340

Additional key words: biocontrol **Computer codes:** DROSSU, ENCYVI, LTOPJA, TRIRDR

2026/108 New and updated EPPO Datasheets on invasive alien plants

Four new or revised EPPO datasheets for invasive alien plants on the EPPO A2 List have recently been published in the EPPO Bulletin (Table 1). They are now maintained as dynamic datasheets in the EPPO Global Database.

Table 1.

Species	Family	Version	Date of publication
Crassula helmsii	Crassulaceae	Update	2026
Euphorbia davidii	Euphorbiaceae	New	2025
Heracleum mantegazzianum, Heracleum persicum, Heracleum sosnowskyi	Apiaceae	Update	2026
Hydrocotyle ranunculoides	Apiaceae	Update	2026

Source: EPPO Secretariat (2026-04).

Additional key words: invasive alien plant, publication **Computer codes:** CSBHE, EPHDV, HERMZ, HERPE, HERSO, HYDRA

2026/109 *Prunus serotina* in Europe

Prunus serotina (Rosaceae: EPPO List of Invasive Alien Plants) is a tree species native to North America. The species was first introduced into the EPPO region in the 17th century as an ornamental tree for parks and gardens. Since then, it has become a problematic species in parts of the EPPO region where it can cause negative environmental impacts. A range of ecological characteristics allows *P. serotina* to effectively colonise new habitats. *P. serotina* has a fast growth rate, produces a large number of viable seeds with high germination rates. These seeds can persist in the soil seed bank for up to five years. Seedlings are shade tolerant enabling the plant to grow beneath the canopy of other species. *P. serotina* can resprout following disturbance, increasing the survival of individuals following management. In addition, it has a high tolerance to a wide range of environmental conditions. The extent of the spread and impact of *P. serotina* varies regionally. It is included on national lists of invasive species or 'blacklists' in many European countries. In France, *P. serotina* is classified as regionally invasive. In other countries, such as Austria, Slovenia, and Spain, *P. serotina* is listed as a threat. In Denmark, it is included on the Danish Nature Agency's Black List, and in Sweden, it is recognised as one of the ten most problematic alien vascular plants.

Source: Kušková K, Kutlvašr J, Stanek M, Nssen B, Perglová I, Starfinger U, Vanhellemonth M, Pergl J (2026) *Prunus serotina* in Europe: A comprehensive review of ecology, impacts and management of an invasive tree. *Perspectives in Plant Ecology, Evolution and Systematics* **71** 125932. https://doi.org/10.1016/j.ppees.2026.125932

Pictures *Prunus serotina*. https://gd.eppo.int/taxon/PRNSO/photos

Additional key words: Invasive alien plant **Computer codes:** PRNSO, AT, DK, ES, FR, SE, SL

2025/110 Data on invasive alien plants regulated in the European Union

The Regulation (EU) 1143/2014 on Invasive Alien Species entered into force on the 1st of January 2015. At the core of the Regulation is a list of invasive alien species of Union

concern. A dataset titled Prevention and Early Detection of the Invasive Alien Plants of European Union concern in the Italian Protected Areas (PREVALIEN) has been developed to support stakeholders in the preservation of protected areas at risk from invasive alien plants. The dataset provides key information on the taxonomy, traits, introduction pathways, impacts, and management strategies for 41 invasive alien plants. The dataset is open access and can be obtained via Zenodo in the link below.

Source: Santoianni LA, Barni E, Bouvet D, Carranza ML, Celesti-Grapow L, Citterio S, Cogoni A, Finizio M, Gentili R, Lozano V, Martellos S, Montagnani C, Sebesta N, Siniscalco MC, Stanisci A, Brundu G (2026) A dataset on invasive alien plants of European Union concern. *Scientific Data* https://doi.org/10.1038/s41597-026-06932-x

PREVALIEN Dataset: https://doi.org/10.5281/zenodo.17937403

Additional key words: Invasive alien plant **Computer codes:** IT

2026/111 Impact of alien tree species on the soil microbial community

Over the last 200-250 years, numerous species of non-native trees have been introduced into new areas for forestry and ornamental purposes. Their impacts above-ground are well documented and can include negative impacts on biodiversity and ecosystem services. Potential impacts on the soil microbial community are less well known. A study was conducted in 48 parks in the Czech Republic where alien and native trees were sampled along with their associated soil microbial communities. In total, 73 alien tree taxa were included in the study where the most frequently sampled tree taxa sampled were Pinaceae species including *Pseudotsuga menziesii*, *Picea pungens* and *Pinus strobus*. For the associated microbial community, 520 fungal communities were associated with alien tree taxa and 76 fungal communities with native tree taxa. The type of mycorrhizal association had an effect on the abundance of pathogens associated with alien trees. Alien tree taxa with ectomycorrhizal associations had a lower pathogen richness and relative abundance compared to alien tree taxa with arbuscular mycorrhizal associations. The alien trees' arbuscular mycorrhizal had a threefold higher pathogen relative abundance compared to native assemblages. Thus, potentially, these non-native tree species could act as reservoirs for pathogens which can affect the neighbouring plant communities.

Source: Vlk L, Odriozola I, Pergl J, Větrovsky T, Kvasničková J, Krüger C, Petružálková M, Baldrian P, Vojík M, Sádlo J, Petřík P, Pyšek P, Kohout P (2026) From pathogens to partners: temporal and biogeographical patterns in fungal associations of alien trees. *New Phytologist* (early view), https://doi.org/10.1111/nph.71094

Additional key words: invasive alien plant **Computer codes:** CZ, PIUST, PIEPU, PSTME

2026/112 *Iris pseudacorus* shows differences in traits between the native and non-native ranges

*Iris pseudacorus (*Iridaceae) is a widespread native species to the EPPO region and is recorded as an invasive alien plant species in Argentina, Canada, New Zealand, the USA and South Africa. In wetland habitats, it can have a negative impact on biodiversity and ecosystem services outcompeting native plants. It can alter the structure of the habitat including changing the abiotic and biotic dynamics. A study was conducted using seed of *I. pseudacorus* from its native (Belgium) and introduced (Argentina) range, to assess the variation in germination and early growth across the ranges. Seeds were collected from six sites in both

Belgium and Argentina and germinated under controlled conditions with half of the seeds from each range exposed to cold stratification (≈ 4°C). The other half of the seeds were used as a control and stored at room temperature. The seeds were germinated in Petri dishes and subsequently planted in pots. Time to germination and plant growth parameters were measured. Overall, the percentage of germinated seeds was higher in seeds from Argentina. Both cold stratified and control seeds from Argentinian sites germinated rapidly whereas Belgian cold stratified seeds germinated faster than Belgian control seeds. Differences were also seen between the ranges in early growth responses with Belgian cold stratified seedlings showing high biomass though Argentinian seedlings showed higher biomass – particularly related to belowground structures. The results suggest that non-native populations have higher germination plasticity which can promote invasion in novel areas. Additionally, changes in early growth response suggests that the lower cold tolerance of Argentinian seed enables the population to invest more in growth.

Source: Minuti G, Gervaszoni P, Glese C, Cabañas A, Delange O, Cantarelli M, Nicolo R, Franceschini C, Stiers I, Sosa A, Coetzee J (2026) Cross-range comparisons reveal reduced dormancy and enhanced growth in alien *Iris pseudacorus* L. Not peer-reviewed. To be published in *Biological Invasions*. Research Square, https://doi.org/10.21203/rs.3.rs-8319498/v1

Pictures *Iris pseudacorus*. https://gd.eppo.int/taxon/IRIPS/photos

Additional key words: invasive alien plant **Computer codes:** IRIPS, BE, AR