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2026/181 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**

Ceratitis capitata (Diptera: Tephritidae - EPPO A2 List) was detected in Puerto Rico in 2015 and subsequently eradicated (EPPO RS 2015/071, RS 2015/173). Following new detections in July 2026, the Department of Agriculture declared a phytosanitary emergency and established a quarantine area covering parts of San Juan, Loíza, Cataño and Toa Baja municipalities. Surveillance, containment and eradication measures are being applied (Departamento de Agricultura de Puerto Rico, 2026). **Transient, actionable, under eradication.**

During surveys in 2018 and 2019, prunus necrotic ringspot virus (*Ilarvirus PNRSV*, PNRSV - EU RNQP 2019/2072 Annex IV) was reported for the first time in Azerbaijan on symptomatic plum (*Prunus domestica*), apricot (*P. armeniaca*), almond (*P. dulcis*), peach (*P. persica*), sweet cherry (*P. avium*) and cherry plum (*P. cerasifera*) trees. The pathogen was identified by molecular testing (Mustafayev *et al.*, 2026). **Present.**

The two-spotted leafhopper *Sophonia orientalis* (Hemiptera: Cicadellidae) is first reported from Italy. The insect was observed in 2023 and in 2026 in Sicilia, in the botanical garden of Palermo on *Urtica membranacea* and *Duranta erecta* (Rösch & Wilson, 2026). **Present, not widely distributed.**

- **Detailed records**

In the USA, the pinewood nematode *Bursaphelenchus xylophilus* (EPPO A2 List) is reported for the first time in North Dakota . It was detected in August 2026 in Ramsom county and Sargent County on Scots pine trees (*Pinus sylvestris*) (NDSU, 2026-08-14).

In China, *Pantoea ananatis* is first reported from Anhui province causing leaf blight in rice (*Oryza sativa*). It was detected across 16 regions of Anhui by PCR from symptomatic rice plants between 2020 and 2022 (Zang *et al.*, 2026).

In the USA, ‘*Candidatus* Phytoplasma trifolii’ was previously reported in Washington state but the report was considered unreliable. During field surveys in 2022 and 2024, ‘*Ca.* Phytoplasma trifolii’ was reported on symptomatic *Cannabis sativa* plants in Othello and Prosser City, Washington. (Wagstaff *et al.*, 2026).

In the USA, *Serratia ureilytica*, the causal agent of cucurbit yellow vine disease (formerly EPPO Alert List), is reported for the first time in the state of Indiana. In July 2025, the pathogen was detected in symptomatic pumpkin and squash (*Cucurbita pepo*) and winter squash (*C. moschata*) plants in Tippecanoe and Knox counties. The pest was identified by morphological testing. The EPPO Secretariat did not previously have a record of *C. moschata* as a host of *S. ureilytica*. Koch’s postulates were confirmed (Rodríguez-Herrera *et al.*, 2026).

- **Denied records**

Cherry leaf roll virus (*Nepovirus avii*, CLRV - EU RNQP) was recorded as present in Chile based on a publication of 2001 which was not confirmed by Servicio Agrícola y Ganadero

(SAG). The NPPO of Chile recently stated that CLRV has never been found in Chile during official surveillance activities undertaken by SAG.

The pest status of cherry leaf roll virus in Chile is officially declared as: **Absent, never occurred, confirmed absent by survey.**

- **New host plants**

During surveys between October 2022 and March 2024 in the Pelotas region of Rio Grande do Sul (Brazil), *Anastrepha fraterculus* (Diptera: Tephritidae - EPPO A1 List) was reported on *Campomanesia aurea* and *Psidium salutare* for the first time (Abib *et al.*, 2026).

- **Eradication**

In February 2022, in a commercial nursery in Ehime Prefecture (Shikoku region, Japan) *Acidovorax citrulli* (syn. *Paracidovorax citrulli*, EPPO A1 List) was reported on symptomatic bitter melon (*Momordica charantia* var. *pavel*) seedlings for the first time. The EPPO Secretariat did not previously have a record of bitter melon as a host of *A. citrulli*. Seeds from the infected seedlings also tested positive for *A. citrulli*, demonstrating that seed transmission of *A. citrulli* in bitter melon is possible (Inoue & Nomura, 2026). All seeds suspected of being infected, and seedlings from the affected plot were destroyed. The outbreak has been eradicated (Inoue & Nomura, 2026).

- **Epidemiology**

Seed transmission of cowpea mild mottle virus (*Carlavirus vignae*, CPMMV - Quarantine pest ((EU) 2019/2072 Annex II A)) was demonstrated for the first time in common bean (*Phaseolus vulgaris*) (Pinheiro-Lima *et al.*, 2026).

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Additional key words: new record, detailed record, denied record, new host plants, eradication, epidemiology

Computer codes: ANSTFR, BURSXY, CERTCA, CLRV00, CMV000, CPMMV0, ERWIAN, PLV000, PNRSV0, PSDMAC, SERRUR, SOHOOR, AZ, BR, CL, CN, IT, JP, PR, US

2026/182 Online survey about the EPPO Reporting Service

The EPPO Reporting Service is a free monthly newsletter on events of phytosanitary concern (e.g. new pest outbreaks, new host plants, new diagnostic methods). It focuses mainly on regulated pests (including invasive alien plants), as well as on emerging pests that may present a risk to the EPPO region.

The EPPO Secretariat is now organizing a survey to better understand how readers use the Reporting Service and gather suggestions for its improvement.

Link to the survey: <https://tinyurl.com/rssurvey2026>

We would be grateful if you could complete the survey. Estimated time for completion of the survey: 5 to 10 minutes.

The **deadline** for this survey is 10th October 2026.

Source: EPPO Secretariat (2026-08).

2026/183 First report of *Lycorma delicatula* in Moldova and in the EPPO region

The Agenția Națională pentru Siguranța Alimentelor (ANSA) of Moldova recently reported the first detection of the spotted lanternfly *Lycorma delicatula* (Hemiptera: Fulgoridae - EPPO A1 List) on its territory. This is also the first report for the EPPO region.

An outbreak was detected in an industrial area in the Chisinau municipality. Both adults and nymphs were found on spontaneous vegetation, particularly on *Ailanthus altissima*. The identity of the pest was confirmed by the National Reference Laboratory (IP CNSAPSA).

L. delicatula is a quarantine pest for Moldova. Phytosanitary measures have been implemented. An infested area (about 7000 m²) and a buffer zone were delimited and insecticides applied. The initial outbreak in the industrial area is now considered eradicated.

Subsequent monitoring in the buffer zone detected isolated populations of the pest in public spaces. Phytosanitary measures will be taken on those isolated populations.

The pest status of *Lycorma delicatula* in Moldova is officially declared as: **Transient**.

Source: ANSA (2026-08-24). Press release Atenție! Regim de carantină fitosanitară.
<https://ansa.gov.md/media/comunicate-de-presa/atentie-regim-de-carantina-fitosanitara.html>

Pictures: *Lycorma delicatula*. <https://gd.eppo.int/taxon/LYCMDE/photos>

Additional key words: new record

Computer codes: LYCMDE, MD

2026/184 Update on the situation of *Agrilus planipennis* in Slovakia

In Slovakia, the emerald ash borer *Agrilus planipennis* (Coleoptera: Buprestidae - EPPO A2 List) was first reported in Streda nad Bordogom (district of Trebišov, region of Košice, Eastern Slovakia) in June 2026 (EPPO RS 2026/163).

The NPPO of Slovakia recently informed the EPPO Secretariat that the identity of the pest was confirmed by the EU Reference Laboratory for Insects and Mites on 20 July 2026 and that delimiting surveys were ongoing. As of 7th August 2026, 2297 sites had been surveyed. The NPPO reports that 115 sites with host plants in Trebišov and Michalovce districts were considered to be infested by the pest based on diagnostic and visual methods. The total infested area is 62 208 ha. A buffer zone extending 10 km from the outer boundary of the infested area has been established according to EU Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) 2024/434. In addition, movement of plants and plant products of ash (*Fraxinus* spp.) and fringe tree (*Chionanthus virginicus*) from within 100 km of the outer boundary of the infested area is prohibited in accordance with Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) 2019/2072. Official phytosanitary measures are applied to eradicate the pest. They also include surveys and communication activities.

The pest status of *Agrilus planipennis* in Slovakia is officially declared as: **Transient, actionable, under eradication**.

Source: NPPO of Slovakia (2026-07, 2026-08).
<https://www.uksup.sk/agrilus-planipennis>

Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) 2024/434 of 5 February 2024 on measures to prevent the establishment and spread of *Agrilus planipennis* Fairmaire within the Union territory. OJ L 2024/434. http://data.europa.eu/eli/reg_impl/2024/434/oj

Pictures: *Agrilus planipennis*. <https://gd.eppo.int/taxon/AGRLPL/photos>

Additional key words: detailed record

Computer codes: AGRLPL, SK

2026/185 Update on the situation of *Agrilus planipennis* in Hungary

In Hungary, the emerald ash borer *Agrilus planipennis* (Coleoptera: Buprestidae - EPPO A2 List) was first reported in Beregsurány (region of Észak-Alföld, eastern Hungary) in June 2026 when one adult was caught in a trap (EPPO RS 2026/137).

Surveys conducted in Beregsurány after the first finding resulted in additional adults caught in traps as well as the detection of larvae in symptomatic ash trees.

Further surveys detected the pest in the neighbouring county of Borsod-Abaúj-Zemplén (region of Észak-Alföld, eastern Hungary). Seven adults were caught in traps and several ash trees (*Fraxinus* spp.) showing signs of the pest (bark splitting and D-shaped exit holes) were found. A demarcated area has been established, and delimiting surveys are continuing to determine the extent of this infestation.

Official phytosanitary measures are applied to eradicate the pest. They also include surveys and communication activities.

The pest status of *Agrilus planipennis* in Hungary is officially declared as: **Transient, actionable, under eradication.**

Source: NPPO of Hungary (2026-08).

Internet: <https://portal.nebih.gov.hu/korisronto-karcsudiszbogar>

Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) 2024/434 of 5 February 2024 on measures to prevent the establishment and spread of *Agrilus planipennis* Fairmaire within the Union territory. OJ L 2024/434. http://data.europa.eu/eli/reg_impl/2024/434/oj

Pictures: *Agrilus planipennis*. <https://gd.eppo.int/taxon/AGRLPL/photos>

Additional key words: detailed record

Computer codes: AGRLPL, HU

2026/186 One beetle of *Anoplophora chinensis* found in Austria

Anoplophora chinensis (Coleoptera: Cerambycidae - EPPO A2 List) was previously confirmed to be absent from Austria based on annual surveys. The NPPO of Austria recently informed the EPPO Secretariat that in July 2026 a private individual found a single male *A. chinensis* beetle on the lawn of a childcare centre in Klösch municipality (Oststeiermark region, Steiermark state). The pest was identified morphologically by the Department of Forest protection in July 2026 and using a molecular test by the National Reference Laboratory in August 2026.

Official eradication measures have been applied. Visual inspections of host plants are conducted within 100 m of the finding since end of July 2026 and will be continued in an extended radius according to the national contingency plan. This will be supplemented using sniffer dogs. No signs of the pest have been observed in host plants (*Acer* spp., *Crataegus* spp., *Fagus* spp., *Platanus* spp. and *Salix* spp.) present in the immediate vicinity of the finding. No high-risk premises, such as nurseries or garden centres, occur in the immediate vicinity of the finding. Traceback investigations are ongoing and awareness campaigns have been conducted. The entry pathway remains unclear. The NPPO of Austria considers this finding to be an isolated case.

The pest status of *Anoplophora chinensis* in Austria is under determination.

Source: NPPO of Austria (2026-08).

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

Additional key words: new record, incursion

Computer codes: ANOLCN, AT

2026/187 *Erthesina fullo*, the yellow-spotted stink bug: addition to the EPPO Alert List

Why: *Erthesina fullo* (Hemiptera: Pentatomidae) is a highly polyphagous pest originating from Asia. It has demonstrated an ability to move over long distances with trade and transport and has recently expanded beyond its native range. In the EPPO region it is established in Albania, and specimens have been recently observed in several countries. Because of its invasive behaviour, broad host range and potential to damage economically important fruit crops, the EPPO Secretariat considered it useful to add this pest to the EPPO Alert List.

Where: *Erthesina fullo* is native to Asia

EPPO region: Albania (present, restricted distribution)

Isolated specimens were also reported from Belgium (one adult in October 2025); Greece (an adult and a nymph in Peloponnesus in 2024); Italy (one adult in Veneto in 2026). It has also been intercepted in Czechia.

Asia: Bangladesh, China, India, Indonesia, Japan, Myanmar, Nepal, Pakistan, Sri Lanka, Taiwan and Vietnam.

South America: Brazil (São Paulo State).

On which plants: *Erthesina fullo* is highly polyphagous, feeding on over 60 host plant species across over 30 families. Economically important hosts include kiwifruit (*Actinidia* spp.), pear (*Pyrus* spp.), apple (*Malus domestica*), peach (*Prunus persica*), apricot (*Prunus armeniaca*), pomegranate (*Punica granatum*), Chinese jujube (*Ziziphus jujuba*), *Citrus* species and macadamia (*Macadamia* spp.). It is also recorded on forest, ornamental and wild plants, including *Tilia cordata*, *Robinia pseudoacacia*, *Populus* and *Ulmus* species.

Damage: Nymphs and adults pierce and suck leaves, flowers, shoots and fruits. Feeding may cause discoloration, wilting or defoliation, dry or corky tissues, fruit deformation and reduced fruit quality; feeding wounds may also cause infections of pathogenic bacteria or fungi, resulting in fruit rot. In the worst cases, feeding can also cause fruit to abort prematurely, leading to significant yield losses. Reported damage in the native range includes losses of 10-30% in kiwifruit orchards, up to 60% damage in pear, and about 20% in apple and macadamia. The magnitude of economic damage in recently invaded areas remains uncertain.

Adults are large stink bugs, approximately 18-23 mm long, usually dark brown to black with numerous yellow or orange spots. Eggs are laid in clusters, generally on the underside of leaves. The species is usually univoltine (one generation per year) in temperate parts of its range. It has five nymphal instars and overwinters as an adult.

Dissemination: Adults are active fliers; experimental observations indicate that they can fly up to approximately 3 km within 5 days. Early-instar nymphs remain close to the eggs on the host plants, whereas later-instar nymphs move around in search of food. Long-distance spread is mainly human-assisted. Eggs and nymphs may be transported on host plants, while adults readily behave as hitchhikers in containers, vehicles, machinery and luggage.

Pathways: Host plants for planting, cut branches and other host plant material, host fruits. As a hitchhiker on containers, used vehicles and machinery, passengers' luggage. The pest has been intercepted or detected in association with traded goods and transport in Korea Republic, New Zealand, the United Kingdom and Czechia, including on imported wood.

Possible risks: *Erthesina fullo* has a broad host range that includes major fruit crops grown throughout the EPPO region, particularly apple, pear, peach, apricot and kiwifruit. Hosts are abundant in orchards, urban areas and natural habitats. Its establishment in Albania, and the recent incursions in Belgium, Greece and Italy show that it can reach and survive in parts of the EPPO region. Ecological niche models also identify climatically suitable areas outside its native range, including part of the EPPO region (Southern Europe and North Africa). If established, the pest could reduce yield and market quality and increase crop-protection costs. Its hitchhiking behaviour makes exclusion and detection difficult. *E. fullo* adults aggregate and can overwinter in large numbers in buildings. Uncertainty remains concerning establishment limits, population growth and the level of damage under conditions in the EPPO region. Although its reproductive capacity is lower than *Halyomorpha halys*, the two sympatric species share many other biological characteristics.

Sources

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Panel review date -

Entry date 2026-08

Additional key words: Alert List

Computer codes: ERTNFU

2026/188 Incursion of *Bactrocera zonata* in Belgium

Bactrocera zonata (Diptera: Tephritidae - EPPO A2 List) is reported for the first time in Belgium. In July 2026, four male adults were caught in two traps forming part of the PestFly research project's monitoring network near a public square where markets are frequently held in Antwerpen (Antwerpen province, Vlaams Gewest region). The pest was identified by morphological testing.

The NPPO of Belgium considers these to be isolated post-entry findings. No additional traps were installed, as the NPPO had already set traps near this location as part of official surveillance. The origin of the pest findings is under investigation and further surveillance is ongoing. The NPPO considers that climatic conditions in Belgium are unsuitable for the establishment of the pest. A decision on whether phytosanitary measures will be taken is pending.

The official status of *Bactrocera zonata* in Belgium is under determination.

Source: NPPO of Belgium (2026-08).

Pictures: *Bactrocera zonata*. <https://gd.eppo.int/taxon/DACUZO/photos>

Additional key words: new record, incursion

Computer codes: DACUZO, BE

2026/189 First report of *Xyleborus bispinatus* and update on the situation of *Euwallacea similis* in Belgium

The NPPO of Belgium recently informed the EPPO Secretariat of the first finding of the ambrosia beetle *Xyleborus bispinatus* (Coleoptera: Curculionidae: Scolytinae, EU quarantine pest as 'non-European Scolytinae') on its territory and provided additional information on the recent finding of *Euwallacea similis* (Coleoptera: Curculionidae: Scolytinae EU, Quarantine pest 2019/2072 Annex II A) from July 2026 (EPPO RS 2026/165).

Following the detection of *Xyleborus ferrugineus* and *E. similis* in a recently built tropical greenhouse in Brugelette municipality (Hainaut province, Région wallonne) in June and early July 2026 (EPPO RS 2026/165), surveillance carried on with traps and inspections to detect symptomatic plants within the greenhouse and a network of 78 traps in a 300 m buffer zone established around it. As a result, 11 adults of *X. bispinatus* were caught in traps inside the greenhouse and a further 10 adults were caught in traps in the buffer zone in July 2026. So far, *X. bispinatus* has only been caught in traps and not detected in plants. The pest was identified by morphological testing. As a significant number of plants were introduced into the greenhouse when it was established in the 2025-2026 winter period, the NPPO considers that a more widespread presence at the site cannot be excluded.

Traps in August 2026 caught 10 adult *E. similis* in the buffer zone and 5 adults inside the greenhouse. Visual inspections in August 2026 on symptomatic plant material resulted in the identification of 15 adult of *E. similis* on *Delonix regia* trees. Two wood samples showing entry and exit holes were sent for laboratory analysis to determine the possible presence of any associated fungal pathogens.

Phytosanitary measures continue to be implemented against all three pests at the site, including destruction and removal of symptomatic or infested plants and measures to prevent pest escape from the greenhouse.

The pest status of *Xyleborus bispinatus* in Belgium is officially declared as: **Present, in specific parts of the Member State, where host crop(s) are grown, under eradication.**

The pest status of *Euwallacea similis* in Belgium is officially declared as: **Present, in specific parts of the Member State, where host crop(s) are grown, under eradication.**

Source: NPPO of Belgium (2026-08).

Additional key words: new record, detailed record

Computer codes: XYLBBI, XYLBSI, BE

2026/190 First report of *Erasmoneura vulnerata* in Germany

The North American grape leafhopper *Erasmoneura vulnerata* (Hemiptera: Cicadellidae), a pest of *Vitis* sp., was first detected in Europe in Italy in 2004 and has since spread to Austria, Bulgaria, France, Hungary, Moldova, Romania, Serbia, Slovenia, and Switzerland (EPPO RS 2021/084, RS 2021/174, RS 2025/001, RS 2026/035). In northern Italy, *E. vulnerata* has caused severe leaf symptoms in commercial vineyards.

A recent express pest risk assessment, published by the Julius Kühn-Institut, reports the first finding of *E. vulnerata* in Germany. Since 2024, *E. vulnerata* has been found in Karlsruhe (Baden-Württemberg), and in the towns of Wörth am Rhein and Germersheim (Germersheim district, Rheinland-Pfalz state). In Baden-Württemberg, it was found on *Vitis* sp. and *Parthenocissus* sp.

The risk assessment lists new hosts reported from the literature including deciduous winterberry (*Ilex decidua*) and horse chestnut (*Aesculus* sp.). These hosts have not been found to be infested by the pest in the EU. The risk assessment considers that *E. vulnerata* can establish outdoors in warmer regions of Germany and other EU member states, but not in cooler regions.

The risk assessment concludes that, although *E. vulnerata* can cause substantial damage and has high spread potential, its spread in the EU is already advanced and could not be sufficiently contained by phytosanitary measures. Therefore they state that *E. vulnerata* does not meet the requirements of Article 29 of Regulation (EU) 2016/2031 for phytosanitary measures against an unregulated pest.

Source: Julius-Kühn-Institut (JKI) (2026) Express-Risikoanalyse zu *Erasmoneura vulnerata*.
Accessible at: <https://pra.eppo.int/pr/1faf93b9-d444-44f4-9113-3887aada7f5e/>

Additional key words: new record

Computer codes: ERYTVU, DE

2026/191 Update of the situation of *Bursaphelenchus xylophilus* in France

The pine wood nematode, *Bursaphelenchus xylophilus* (EPPO A2 List) was first reported in France in November 2025 in the municipality of Seignosse (Landes department, Nouvelle-Aquitaine region) (EPPO RS 2025/263) and in the neighbouring municipality of Angresse in March 2026 (RS 2026/067). Official measures are being applied to monitor the pest and eradicate the outbreak.

On 16th July 2026, the French National Reference Laboratory confirmed the detection of *B. xylophilus* in a wood sample collected during official surveys in an urban area in the municipality of Lescar (Pyrénées-Atlantiques department, Nouvelle-Aquitaine region). This site is located 60 km east of the demarcated area in the Landes department. The sample was collected on a symptomatic *Pinus nigra* subsp. *Laricio* tree. In accordance with the EU regulation 2012/535/EU, a demarcated area was established, including an infested zone of 500 m and a buffer zone of 20 km both centred on the infested tree. The infested tree and a neighbouring pine tree were felled on 21st July 2026. Reinforced surveillance and the implementation of measures are currently being put in place by the regional phytosanitary service.

In July 2026, *B. xylophilus* was detected in a specimen of *Monochamus* sp. collected in a trap of the official survey programme located in a forest in the Centre-Val-de-Loire region (Loiret department). Reinforced surveillance is implemented in the vicinity of the trap. This includes setting additional traps, carrying out visual inspections and taking samples from dying trees, as well as taking samples from stacks of logs. This is the first finding of *B. xylophilus* in the region Centre Val de Loire. This finding is considered to be an interception, as *B. xylophilus* was not found in a tree.

The nematode was also detected in two instances in specimens of *Monochamus* sp. in the buffer zone of the outbreak in Landes department in July 2026.

The pest status of *Bursaphelenchus xylophilus* in France is officially declared as: **Present, only in some parts of the Member State concerned, under eradication.**

Source: NPPO of France (2026-07).

Commission Implementing Decision 2012/535/EU of 26 September 2012 on emergency measures to prevent the spread within the Union of *Bursaphelenchus xylophilus* (Steiner et Buhrer) Nickle et al. (the pine wood nematode). http://data.europa.eu/eli/dec_impl/2012/535/2018-04-23

Pictures: *Bursaphelenchus xylophilus*. <https://gd.eppo.int/taxon/BURXY/photos>

Additional key words: detailed record

Computer codes: BURXY, FR

2026/192 First report of *Curtobacterium flaccumfaciens* pv. *flaccumfaciens* in Croatia

The NPPO of Croatia recently informed the EPPO Secretariat of the first finding of *Curtobacterium flaccumfaciens* pv. *flaccumfaciens* (EPPO A2 List) on its territory.

As part of sampling for the National Surveillance Programme for 2026, the pest was detected in common bean plants (*Phaseolus vulgaris*) in a small field (0.6 ha) in the town of Našice (Osječko-baranjska županija county, Panonska Hrvatska region) in June 2026. The bacterium was identified by molecular testing in August 2026. The source of the outbreak is unknown.

The pest status of *Curtobacterium flaccumfaciens* pv. *flaccumfaciens* in Croatia is officially declared as: **Present, under eradication.**

Source: NPPO of Croatia (2026-08).

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

Additional key words: new record

Computer codes: CORBFL, HR

2026/193 First report of *Fusarium oxysporum* f. sp. *cubense* Tropical race 4 in Bangladesh

Fusarium wilt of banana caused by *Fusarium oxysporum* f. sp. *cubense* Tropical race 4 (EPPO A2 list) is reported for the first time from Bangladesh. Between January and February 2025, typical *Fusarium* symptoms were observed on Cavendish and local banana (*Musa* sp.) cultivars in Tangail, Rangpur, Bogura, Narsingdi and Jamalpur districts (central and northern parts of the country). The pathogen was identified as *Fusarium oxysporum* f. sp. *cubense* Tropical race 4 by molecular testing.

Local authorities have begun the destruction of infected plants in the affected areas and initiated a delimiting survey in other banana-producing regions to determine the distribution of the pest in the country. Up until this finding, only *Fusarium oxysporum* f. sp. *cubense* race 1 was known to occur in Bangladesh.

Source: Islam MR, Mohlabi KM, Sarly SP, Biswas K, Khan F, Tarafder T, Rahman M, Muqit A, Rahman MH, Yubak GC, Elkahky M (2026) First report of *Fusarium oxysporum* f. sp. *cubense* Tropical race 4 (VCG 01213/16) causing *Fusarium* wilt on banana in Bangladesh. *Plant Disease* (early view). <https://doi.org/10.1094/PDIS-10-25-2164-PDN>

Pictures: *Fusarium oxysporum* f. sp. *cubense* Tropical race 4.
<https://gd.eppo.int/taxon/FUSAC4/photos>

Additional key words: new record

Computer codes: FUSAC4, FUSACB, BD

2026/194 First report of cucurbit yellow stunting disorder virus in Java, Indonesia

Cucurbit yellow stunting disorder virus (*Crinivirus cucurbitae*, CYSDV - EPPO A2 List) is first reported from Indonesia. In 2023, melon (*Cucumis melo*) plants showing virus-like symptoms including interveinal yellowing and chlorosis were observed in open fields in Kediri District (East Java province, Western Indonesia region). The identity of the pathogen was confirmed by molecular testing. Co-infection with *Cucumis melo* alphaendornavirus (*Alphaendornavirus cucumis*, CmEV) was also reported.

The situation of cucurbit yellow stunting disorder virus in Indonesia can be described as follows: **Present not widely distributed.**

Source: Kwak HR, Byun HS, Song JJ, Yu J (2026) First report of cucurbit yellow stunting disorder virus and *Cucumis melo* alphaendornavirus in *Cucumis melo* in Indonesia. *Plant Disease* (early view) <https://doi.org/10.1094/PDIS-05-26-0902-PDN>

Pictures: *Crinivirus cucurbitae*. <https://gd.eppo.int/taxon/CYSDV0/photos>

Additional key words: new record

Computer codes: CYSDV0, CMEV00, ID

2026/195 Plant diseases newly reported from Romania

During official surveillance between 2021 and 2025, the following pathogen species have been officially recorded in Romania for the first time:

- *Xanthomonas euvesicatoria* pv. *euvesicatoria* (EPPO A2 List): detected in 2022 on a *Capsicum annuum* plant from Ilfov county.
- *X. euvesicatoria* pv. *perforans* (EPPO A2 List): detected in 2025 on a *Capsicum annuum* plant from Brăila county and on *Solanum lycopersicum* plants from Vâlcea county.
- Grapevine flavescence dorée phytoplasma (EPPO A2 List): first detected in 2021 in Botoşani county (North-East region) (EPPO RS 2022/016). It was detected again in several counties in eastern Romania in 2022, 2023 and 2024. In 2024 one outbreak was detected in western Romania and in 2025 two outbreaks were detected in southern Romania.
- *Cercospora kikuchii* (EAEU A2 List): detected in 2023 on soybean (*Glycine max*) seeds for export. Analyses carried out in 2024 and 2025 confirmed the spread of this pathogen across multiple counties, especially in the south part of the country.
- *Cryptostroma corticale*: identified on a maple tree (*Acer* sp.) from Vâlcea county in July 2025.

The article also mentions the first detection of two non-regulated pathogens of maize, once in 2021: *Physoderma maydis* and *Sclerophthora macrospora*, as well as a thrips of Asian origin on *Morus* (*Pseudodendrothrips mori*).

Source: Manole F, Adam M, Simona-Şerban M, Mincă D, Ştefan A, Zaharia L, Costache C, Coman AM, Cean M (2025) New species harmful to plants and plant products reported in Romania. *Romanian Journal for Plant Protection* **18** (42-55), 42-55. DOI:10.54574/RJPP.18.05

Additional key words: new record

Computer codes: CERCKI, CRPSCO, PHYDMA, PHYP64, PSETMO, SCPHMA, XANTEU, XANTPF, RO

2026/196 Physiological host range of *Istocheta aldrichi*: a biological control agent of *Popillia japonica*

Popillia japonica (Coleoptera: Scarabaeidae - EPPO A2 List) originates from Japan and is established in North America and was recently introduced in a small part of the EPPO region. The larvae feed on roots of a wide range of plants whereas adults feed on foliage of various host plants. The biological control agent *Istocheta aldrichi* (Diptera: Tachinidae) has been utilised as a classical biological control in the USA and Canada. Native to Japan, *I. aldrichi* has shown varying levels of parasitism of *P. japonica* (90 % in Japan and up to 70 % in the USA). *I. aldrichi* was released in the Azores (Portugal) in 1993 although it is likely it failed to establish as it was not detected afterwards. Throughout its native range in Japan and its introduced range in North America, *I. aldrichi* has only been recorded parasitising *P. japonica*. The physiological host range is the range of species (hosts) on which a biological control agent is able to survive, reproduce and complete its life cycle under optimal conditions (e.g., confined conditions). For *I. aldrichi*, this was assessed by conducting laboratory-based no-choice tests with 14 European non-target beetle species from three subfamilies of the family Scarabaeidae. The assessment was done using a sequential exposure scheme, in which *P. japonica* was exposed to the biological control agent before and after the non-target beetle to ensure oviposition readiness of the parasitoid. The results showed that five out of 14 non-target beetle species were accepted for oviposition by *I. aldrichi* females. This included all three beetle species which were tested and belong to the same subfamily (Rutelinae) as *P. japonica*. It also included one species from each of the subfamilies Cetoniinae and Melolonthinae. Successful development of the parasitoid was only found in two species from the Rutelinae: *Mimela junii* and *Anomala vitis*. Further investigations into the ecological host range of *I. aldrichi* should be conducted to assess the risks of using the fly as a classical biological control agent against *P. japonica* in Europe.

Source: Valenti R, Makovetski V, Kenis M, Haye T, Seehausen ML (2026) Physiological host range of the Tachinid *Istocheta aldrichi*, a potential biological control agent for the Japanese beetle in Europe. *Experimental and Applied Entomology* (early view) <https://doi.org/10.1111/eea.70172>

Additional key words: biological control agents

Computer codes: POPIJA, ISTOAL

2026/197 Biological control in Latin America and the Caribbean

The benefits and risk of native and exotic biological control agents was assessed from Latin America, and the Caribbean. Information was collected through literature and databases (e.g. BIOCAT database). A biological control agent was assessed as successful when it is detailed in the literature that it plays a role in pest reduction. In total, 1099 biocontrol agents were identified as used in arthropod biocontrol in Latin America and the Caribbean. Approximately, 40% of these biological control agents were exotic to the region. Depending on the type of biological control used (e.g., natural, conservation, classical or augmentative biocontrol), pest reduction was achieved between 40 - 100 %. Eighty-eight percent of the established exotic parasitoids introduced to Latin America and the Caribbean had a pest-reducing effect. Most of these biological control agents were introduced as classical biocontrol agents, though a large number were also utilised in augmentative biological control programmes. Of predators, 370 native biological control agents were recorded, all of which had a pest-reducing effect. Of the 55 species of exotic predators which have been recorded as established, 78% are recorded as having a pest-reducing effect. Many species contributed to significant reductions in pest populations and, thus, provided an important benefit in the form of sustainable pest management. This approach offers an

environmentally sound alternative to conventional synthetic chemical pest control, minimizing pollution and reducing risks to field workers, consumers, and non-target organisms.

Source: Van Lenteren JC, Buenio VH (2026) Benefits and risks of native and exotic biological control agents used in Latin America and the Caribbean: performance of 1099 arthropod natural enemies. *Neotropical Entomology* 55, 69
<https://doi.org/10.1007/s13744-026-01412-8>

Additional key words: biological control agents

2026/198 Biological control agents added to EPPO Standard PM 6/3

In 2026, two biological control agents have been added to the appendices of the EPPO Standard PM 6/3 (5) *Biological control agents safely used in the EPPO region*. Both are biological control agents of invasive alien plants.

***Stenopelmus rufinasus* (Coleoptera: Brachyceridae)**

Stenopelmus rufinasus is a biological control agent of *Azolla filiculoides* (Salviniaceae) an invasive alien plant species. Following a detailed assessment of the dossier, *S. rufinasus* was added to Appendix 1 *Commercially or officially used biological control agents*. *S. rufinasus* is indigenous to the southern and western USA and is established and widespread in the EPPO region. There are no reports of adverse effects.

***Trichilogaster acaciaelongifoliae* (Hymenoptera: Melanosomellidae)**

Trichilogaster acaciaelongifoliae is a classical biological control agent for the invasive alien plant *Acacia longifolia* (Fabaceae). Following a detailed assessment of the dossier, *T. acaciaelongifoliae* was added to Appendix 2 *Classical biological control agents successfully established in the EPPO region*. *T. acaciaelongifoliae* is indigenous to Australia and is established in the EPPO region in Portugal since 2016. There are no reports of adverse effects.

Source: EPPO (2026 version) PM 6/3 (5) Biological control agents safely used in the EPPO region. Available at:
https://www.eppo.int/RESOURCES/eppo_standards/pm6_biocontrol

Pictures: *Trichilogaster acaciaelongifoliae*. <https://gd.eppo.int/taxon/TRLGAC/photos>

Additional key words: biological control agents, EPPO Lists

Computer codes: STNPRU, TRLGAC

2026/199 *Reynoutria multiflora* in the EPPO region: addition to the EPPO Alert List**Why**

Reynoutria multiflora (Polygonaceae) is recorded showing invasive tendencies in the EPPO region where it can occur in wooded habitats. The EPPO Panel on Invasive Alien Plants are seeking further information on any additional occurrences of *R. multiflora* in the EPPO region.

Geographical distribution

EPPO region: Hungary, Italy, Slovenia, Switzerland

Asia: China* (Anhui, Fujian, Gansu, Guangdong, Guangxi, Guizhou, Hainan, Hebei, Heilongjiang, Henan, Hubei, Hunan, Jiangsu, Jiangxi, Jilin, Liaoning, Qinghai, Shaanxi, Shandong, Shanxi, Sichuan, Yunnan), Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Republic of Korea, Japan

* = Native distribution

Morphology

Reynoutria multiflora is a perennial herb. Stems are twining. Subterranean part with root tubers black-brown, elliptic, ligneous (without rhizome formation). Leaves are individual, not clustered, ovate or narrowly ovate, 3-7 × 2-5 cm. Inflorescences terminal or axillary, panicle, spreading, 10-20 cm. Flowers hermaphrodite. Perianth white or greenish; tepals elliptic. Achenes included in persistent perianth, ovoid, 2.5-3 mm.

Biology and Ecology

Stem fragments readily regenerate into viable plant. Buried stems root upon soil contact. *R. multiflora* seeds are viable. Hybridisation has been shown to occur between *R. multiflora* and *R. japonica*.

Habitats

In its native range, *R. multiflora* is recorded to occur on mountain slopes up to 3000 m above sea level. In the introduced range, *R. multiflora* is recorded to occur in wooded habitats, along forest edges and in urban and semi-urban areas and ruderal habitats.

Pathways for movement

International pathways include movement of the plant for horticulture. Plant propagules can be spread in garden waste and contaminated soil. Natural spread is by seed and stem fragments which can be spread by water in periods of flooding.

Impacts

Reynoutria multiflora can form a dense canopy which can cover native plants reducing their fitness. The increased biomass can cause tree branches to break. The almost 100 % cover, can reduce species richness and shade out native vegetation. *R. multiflora* has the potential to impact ecosystem services. It can damage historic heritage structures and have an economic impact due to management costs.

Control

Management measures can include physical and mechanical control measures. Control using herbicides is possible, however their use in certain habitats is restricted.

- Source:** Cao DL, Zhang XJ, Qu XJ & Fan SJ (2023) Phylogenomics, divergence time estimation, and adaptive evolution in the Polygonoideae (Polygonaceae). *Journal of Systematics and Evolution* 61(6), 1004-1019, <https://doi.org/10.1111/jse.12946>
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- Jousson A, Rosselli A, Conedera M, Marazzi B, Pezzatti GB, Jutzi M, Durini M & Frey D (Submitted) One step beyond the garden fence: Naturalization patterns of two ornamental alien climbers *Fallopia aubertii* and *Reynoutria multiflora* in southern Switzerland.
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Pictures: *Reynoutria multiflora*. <https://gd.eppo.int/taxon/POLMU/photos>

Additional key words: Alert List, invasive alien plants

Computer codes: POLMU

2026/200 EUCAMED: an inventory of eucalypts introduced to the Mediterranean Basin

The eucalypts (genera *Eucalyptus*, *Corymbia*, and *Angophora*) comprise 934 species, most of them endemic to Australia. In the EPPO region, in particular in Mediterranean countries, these trees have been utilised extensively in forest plantations (for wood pulp, paper), and for horticulture in parks and gardens due to their rapid growth. The EUCAMED (Eucalypt records in the Mediterranean Basin) inventory is the first up-to-date expert-verified inventory on the introduction history, diversity, distribution patterns, and biogeographic status of eucalypts across the Mediterranean Basin. EUCAMED currently comprises 4 103 records (taxon × country × site) on 387 taxa spread across 21 Mediterranean countries extracted from 445 references. These are categorized into: 3 811 records (387 taxa) as cultivated, 205 records as casual (19 taxa), 50 naturalized records (17 taxa), 34 records (14 taxa) that failed to establish populations, and 3 invasive records represented by two taxa. Overall, 296 species, 17 subspecies, 17 autonyms, 3 varieties, 2 cultivars, and 52 hybrids were found. Each record incorporated into the inventory was verified by qualified plant experts. EUCAMED provides a new resource to support macroecological and biogeographical research on this environmentally and socioeconomically important taxonomic group in the Mediterranean Basin.

- Source:** Brundu G, Aksoy N, Bazos I, Brunori A, Dufour-Dror JM, Fried G, Lozano V, Mifsud S, Novoa A, Santoianni LA, Silva JS, Sayari N, Šibanc N, Uludağ A, Westergren M, Richardson DM (2026) EUCAMED: the first inventory of eucalypts introduced to the Mediterranean Basin, *Botany Letters* <https://doi.org/10.1080/23818107.2026.2699979>

Additional key words: invasive alien plants, database

Computer codes: 1AQZG, 1EUCG, 1KMBG

2026/201 First report of *Digitaria violascens* in Belgium

Digitaria violascens (Poaceae) is a C₄ grass which has a widespread global distribution. It is native to Asia and parts of Australia. In the EPPO region, it is possibly native to Türkiye. In Europe, historically, it has been recorded as an established alien plant in France and Italy. In more recent years, *D. violascens* has been recorded in Portugal and Spain. *D. violascens* can be confused with the congener *D. ischaemum* leading potentially to *D. violascens* being under recorded in the EPPO region. In these countries, it is recorded as species in lawns, transportation networks (road verges), riparian habitats and fallow land. In Belgium, *D. violascens* was previously only known from a single record as a grain contaminant in the port of Antwerpen. In 2023, a large population (several dozen metres) was recorded at the edge of a maize (*Zea mays*) field in Aalter. Due to the size of the population, it is likely that it had been there for several years. Following harvesting of the maize in the autumn 2023, another survey was conducted and *D. violascens* was recorded throughout the field.

Source: Hoste I, Verloove F (2026) *Digitaria violascens*, a new species of C₄ grass in maize fields in Belgium. *Dumortiera* **128**, 3-7.

Additional key words: Invasive alien plants, new record

Computer codes: DIGVI, DIGIS, BE