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2026/226 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**

The black fig weevil, *Aclees taiwanensis* (Coleoptera: Curculionidae) is first reported in Türkiye. It was detected on fig trees (*Ficus carica*) in October 2024, in several sites in Sarıyer-Bahçeköy municipality (Istanbul province) (Bacak et al., 2026). **Present, not widely distributed and not under official control.**

The North American leafminer *Aspilanta oinophylla* (Lepidoptera: Heliozelidae) (formerly *Antispila oinophylla*) is first reported from Slovenia. It was first observed in 2021 in several vineyards (*Vitis vinifera*) in western Slovenia, likely after natural spread from Italy. Between 2022 and 2024, monitoring confirmed its presence at a total of 22 locations across the Goriška region, the Kras, and the coastal part of the country. No major damage has been recorded (Žežlina et al., 2026). This species was first recorded in the EPPO region in Italy in 2007 (EPPO RS 2013/012) and is also found in Ticino (Switzerland). **Present, not widely distributed and not under official control.**

Monosporascus cannonballus (formerly EPPO Alert List) is first reported from Australia. This fungal pathogen causes root rot of cucurbitaceous crops. It was detected in two locations in the Northern Territory, on cucumber (*Cucumis sativus*) plants in the Darwin region, and in honeydew melon (*Cucumis melo* var. *inodorus*) and rockmelon (*Cucumis melo*) plants in the Katherine region. The authorities consider that it is unlikely to be feasible to eradicate the disease in Australia (AusVeg, 2026). **Present, not widely distributed and not under official control.**

Potato cyst nematodes are first reported from Yemen. Surveys were conducted in 2023 in potato (*Solanum tuberosum*) fields in the governorates of Amran, Dhamar, and Ibb (western part of the country). Potato cyst nematodes were detected in the three governorates. As the nematodes were only identified at genus level, it is not known whether *Globodera pallida* or *G. rostochiensis* or both occur in Yemen (Showkat & Saeed, 2026). **Present, widespread.**

Potato mop-top virus (*Pomovirus solani*, PMTV) is first reported from Italy. It was detected on one discarded ware potato (*Solanum tuberosum*) tuber in October 2025 in Calabria. During the survey conducted in 2021-2025 in this area, no PMTV-like symptoms had been observed in fields or harvested tubers. Further investigations are underway to determine the introduction pathway and assess the occurrence of PMTV in the area (Tiberini et al., 2026).

The oak processionary caterpillar *Thaumetopoea processionea* (EU PZ Quarantine pest (EU 2019/2072 Annex III) is reported for the first time in India. A cluster of caterpillars were found in Maharashtra state in August 2025 on guava plants (*Psidium* sp.). One adult male was identified morphologically as *T. processionea* (Theurkar, 2026). The article was published in a peer-reviewed journal but because this is the first record of *T. processionea* in Asia, on a new host plant, and the identification was not confirmed by a specialist, the EPPO Secretariat considered that it should be further confirmed.

- **Detailed records**

In China, cherry rasp leaf virus (*Cheravirus avii*, CRLV- EPPO A1 List), previously known to occur only in North America, was first reported in 2002 in Liaoning and in 2013 in Shandong (north-eastern China) (RS 2015/079). It was first reported in 2024 in north-western China, in Qinghai province on sweet cherry trees (*Prunus avium*). The following viruses were also reported for the first time in this province: cherry green ring mottle virus (*Robigovirus viridiavii*, CGRMV - EU RNQP), cherry virus A (CVA, *Capillovirus alphavii*), little cherry virus 1 (*Velarivirus nanoavii*, LChV1 - EU RNQP), prunus necrotic ringspot virus (*Ilarvirus PNRSV*, PNRSV - EU RNQP), and prune dwarf virus (*Ilarvirus PDV*, PDV - EU RNQP). They were identified by ELISA tests (Zhang *et al.*, 2026).

In Uruguay, *Euwallacea fornicatus* (Coleoptera: Curculionidae: Scolytinae - EPPO A2 List) was first recorded in 2023 in Montevideo and in 2024 in Rivera department (RS 2025/118). As of 2026, it was detected on urban trees in four departments: Montevideo, Canelones, Rivera and Paysandú. No cases have been observed in forestry production or other production systems (NPPO of Uruguay, 2026).

In the USA laurel wilt caused by *Harringtonia lauricola* (EPPO A1 List) is mainly reported in south-eastern states. It was first recorded in 2025 in the north-east part of the country in New York state (EPPO RS 2025/2029). In August 2026 the fungus was first reported in Connecticut, in symptomatic sassafras (*Sassafras albidum*) trees in Fairfield County. The pathogen was identified by laboratory tests (CAES, 2026).

In Mexico the fungal pathogen *Phymatotrichopsis omnivora* (EPPO A1 list) was known to occur in Coahuila and Durango states. It was recently reported as damaging to mango trees (*Mangifera indica*) in Oaxaca (Ramírez-Orozco *et al.*, 2026)

In Brazil, the root knot nematode *Meloidogyne enterolobii* (EPPO A2 List) is reported for the first time in Roraima state on commercial soybean (*Glycine max*) in July 2025 (Diniz *et al.*, 2026).

In Peru, citrus canker caused by *Xanthomonas citri* pv. *citri* (EPPO A1 List) was first reported in 2023 from the region of Ucayali (Coronel Portillo province). In 2024, it has also been recorded in the neighbouring region of Loreto. As of October 2026, the pest remains restricted to the provinces of Atalia, Coronel Portillo and Padre Abad in Ucayali region, and the provinces of Maynas and Alto Amazonas in Loreto region. These two regions are located far from the main areas where citrus fruits are produced for export. (IPPC, 2026).

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

- **Eradication**

Tomato mottle mosaic virus (*Tobamovirus maculatusellati*, ToMMV - formerly EPPO Alert List) was first reported in Germany in a greenhouse in 2023 (EPPO RS 2023/257). The infected plants, as well as the foils and irrigation tubes, were disposed of following heat treatment, and the greenhouse was disinfected and is now used only for the cultivation of non-host plants. Subsequent inspections did not detect the virus (NPPO of Germany, 2026-10).

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

- **New host plants**

Batocera rufomaculata (Coleoptera: Cerambycidae) is a polyphagous wood borer native to South-East Asia. In Oman it was recently observed killing mature baobab (*Adansonia digitata*) trees. This is a new host record for *B. rufomaculata*. Venter *et al.* (2026) underlined that this could be a major concern if this pest was introduced in Africa where baobabs are important native trees.

Rhagoletis pomonella (Diptera: Tephritidae - EPPO A1 List) was reported on *Crataegus x cogswellii*, *Crataegus okennonii*, and *Crataegus castlegarensis* in Washington state, USA. Larvae were reared to adults from *Crataegus* fruit collected in 2023 and 2024 (Yee *et al.*, 2026).

- **Regulation**

Chrysanthemum white rust caused by *Puccinia horiana* (EPPO A2 List) is no longer regulated as a quarantine pest in the USA (USDA-APHIS, 2026).

- **Aetiology**

In Ghana, surveys were conducted to identify the vector of 'Candidatus Phytoplasma palmicola' (one of the species causing Lethal yellowing type syndromes - EPPO A1 List). The pathogen was detected in three insect species: *Patara armata* (Hemiptera: Derbidae) and two undescribed species of *Diostrombus* (Hemiptera: Derbidae) in area where the disease was prevalent. They are considered as potential vectors.

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

Computer codes: ACEETW, ANTROI, BATCRF, CGRMV0, CRLV00, CVA000, DIOBSP, EUWAWH, HETDPA, HETDRO, LCHV10, MELGMY, PDV000, PHMPOM, PHY56, PHYPL, PMTV00, PNRSV0, PTARAR, PUCCHN, RHAGPO, THAUPR, TOMMV0, XANTCI, XYLBFO, BR, CN, DE, GH, IN, IT, MX, OM, PE, SI, TR, US, UY, YE

2026/227 New additions to the EPPO A1 and A2 Lists

In September 2026, the EPPO Council approved the following changes made to the EPPO A1 and A2 Lists of pests recommended for regulation as quarantine pests.

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

- *Clavibacter nebraskensis*,
- *Harringtonia lauricola* and its vector *Xyleborus glabratus*,
- *Litylenchus crenatae*

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

- *Senecio angulatus* (plant)

Transfer from the A2 to the A1 List

- *Stenocarpella macrospora*

Deletions from the A1 List

- Strawberry latent C virus (STLCV)
- *Grosmannia wagneri* [following changes in taxonomy]

Deletion from the A2 List

- *Cacoecimorpha pronubana*

Changes in taxonomy in A1 List:

- *Grosmannia wagneri* is replaced by *Leptographium wagneri*, *L. ponderosum* and *L. pseudotsugae*

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

Source: EPPO Secretariat (2026-10).

Additional key words: EPPO lists

Computer codes: CORBNE, DIPDMC, LEPGWA, LEPGWG, LEPGPS, LITYCR, RAFFLA, STLCV0, TORTPR, LEPGPO, SENAN, XYLBGR, EPPO

2026/228 Update of the situation of regulated pests in Chile

The NPPO of Chile recently informed the EPPO Secretariat of changes of pest status for several regulated pests. Based on official surveys, the following quarantine pests are declared absent from Chile:

- *Helicoverpa armigera* (Lepidoptera: Noctuidae - EPPO A2 List).
- *Liriomyza trifolii* (Diptera: Agromyzidae - EPPO A2 List)
- *Monilinia fructigena* (Ascomycota)
- *Pezothrips kellyanus* (Thysanoptera: Thripidae - formerly EPPO Alert List)
- Plum pox potyvirus (*Potyvirus plumpoxi*, EPPO A2 List): only race D occurs in Chile where it is under official control since 1994.
- *Pollinia pollini* (Hemiptera: Asterolecaniidae)
- *Pratylenchus coffeae* (Nematoda)
- *Pseudomonas syringae* pv. *actinidiae* (EPPO A2 List): only biovar 3 occurs in Chile.
- *Thrips palmi* (Thysanoptera: Thripidae - EPPO A1 List)

Source: NPPO of Chile (2026-10).

Additional key words: absence

Computer codes: HELIAR, LIRITR, MONIFG, PEZTKE, POLNPO, PPV000, PRATCO, PSDMAK, THRIPL, CL

2026/229 EPPO is recruiting a new Director General

EPPO is beginning the recruitment procedure for a new Director-General to join the EPPO Secretariat as soon as possible. The Director-General will lead the EPPO Secretariat and implement and develop the strategy for the Organization. The procedure and terms of appointment of the EPPO Director-General can be obtained from the EPPO website:

https://www.eppo.int/ABOUT_EPPO/special_events/director_general

The deadline for application 30 November 2026.

Source: EPPO Secretariat (2026-10).

2026/230 Euphresco is recruiting a new Coordinator

The Euphresco Network is currently seeking a highly organized and motivated professional for the position of Euphresco Coordinator. The Euphresco Coordinator heads the Euphresco Network Office, based at the EPPO headquarters in Paris, and provides comprehensive administrative support to the Network Management Group.

Further information on the position and how to apply is available here:
<https://jobs.eppo.int/euphcoord2027>.

The deadline for application is 2 November 2026.

Source: EPPO Secretariat (2026-10).

2026/231 Incursion of *Lycorma delicatula* in Belgium

The NPPO of Belgium has recently informed the EPPO Secretariat of the first finding of *Lycorma delicatula* (Hemiptera: Fulgoridae - EPPO A1 List) on its territory.

A single female adult was reported in October 2026 under the external hatch of an air conditioning system in a plane at Brussels airport (Halle-Vilvoorde municipality, Vlaams-Brabant province, Vlaams Gewest region) and subsequently caught. The identity of the pest was confirmed by morphological testing. The aeroplane came from Washington Dulles International Airport (Virginia, USA), a state where the insect is known to be present. The NPPO of Belgium assumes the pest was trapped in the aeroplane and survived the flight to Belgium. Inspections were conducted on host plants in the immediate vicinity of the finding and did not detect signs of *L. delicatula*. Awareness raising among airlines and airport staff is under way. The NPPO of Belgium consider this to be an isolated interception.

The pest status of *Lycorma delicatula* in Belgium is officially declared as: **Absent, intercepted only, reinforced surveillance and awareness raising.**

Source: NPPO of Belgium (2026-10).

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

Additional key words: new record, incursion

Computer codes: LYCMDE, BE

2026/232 Finding of *Agrilus planipennis* in the Transcarpathian region of Ukraine

The emerald ash borer *Agrilus planipennis* (Coleoptera: Buprestidae - EPPO A2 List) was first detected in Ukraine in 2019 in Luhansk region (eastern Ukraine) and is now present in Kharkiv, and Kyiv (EPPO RS 2019/202, RS 2021/216, RS 2024/007). In June 2026 the pest was first detected in Hungary, close to the border with Ukraine (RS 2026/185).

In early July 2026 the NPPO of Ukraine published the information that a quarantine area for *A. planipennis* has been established the first time in the Transcarpathian region, in the city of Uzhhorod (Western Ukraine). The quarantine area covers an area of 0.1 hectare. Official phytosanitary measures are applied.

Source: NPPO of Ukraine (2026-07) Інформація щодо запровадження карантинного режиму по вузькозлатці ясеневій смарагдовій станом на 03.07.2026. [Information regarding the implementation of a quarantine regime for the emerald ash borer as of July 3, 2026.] <https://dpss.gov.ua/npas/informatsiia-shchodo-zaprovadzhennia-karantynnoho-rezhymu-po-vuzkozlatci-iasenevii-smarahdovii-standom-na-03072026> .

Department of the State Food and Consumer Service in Volyn region (2026-07-10) Ясенева смараглова златка - небезпечний карантинний шкідник, що загрожує лісам та зеленим насадженням України [The emerald ash borer is a dangerous quarantine pest that threatens Ukraine's forests and green spaces] *Press release* (2026-07-10) <https://voldpss.gov.ua/viewNews/yaseneva-smarahdova-zlatka-nebezpechnyi-karantynnyi/>

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

Additional key words: detailed record

Computer codes: AGRLPL, UA

2026/233 EPPO dynamic map of the spread of emerald ash borer, *Agrilus planipennis* is now online

The emerald ash borer, *Agrilus planipennis* (EPPO A2 List) is a highly destructive pest that damages and kills ash trees. In 2022, EPPO established a Network of experts working on surveillance, monitoring, and control of the emerald ash borer to assist and prepare member countries for their work managing this pest (EPPO RS 2023/081).

EPPO has developed a tool, *DynaMaps*, which creates interactive, dynamic maps showing the presence of the pest by region and year. This tool will be continuously updated as new data become available. The *A. planipennis DynaMaps* is now available online. Currently, there are approximately 4600 records of *A. planipennis* from its native and invasive ranges taken from peer-reviewed scientific publications, NPPO reports, and open databases, and verified by experts from the Network and the EPPO Panel on Quarantine Pests for Forestry. NPPOs of EPPO member countries were invited to validate relevant records.

The public map with validated records in the EPPO region is available at: <https://dynamap.eppo.int/public/01a120f9-f213-73a6-995b-845068879de0>

NPPOs of EPPO member countries have been invited to access an extended map that also includes records which have not been validated. Access to this map is restricted to NPPOs of EPPO member countries.

Source: EPPO Secretariat (2026-10).

Network of experts working on surveillance, monitoring, and control of the Emerald ash borer, *Agrilus planipennis*
https://www.eppo.int/RESOURCES/special_projects/agrilus_planipennis_network

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

Additional key words: map, geographical distribution

Computer codes: AGRLPL

2026/234 Incursion of *Corythucha arcuata* in Belarus

The oak lace bug *Corythucha arcuata* (Hemiptera: Tingidae - EAEU A1 List) is native to North America and was first found in the EPPO region in Italy in 2000 and then spread in many countries of the EPPO region (EPPO RS 2001/057, RS 2020/169, RS 2025/255). It is regulated as a quarantine pest in Belarus and the Eurasian Economic Union.

A scientific paper recently reported the first record of *C. arcuata* in Belarus in 2025. Two males were observed on leaves of an oak tree (*Quercus robur*) in August 2025 in Brest region (Kobryn district, Verkhalesye village). Further surveys were conducted by the authors in Brest region, but no further specimens were found. The specimens found were destroyed and the infested tree was treated with a biological insecticide containing entomopathogenic fungi.

The NPPO of Belarus informed the EPPO Secretariat that official surveys of the forest stands in the village of Verkhalesye and the Verkhalesye Forestry District of the Kobryn District

were conducted jointly with the authors of the paper in 2025 and 2026. *C. arcuata* was not found.

The pest status of *Corythucha arcuata* in Belarus is officially declared as: **Absent**.

Source: NPPO of Belarus (2026-10).

Sinchuk A, Lukashuk A, Naiman O (2026) First record of *Corythucha arcuata* (Say, 1832)(Hemiptera: Heteroptera: Tingidae) in Belarus. *EPPO Bulletin* 56(2), 289-293.

Pictures: *Corythucha arcuata*. <https://gd.eppo.int/taxon/CRTHAR/photos>

Additional key words: incursion, absence

Computer codes: CRTHAR, BY

2026/235 First report of *Keiferia lycopersicella* in Armenia

In the EPPO region the tomato pinworm *Keiferia lycopersicella* (Lepidoptera: Gelechiidae, EPPO A1 List) was only once observed in Italy (EPPO RS 2010/211) but did not establish. A scientific article reports its presence in Armenia.

Surveys were conducted in June-September 2024 in several regions of Armenia using pheromone traps with a pheromone synthesized in Armenia. Traps were placed in fields in 8 out of the 10 regions of Armenia: Aragatsotn, Ararat, Armavir, Gegharkunik, Kotayk, Lori, Syunik and Tavush. The pest was recorded in Ararat, Armavir, Kotayk, and Tavush regions. Higher damage to leaves and fruit was recorded in tomato (*Solanum lycopersicum*) and eggplant (*Solanum melongena*) than on potato (*Solanum tuberosum*) and pepper (*Capsicum* sp.) crops.

K. lycopersicella is not a quarantine pest in Armenia but *Phthorimaea absoluta* (syn. *Tuta absoluta*, Lepidoptera: Gelechiidae - EPPO A2 List,) which looks similar and is also a pest of solanaceous hosts, is a quarantine pest with a restricted distribution in Armenia.

The authors consider that this is the first record of *K. lycopersicella* in Armenia. It may be noted that the article does not explain how the pest was identified and for how many years it may have been present in Armenia.

The situation of *Keiferia lycopersicella* in Armenia can be described as: **Present, not widely distributed and not under official control**.

Source: Hobosyan NG, Balyan KV, Movsisyan LA, Hovsepyan VS, Sargsyan HB, Pogosyan HR, Harutyunyan HR, Manvelyan AA, Ghazaryan MH, Asatryan SS, Terlemezyan HL (2025) novel synthetic strategy and field testing tomato pinworm pheromone in Armenia. *Chemistry & Biodiversity* 22(7), e202403455. <https://doi.org/10.1002/cbdv.202403455>

Pictures: *Keiferia lycopersicella*. <https://gd.eppo.int/taxon/GNORLY/photos>

Additional key words: new record

Computer codes: GNORLY, AM

2026/236 Further incursions of *Popillia japonica* in Austria

Popillia japonica (Coleoptera: Scarabaeidae - EPPO A2 List) was first reported in Austria in July 2025 in a garden in Hörbranz municipality (Vorarlberg state) and the NPPO considered the beetle to be a single hitchhiker (EPPO RS 2025/213).

The NPPO of Austria recently informed the EPPO Secretariat of further findings of *P. japonica* on its territory:

- **Steiermark (July 2026)**

Two *P. japonica* were detected in a trap in July 2026 located at a motorway stop near the city of Graz on a traffic corridor linked to infested areas in Italy. There are potential host plants surrounding the stop. Five further traps were set, and no additional beetles have been caught or found in visual inspections since.

- **Tirol (August 2026)**

A single male beetle was reported in a trap near a motorway stop in the municipality of Ebbs. This is the first finding in Tirol. Traps had been placed on the Austrian side of the River Inn following findings in Bavaria, on the German side of the River Inn in previous years, but prior to this, no findings had been reported on the Austrian side.

- **Vorarlberg (August 2026)**

A single beetle was found in late August 2026 in a trap at a motorway stop in Hohenems municipality. Five further traps have been placed within a 1 km radius of the finding. The regional plant protection service in St. Gallen in Switzerland was notified as the area to be surveyed include a part within Switzerland.

The NPPO of Austria considers that all of the findings are hitchhikers. In all cases, intensive surveys are being carried out, and further traps have been set. Awareness raising activities are carried out.

Source: NPPO of Austria (2026-08, 2026-09).

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

Additional key words: incursion

Computer codes: POPIJA, AT

2026/237 Update on the situation of *Anoplophora glabripennis* in Germany

In Germany, the first outbreak of *Anoplophora glabripennis* (Coleoptera: Cerambycidae - EPPO A2 list) was detected in Bavaria in 2004 (EPPO RS 2004/072). Since then, other outbreaks have been detected in Bavaria, as well as in Baden Württemberg (now eradicated), Nordrhein-Westfalen, and Sachsen-Anhalt. Eradication measures have been applied in all cases.

The NPPO of Germany recently provided the EPPO Secretariat with an update on the situation of the outbreak in Rothensee district, Madgdeburg city in Sachsen-Anhalt. The

outbreak was first detected in 2014 (RS 2014/184, RS 2021/058), with further infested trees found in the demarcated area between 2020 and 2022 (RS 2023/008).

Traps in the demarcated area caught one adult male *A. glabripennis* in August 2023 and an adult female in August 2024, resulting in an increase of the demarcated area (to 50.48 km²). In August 2025, three adult females were caught in a trap. Additional surveys found 2 symptomatic *Acer campestre* trees that were immediately felled. The infestation was confirmed with one live and one dead larva and one beetle found. All host plants within a radius of 100 m were felled and inspected and the demarcated area was increased to 52.72 km².

In August 2026, one adult female was caught in a trap within the demarcated area, 500 m away from the felling zone from 2025. This brings the total number of beetles caught in traps since 2015 to 25 (6 male and 19 female) in 22 traps. Ongoing surveys and eradication measures continue according to Implementing Regulation 2025/1952/EU.

The pest status of *Anoplophora glabripennis* in Germany is officially declared as: **Transient, actionable, under eradication**

Source: NPPO of Germany (2026-09).

Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) 2025/1952 of 29 September 2025 on measures to prevent the establishment and the spread within the Union territory of *Anoplophora glabripennis* (Motschulsky) and for the eradication and containment of that pest within certain demarcated areas and repealing Implementing Decision (EU) 2015/893. *OJ L*, 2025/1952, 3.12.2025, *ELI*: http://data.europa.eu/eli/reg_impl/2025/1952/oj

Pictures: *Anoplophora glabripennis*. <https://gd.eppo.int/taxon/ANOLGL/photos>

Additional key words: detailed record

Computer codes: ANOLGL, DE

2026/238 *Eotetranychus lewisi* found again in Switzerland

In Switzerland, the mite *Eotetranychus lewisi* (Acari: Tetranychidae - EU Annexes) was first found infesting *Euphorbia pulcherrima* in a greenhouse in Zürich in October 2021, before later being eradicated (EPPO RS 2021/241, RS 2023/106).

At the end of July 2026 an outbreak of *E. lewisi* was reported in the canton of Zürich by a professional operator on seven *E. pulcherrima* plants that were part of a shipment from an EU Member State. No symptomatic plants were found in the two other greenhouses belonging to the operator. Eradication measures are implemented, including the destruction of symptomatic plants, and the application of plant protection products on all asymptomatic *E. pulcherrima* plants in the facilities of the professional operator. A further inspection is planned, following the treatment, after which a decision on further phytosanitary measures will be made.

The pest status of *Eotetranychus lewisi* in Switzerland is officially declared as: **Present, under eradication.**

Source: NPPO of Switzerland (2026-07).

Pictures: *Eotetranychus lewisi*. <https://gd.eppo.int/taxon/EOTELE/photos>

Additional key words: new record

Computer codes: EOTELE, CH

2026/239 First report of the scale *Acutaspis paulista* in Spain and the EPPO region

The NPPO of Spain recently informed the EPPO Secretariat of the first record of the armoured scale *Acutaspis paulista* (Hemiptera: Diaspididae) on its territory. It is also a first report for the EPPO region.

A. paulista was detected in the municipality of Ullà (county of Baix Empordà, province of Girona, Catalunya) in May 2025 in an olive grove (*Olea europaea*) during monitoring for the scale pest *Parlatoria oleae* (Hemiptera : Diaspididae). It was also observed in parks and gardens on olive, *Euonymus japonicus* and *Ligustrum* sp.

A. paulista is known to occur in Argentina and Brazil and is a quarantine pest under eradication in Chile since 2023. It is a polyphagous species. Its hosts include important agricultural crops such as olive, avocado (*Persea americana*) and *Citrus* spp. The main damage in Argentina and Brazil is reported on olive, as it can affect olive fruit in addition to leaves.

A rapid PRA conducted in Spain assessed that the species is highly likely to establish in areas with a Mediterranean climate. As of September 2026, *A. paulista* was recorded in 15 neighbouring municipalities in the county of Baix Empordà. The NPPO is conducting monitoring to assess the presence of the pest.

Source: NPPO of Spain (2026-09).

Pictures: *Acutaspis paulista*. <https://gd.eppo.int/taxon/MELAPA/photos>

Additional key words: new record

Computer codes: MELAPA, ES

2026/240 First report of *Xylella fastidiosa* subsp. *fastidiosa* in Luxembourg

The NPPO of Luxembourg has recently informed the EPPO Secretariat of the first detection of *Xylella fastidiosa* (EPPO A2 List) on its territory.

On 12th October 2026, *X. fastidiosa* subsp. *fastidiosa* was detected in samples of *Vitis vinifera* plants from three locations in Mertert and Grevenmacher municipalities (Canton of Grevenmacher), in the Luxembourgish Moselle wine growing region. The pest was identified by real-time PCR testing.

Eradication measures are applied in accordance with EU Implementing Regulation 2020/1201. Infested zones of 50 m around each infected plant, bringing the total infested area to 2.35 ha, and buffer zones of 2.5 km around every infected zone have been established. Samples have been taken from plants surrounding the affected vineyards. Infected or suspected plants, including asymptomatic plants will be destroyed. Enhanced surveillance will be carried out in the buffer zones in the Canton of Grevenmacher (Mertert, Manternach, Grevenmacher, Biver, and Wormeldange municipalities) and the Canton of Echternach (Rosport-Mompach municipality). Measures have been implemented to control insect vectors, and the movement of host plants is prohibited out of the demarcated areas. As the buffer zones extend over the border with Germany, the German authorities have been contacted, and similar measures are now being implemented by the NPPO of Germany.

The pest status of *Xylella fastidiosa* subsp. *fastidiosa* in Luxembourg is officially declared as: **Present, under eradication.**

Source: NPPO of Luxembourg (2026-10).

Le gouvernement du Grand-Duché de Luxembourg (2026-10) Détection de la bactérie dans le vignoble mosellan luxembourgeois. Accessed at:
<https://agriculture.public.lu/de/aktuelles/2026/oktober/xylella.html>

A map of the infested area is available at <https://agriculture.public.lu/dam-assets/aktuelles/2026/oktober/annexe-1-carte-des-zones-dlimites-zones-infestes-et-tampons.pdf>

Pictures: *Xylella fastidiosa* subsp. *fastidiosa*. <https://gd.eppo.int/taxon/XYLEFF/photos>

Additional key words: new record

Computer codes: XYLEFA, XYLEFF, LU

2026/241 First report of *Xylella fastidiosa* subsp. *pauca* in Calabria, Italy

In Italy, *Xylella fastidiosa* (EPPO A2 List), later identified as *Xylella fastidiosa* subsp. *pauca*, was first detected in Puglia in 2013 (EPPO RS 2013/184) and is under containment there since 2018 (RS 2022/111).

X. fastidiosa subsp. *pauca* was recently reported for the first time in Calabria region. Following a report from a private individual in the municipality of Taurianova concerning a suspected case of *X. fastidiosa* on an olive tree (*Olea europaea*) in a private garden, official inspections were conducted. Five olive trees were sampled in July and 30 olive trees in August 2026. 7 olive plants tested positive for the pest by molecular testing.

An infected zone of 50 m has been established around the infected trees in the Taurianova municipality and a buffer zone of 2.5 km has been established which intersects with

Cittanova and Terranova Sappo Minulio municipalities. Eradication measures are implemented.

The pest status of *Xylella fastidiosa* subsp. *pauca* in Italy is officially declared as: **Present**.

Source: NPPO of Italy (2026-08).

Regione Calabria Giunta Regionale (01-09-2026) Individuazione del focolaio di *Xylella fastidiosa* sottospecie *pauca* in agro di Taurianova (RC) e istituzione dell'area delimitata ai sensi dell'art. 4, capo III, del Reg. UE 2020/1201. Accessible at: <https://www.regione.calabria.it/wp-content/uploads/2026/09/DDS-n.-14746-del-01-09-2026.pdf>

Regione Calabria Giunta Regionale (08-09-2026) Individuazione del focolaio di *Xylella fastidiosa* sottospecie *pauca* in agro di Taurianova (RC) e istituzione dell'area delimitata ai sensi dell'art. 4, capo III, del Reg. UE 2020/1201 - AGGIORNAMENTO DDS n. 14746 del 01/09/2026. Accessible at: https://www.regione.calabria.it/wp-content/uploads/2026/09/Atto_numero_15068_del_08-09-2026.pdf?

Pictures: *Xylella fastidiosa* subsp. *pauca*. <https://gd.eppo.int/taxon/XYLEFP/photos>

Additional key words: detailed record

Computer codes: XYLEFP, IT

2026/242 First report of *Xanthomonas citri* pv. *fuscans* in the Netherlands

As part of official surveys, 180 fields of beans were surveyed in 2025 and 2026 in the Netherlands. *Xanthomonas citri* pv. *fuscans* (EPPO A2 list), causal agent of bacterial blight of bean, was detected in two fields of common bean (*Phaseolus vulgaris*) in 2025, and three fields of *P. vulgaris* and one field of broad bean (*Vicia faba*) in 2026. All findings were recorded in the province of Zeeland. Symptomatic plants with wilting and necrotic spots on leaves were observed. Sampling and testing confirmed the presence of *X. citri* pv. *fuscans* in all samples.

The origin of these infections is unclear. It is uncertain whether the bacterium can survive in these fields. In the EU *X. citri* pv. *fuscans* is regulated as a RNQP (Regulated Non-Quarantine Pest) for seeds of *Phaseolus vulgaris*. Consequently, no further measures are taken in the Netherlands for these findings.

Measures are in place for seeds for sowing of *Phaseolus vulgaris* in line with EU requirements stipulated in EU regulation 2019/2072.

The pest status of *Xanthomonas citri* pv. *fuscans* in the Netherlands is officially declared as: **Present, few occurrences**.

Source: NPPO of the Netherlands (2026-09).

Pictures: *Xanthomonas citri* pv. *fuscans*. <https://gd.eppo.int/taxon/XANTFF/photos>

Additional key words: new record

Computer codes: XANTFF, NL

2026/243 First report of ‘*Candidatus Phytoplasma katsepyensis*’, a new species involved in palm lethal yellowing disease in Madagascar

Lethal yellowing disease of coconut (also known as Palm lethal yellowing disease, PLYP, or Palm lethal yellowing type syndromes, EPPO A1 List) has been shown to be associated with different phytoplasma species in different areas where the disease was observed.

In Madagascar, sporadic coconut trees (*Cocos nucifera*) showing very severe wilt were observed in 2016 in three localities of the western and northern coast of the island: Katsepy, Antsohyhi, and Ambaritsatrana. The causal agent was identified by Pilet *et al.* as a phytoplasma species closely related to Tanzanian lethal decline phytoplasma (*Candidatus Phytoplasma cocostanzaniae*) and later considered as a distinct species, named ‘*Candidatus Phytoplasma katsepyensis*’.

Surveys were conducted in 2024-2025 to identify the vectors of ‘*Ca. Phytoplasma katsepyensis*’ in Madagascar. The phytoplasma was detected in asymptomatic *Bismarckia nobilis*, which are native palms in Madagascar. Three species of *Nesomyndus* (Hemiptera: Cixiidae) were found associated with palms and tested as potential vectors. The phytoplasma was detected in the salivary glands of *N. maculatus* and the authors conclude that it is a competent vector of ‘*Ca. Phytoplasma katsepyensis*’.

Source: Bahder BW, Ratsimbazafy MR, Randretsiferana SA, Hasinjaka RH, Bloch M, Lane J, Helmick EE, Swale DR, Rakotomalala MR, Pilet F (2026) Detection of Palm Lethal Yellowing Phytoplasma in the salivary glands of *Nesomyndus maculatus* and asymptomatic Bismarck palms from Madagascar. *Phytopathology* 116(9), 1414-1423

Pilet F, Rakotoariosa E, Rakotomalala M, Sisterson S, Razakamanana HN, Ravemiasara L (2021) First report of strains related to the phytoplasma associated with Tanzanian lethal decline on *Cocos nucifera* on the western coast of Madagascar. *Plant Disease* 105, 4146. <https://doi.org/10.1094/PDIS-03-21-0623-PDN>

Datasheet: Palm lethal yellowing type syndromes.
<https://gd.eppo.int/taxon/PHY56/datasheet>

Additional key words: new pest, taxonomy, new record, aetiology

Computer codes: PHYP56, PHYPKA, NESMMA, MG

2026/244 First report of ‘*Candidatus Arsenophonus phytopathogenicus*’ on maize

The γ -proteobacterium ‘*Candidatus Arsenophonus phytopathogenicus*’ was first associated with ‘Syndrome des basses richesses’ (formerly EPPO Alert List), an emerging disease of sugar beet (*Beta vulgaris*) in the EPPO region (EPPO RS 2025/074). It is transmitted by a planthopper, *Pentastiridius leporinus* (Hemiptera: Cixiidae). It was recently found associated with other crops: potato (EPPO RS 2023/209, RS 2025/073) and onion (RS 2025/072).

In summer 2025 ‘*Ca. Arsenophonus phytopathogenicus*’ was first detected by molecular tests in maize plants (*Zea mays*) in Germany. Plants showed patchy premature drying, reddish discoloration of leaves and midribs, poorly filled or aborted ears, and malformed kernels. Samples had been collected in Baden-Württemberg, Hessen and Rheinland-Pfalz.

It may be noted that *P. leporinus* is already known as a vector of maize redness ('*Candidatus Phytoplasma solani*' - formerly EPPO Alert List).

Source: Benaouda S, Witczak N, Kaufmann T, Löffler D, Pfitzner H, Dettweiler A, Lee K-Z, Lang C (2026) First report of '*Candidatus Arsenophonus phytopathogenicus*' in maize (*Zea mays* L.) in Germany. *Plant Disease* (early view) <https://doi.org/10.1094/PDIS-07-26-1454-PDN>.

Additional key words: new host plant

Computer codes: ARSEPH, DE

2026/245 *Pleurotus citrinopileatus*, an invasive fungus escaping from cultivation

The golden oyster mushroom *Pleurotus citrinopileatus* is a wood decay fungus which is grown in cultivation as an edible species, both by professionals and amateurs. It is native in the Russian Far East and East Asia. It was first recorded in the USA in 2012 where it now occurs in 25 states and records exists in several EPPO countries.

A risk assessment was conducted by the GB Non-native Species Secretariat in the United Kingdom after *P. citrinopileatus* was found in two locations (Liverpool, North West England region) and Barnsley (Yorkshire and the Humber region). They conclude that the likelihood of entry and establishment in the United Kingdom is very likely, and the spread would be very rapid. Although direct economic impact is expected to be minor, environmental impact is assessed as major, as *P. citrinopileatus* is expected to outcompete native saprotrophic fungi, as observed in the USA.

A recent article by Stallman & Allen (2026) underlines the risk associated with the intentional import of invasive fungi that are cultivated for food or medicinal uses. They recommend that the sale of known invasive species such as *P. citrinopileatus* should be banned in areas where they are not established, and that instructions are provided to dispose safely of commercial grow-at-home kits.

Source: GB Non-native Species Rapid Risk Assessment for *Pleurotus citrinopileatus* (Singer) (golden oyster mushroom). <https://www.nonnativespecies.org/assets/Uploads/Pleurotus-citrinopileatus-RRA-final.pdf>

Stallman JK, Allen JL (2026) What should we do about cultivated mushroom invasions? *Studies in Fungi* 11, e010 <https://doi.org/10.48130/sif-0026-0008>

Additional key words: new record, invasive species, biodiversity

Computer codes: PLEUCI, GB

2026/246 Eradication of *Meloidogyne enterolobii* in Portugal

In Portugal, *Meloidogyne enterolobii* (EPPO A2 List) was first found on 2 ornamental plants (*Physalis peruviana*) in a private garden in Arazede municipality (Coimbra district, Centro region) in October 2017 (EPPO RS 2018/120). During official surveys for the detection of *M. chitwoodi* and *M. fallax* from 2019 to 2021 and official surveys from 2022 to 2025 for *M. enterolobii*, 915 samples were collected from across Portugal, including near the outbreak, all samples tested negative for the presence of *M. enterolobii*. Based on these findings and

the absence of any further findings since the initial outbreak, the NPPO of Portugal considers that *M. enterolobii* is no longer present in Portugal.

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

Source: NPPO of Portugal (2026-10).

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

Additional key words: eradication, absence

Computer codes: MELGMY, PT

2026/247 The potential for pre-emptive biological control of *Aleurocanthus woglumi* (EPPO A1 List)**Why**

Pre-emptive biological control can be considered for plant pests prior to a pest establishing and becoming widespread in a country at risk. Potential biological control agents (BCAs) can be identified in advance of the pest arriving and some initial screening can be conducted on their safety and suitability for the EPPO region. *Aleurocanthus woglumi* (Hemiptera: Aleyrodidae - EPPO A1 List) is a pest of citrus but can also be found on a wide range of crops, mostly fruit trees (Nguyen, 2008; EPPO, 2026). Native to South-East Asia, *A. woglumi* has been reported as a pest in other countries in Asia, North America (e.g. Florida), Central and South America, and South Africa. In the EPPO region, *A. woglumi* has a very restricted distribution where it is reported from Western Georgia (in Adjara, Guria and Samegrelo regions). Here, the pest is present but with a low prevalence. *A. woglumi* can have a high economic impact on citrus, as it produces an abundance of sugary honeydew which covers leaves and fruits making the fruit unmarketable. In some citrus producing regions fruit production can be reduced up to 80 %.

Two hymenopteran parasitoids *Encarsia perplexa* (Hymenoptera: Aphelinidae) and *Amitus hesperidum* (Hymenoptera: Platygasteridae) have been proven effective classical biological control agents in several regions of the world (Milonas & Giakoumaki, 2025). Having a biological control agent ready for use in case of an outbreak of *A. woglumi* could help to reduce the spread of the pest. This would be particularly important for citrus producing countries in the Mediterranean Basin.

Biology and ecology

Encarsia perplexa is an arrhenotokous heteronomous parasitoid where unfertilized eggs develop into males, and fertilized eggs develop into females. Females of the species can live between four and six weeks. Development from egg to adult at a constant 24 °C can take between 30 and 35 days. The parasitoid can attack any nymphal stage though it has a preference for the 2nd and 3rd instars (Milonas & Giakoumaki, 2025).

Amitus hesperidum adults live for 2 to 6 days and females can oviposit between 60-70 eggs mainly on first instar nymphs.

Feeding and efficacy

Utilised together, *E. perplexa* and *A. hesperidum* have been shown to be highly effective at controlling *A. woglumi*. *Amitus hesperidum* has been recorded to reach up to 90 % parasitism rates of *A. woglumi*. As part of a classical biological control programme against *A. woglumi* in Trinidad, *A. hesperidum* parasitoids were released, and citrus blackfly populations declined by more than 98% at all sites while parasitism increased to 60-90% (White et al., 2005).

Due to its longer life cycle, *E. perplexa* is considered as an effective biological control agent even when the population level of *A. woglumi* is low.

Safety

Both parasitoids have an excellent safety record where they have been released as classical biological control agents. Four years after release of *E. perplexa* and *A. hesperidum* in Dominica, there were no reports of non-target effects (Lopez et al., 2009).

History of use as a biocontrol agent

Amitus hesperidum and *E. perplexa* both have a long history of use as classical biological control agents against *A. woglumi*. They were first utilised in Mexico in 1949-1950 and subsequently used in Guam (1952), the USA (Texas (1974-1975), Florida (1976-1979), Hawaii (1998)), Dominica (1996-1997) and Trinidad. *Encarsia perplexa* was introduced to El Salvador in 1978.

Climatic suitability

Akrivou *et al.* (2021) showed that all citrus producing areas in the EPPO region are at risk from *A. woglumi*, under both current and future climatic scenarios. With the host able to establish, it is likely that both *E. perplexa* and *A. hesperidum* would also have a high potential for establishment in the EPPO region. Milonas & Giakoumaki (2025) citing others, note that both parasitoids adapted to the climates where they were released as classical biological control agents. Of the two biological control agents, *E. perplexa* is considered less susceptible to dry conditions and high temperatures than *A. hesperidum*.

Recommendations of the Joint EPPO/IOBC Panel on Biological Control Agents

The study of Milonas & Giakoumaki (2025) concluded that it is feasible to initiate a pre-emptive biological control programme for *A. woglumi* in the EPPO region. The Joint EPPO/IOBC Panel on Biological Control Agents recommends that countries at risk of *A. woglumi* form a consortium to initiate research into the pre-emptive biological control programme against *A. woglumi* using *E. perplexa* and *A. hesperidum*.

Source: Akrivou A, Georgopoulou I, Papachristos DP, Milonas PG, Kriticos DJ (2021) Potential global distribution of *Aleurocanthus woglumi* considering climate change and irrigation. *PLoS ONE* **16**(12), e0261626.
<https://doi.org/10.1371/journal.pone.0261626>

EPPO (2026) *Aleurocanthus woglumi*. EPPO datasheets on pests recommended for regulation. <https://gd.eppo.int> (accessed 2026-09-01)

Lopez VF, Kairo MTK, Pollard GV, Pierre C, Commodore N & Dominique D (2009) Post-release survey to assess impact and potential host range expansion by *Amitus hesperidum* and *Encarsia perplexa*, two parasitoids introduced for the biological control of the citrus blackfly, *Aleurocanthus woglumi* in Dominica. *BioControl* **54**(4), 497-503.

Milonas PG, Giakoumaki MV (2025) Is pre-emptive classical biological control feasible for *Aleurocanthus woglumi* in Europe? *Biological Control* **206**, doi.org/10.1016/j.biocontrol.2025.105795

Nguyen R (2008) *Aleurocanthus woglumi* (citrus blackfly). CABI Compendium 4137, <https://doi.org/10.1079/cabicompendium.4137>

Thompson CR, Cornell JA & Sailerl RI (1987) Interactions of parasites and a hyperparasite in biological control of citrus blackfly, *Aleurocanthus woglumi* (Homoptera: Aleyrodidae), in Florida. *Environmental Entomology* **16**(1), 140-144.

Additional key words: biological control agents

Computer codes: ALECWO, AMIUHE, ENCAPP

2026/248 Evaluation of field augmentorium cages for *Ganaspis kimorum*

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. Portable augmentoria are insect cages with a selective mesh entrance that contain pest-infested fruit while allowing parasitoid escape. The effectiveness of these cages to increase the presence of the biological control agent *Ganaspis kimorum* (Hymenoptera: Figitidae) was tested in small fruit farms in western Oregon, USA, during 2024-2025. Augmentorium cages containing blueberries (*Vaccinium corymbosum*) infested with *D. suzukii* (approximately 400 eggs) were set out in treatment plots and were resupplied with infested fruit weekly. These treatment plots were compared with control plots that received no augmentorium cages. Fruit were sampled at 0, 5, and 10 m from augmentorium cages and then kept in the laboratory to assess insect emergence. In total, in 2024, 15 341 *D. suzukii* adults and 1 563 parasitoid wasps were collected from a total of 520 fruit. In 2025, 13 050 adult *D. suzukii*, but only 407 parasitoid wasps were collected from 469 fruits. For both years, the augmentorium cages were not associated with any increase in overall parasitism or in a decrease in pest infestation within the measured 10 m from the cages. A number of factors may have limited the effectiveness of the augmentorium cages, including an increased temperature within the cage and the attraction of ants.

Source: McDonald NS, Lee JC (2026) Field evaluation of portable augmentorium cages for increasing parasitoid presence to manage *Drosophila suzukii*. *Biological Control* 219 <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.biocontrol.2026.106076>

Additional key words: biological control agents

Computer codes: DROSSU, GANAKI, US

2026/249 Biological control of *Cryptostegia madagascariensis* in Brazil

Cryptostegia madagascariensis (Apocynaceae) is a species of vine native to Madagascar. It is grown as a garden ornamental in a number of countries globally, and it is recorded as an invasive alien plant species in Australia, Brazil, the Caribbean, the USA (Florida and Hawaii) and South Africa. It is one of two species in the genus and the congener *Cryptostegia grandiflora* has been the target of a successful classical biological control programme in Australia. *C. madagascariensis* can have a negative impact in areas where it invades, impacting biodiversity and ecosystem services. In the native range, the rust fungus *Maravalia cryptostegiae* (Chaetoniaceae) was assessed as a potential biological control agent for *C. madagascariensis* in Brazil. Surveys in Madagascar sourced 22 strains of the rust and all of the strains were assessed for their compatibility and virulence towards Brazilian biotypes of *C. madagascariensis*. Molecular analyses of plant populations from both the native and introduced range were conducted, to confirm the identity of the invasive species in Brazil and where in the native range the Brazilian population originated. The molecular biogeographic study shows that the population in Brazil is homogenous and closely related to a geographically isolated population of *C. madagascariensis* in northern Madagascar. A strain of the rust collected from this area in Madagascar has been found to be specific and damaging to Brazilian populations of *C. madagascariensis*.

Source: Pollard KM, Kurose D, Tilling AE, Gaskin JF, Devlin PF, Evans HC, Seier MK (2026) Finding the best match - use of the rust fungus *Maravalia cryptostegiae* for control of *Cryptostegia madagascariensis* in Brazil. *Biological Control*, 215, <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.biocontrol.2026.106004>

Seier MK, Rapini A, Pollard KM, Barreto RW, Evans HC (2023) Tracing the origins and tracking the movements of invasive rubber vines (*Cryptostegia* spp., Apocynaceae). *NeoBiota* 89, 95-133. <https://doi.org/10.3897/neobiota.89.109180>

Additional key words: biological control agents

Computer codes: CVRMA, MARVCR, BR

2026/250 Growing media as a pathway for alien plant introductions

The movement of growing media, either on its own or in association with plants for planting can be a pathway for pests. In 2025, inspections of 20 importing facilities in the Netherlands were conducted where potted plants were inspected and suspected plant contaminants were collected for further analysis. In addition, coco peat samples were collected from a known contaminated batch and sampled for the presence of alien plant species. Coco peat is often used as a growing media for potted plants, is also imported as a standalone commodity and can be an additional pathway of introduction of non-native plants. The survey resulted in the interception of a number of regularly detected species as contaminants of potted plants including *Alternanthera philoxeroides* (Amaranthaceae, EPPO A2 List), *Humulus scandens* (Cannabaceae, EPPO A2 List) and *Lygodium japonicum* (Schizaeaceae, EPPO A1 List). Two species *Microstegium vimineum* (Poaceae, EPPO A2 List) and *Broussonetia papyrifera* (Moraceae, EPPO List of Invasive Alien Plants) were recorded as a contaminant of potted plants for the first time. *Parthenium hysterophorus* (Asteraceae, EPPO A2 List) was identified as a contaminant of coco peat from Sri Lanka. These findings demonstrate the risks of contaminated growing media and emphasize the critical need to prioritize inspections of these overlooked pathways.

Source: Van Valkenburg JLCH, Beyer JL, Piet LF (2026) *Broussonetia papyrifera* (L.) L'Hér. ex Vent., *Microstegium vimineum* (Trin.) A. Camus and *Parthenium hysterophorus* L. imported into the Netherlands via potted ornamentals or their coco peat substrate. *EPPO Bulletin* (early view). <https://doi.org/10.1111/epp.70130>

Additional key words: invasive alien plant, pathway

Computer codes: ALRPH, BRNPA, HUMJA, LYFJA, MCGVI, PTNHY, NL

2026/251 Global economic costs of invasive plants

InvaCost is a dynamic database and a global repository of reported monetary costs caused by invasive species. Using InvaCost, an assessment of the global economic impacts of invasive plants was conducted. Type of costs included economic impact on different sectors (e.g. agriculture, fishery, forestry, etc), costs of damage and costs of management. In total, between 1960 and 2022, a total of USD 361.8 billion in documented costs representing a conservative baseline of invasive plant impacts at global level. Most costs were due to terrestrial plant species (USD 266 billion), followed by aquatic (USD 6.8 billion), and semi aquatic species (USD 1.5 billion). Some of the species with the highest economic costs included *Tamarix* spp. (Tamaricaceae), *Opuntia* spp. (Cactaceae), *Ambrosia artemisiifolia* (Asteraceae, EPPO List of Invasive Alien Plants), *Euphorbia esula* (Euphorbiaceae) and *Pontederia crassipes* (Pontederiaceae, EPPO A2 List). These species incurred multi-billion USD costs. In the InvaCost database, most of the costs are from North America (for invasive plants USD 265.0 billion). Costs for Europe were USD 11.4 billion. Interestingly, the cost of damage was over three times the amount spent on management of invasive plants.

Source: Mugnai M, Balzani P, Soto I, Ahmed DA, Cuthbert R, Tarkan AS, Tordoni E, Dolan E, Carneiro L, Brundu G, Catford J, Essl F, Fernandez RD, Fujinuma J, Heringer G, Hulme PE, Kolomiiets G, Kourantidou M, Lazzaro L, Martin-Fores I, Misuri A, Novoa A, Nuñez M, Pergl J, Pyšek P, Siccardi E, van Bodegom P, Vilà M, Webber B, Xavier R, Zheng S, Courchamp F (2026) Global economic costs of invasive plants. *Research Square* (Pre-Print) DOI: <https://doi.org/10.21203/rs.3.rs-11016003/v1>

InvaCost database (v4.1; <https://doi.org/10.6084/m9.figshare.12668570>)

Additional key words: invasive alien plants, economic impact

Computer codes: 10PUG, 1TAAG, AMBEL, EICCR

2026/252 Cut plants of *Impatiens glandulifera* can produce viable seeds

Impatiens glandulifera (Balsaminaceae, EPPO List of Invasive Alien Plants) is native to the foothills of the Himalayas (India and Pakistan) and is recorded as an invasive alien plant in the EPPO region where it is widespread. Typically, *I. glandulifera* invades wet grasslands and riparian habitats where it can have a negative impact on native biodiversity and ecosystem services. Methods for the control of *I. glandulifera* include mowing and hand-pulling which can be effective due to its weak root system. Hand-pulled plants and those which have been cut by mowing can be left on the ground. An experiment was conducted near Kraków (Poland) to assess if cut plants at the flowering stage can survive long enough to develop viable seed. In May seedlings collected from several sites were planted in an experimental plot. At the end of August, 20 flowering individuals were cut and left on site, and 20 were left intact. Seed was collected from all plants during September and tested for viability. Plant that were cut survived for about three weeks and developed flowers and produced viable seeds. Plants left intact developed more flowers though they did not develop significantly more viable seeds than the cut ones. The study shows that when cut, *I. glandulifera* can still develop viable seed. Therefore, to be effective, manual control methods should be conducted earlier in the season before the population is flowering or cut plant material should be collected and disposed of appropriately.

Source: Najberek K, Myśliwy M, Rewicz A, Solarz W (2026) Plant cuttings of invasive alien *Impatiens glandulifera* Royle develop flowers and produce viable seeds. *Scientific Reports* 16, 9371, <https://doi.org/10.1038/s41598-025-33573-8>

Pictures: *Impatiens glandulifera*. <https://gd.eppo.int/taxon/IPAGL/photos>

Additional key words: invasive alien plants

Computer codes: IPAGL, PL

2026/253 Alien plant species in Kazakhstan

The first comprehensive verified inventory of alien vascular plants in Kazakhstan, utilising literature, herbarium collections, field observations and online databases, e.g. iNaturalist has been published. The alien flora of Kazakhstan comprises of 263 taxa in 181 genera and 54 families. Of these 141 taxa (53.6%) are naturalized, 120 are casual, and two have unresolved establishment status. Species within the family Asteraceae comprise the most records (47 taxa), followed by Poaceae (30), Brassicaceae (20), Fabaceae (20), Amaranthaceae (15), and Lamiaceae (14). The origin of alien taxa in Kazakhstan comes from across the globe, with the Mediterranean region forming the largest biogeographical group (39.9%), followed by taxa from North America (22.8%). Many taxa are associated with human-modified habitats; 75 taxa (28.5%). Twenty taxa are invasive based on an assessment using the Environmental Impact Classification for Alien Taxa (EICAT) (Table 1). Of these twenty taxa, 17 have moderate impacts and three have major impacts.

Table 1. Twenty invasive alien plant species found in Kazakhstan (Impact is based on the assessment using Environmental Impact Classification for Alien Taxa EICAT)

Species	Family	Origin	Impact
<i>Acer negundo</i>	Sapindaceae	Asia	Moderate
<i>Ailanthus altissima</i> *	Simaroubaceae	Asia	Moderate
<i>Ambrosia artemisiifolia</i> **	Asteraceae	North America	Moderate
<i>Ambrosia psilostachya</i> *	Asteraceae	North America	Moderate
<i>Ambrosia trifida</i> **	Asteraceae	North America	Moderate
<i>Centaurea diffusa</i>	Asteraceae	Mediterranean	Major
<i>Cuscuta campestris</i>	Convolvulaceae	North America	Major
<i>Cuscuta chinensis</i>	Convolvulaceae	Asia	Moderate
<i>Elodea canadensis</i>	Hydrocharitaceae	North America	Moderate
<i>Erigeron annuus</i>	Asteraceae	North America	Moderate
<i>Erigeron canadensis</i>	Asteraceae	North America	Moderate
<i>Euonymus europaeus</i>	Celastraceae	Europe	Moderate
<i>Fraxinus excelsior</i>	Oleaceae	Europe	Moderate
<i>Hordeum jubatum</i>	Poaceae	North America	Moderate
<i>Iva xanthiifolia</i>	Asteraceae	North America	Major
<i>Orobancha aegyptiaca</i>	Orobanchaceae	Mediterranean	Moderate
<i>Pilosella aurantiaca</i>	Asteraceae	Europe	Moderate
<i>Senecio viscosus</i>	Asteraceae	Europe	Moderate
<i>Xanthium orientale</i>	Asteraceae	North America	Moderate
<i>Xanthium spinosum</i>	Asteraceae	North America	Moderate

* EPPO List of Invasive Alien Plants

** EPPO A2 List

Source: Alibekov D, Kubentayev S, Nobis M, Chepinoga V, Ishmuratova M, Sennikov AN (2026) Alien Vascular Plants of Kazakhstan: The first national checklist and spatial distribution patterns. *Plants* **15**, 2934, <https://doi.org/10.3390/plants15192934>

Additional key words: invasive alien plants, new records

Computer codes: ACRNE, AILAL, AMBEL, AMBPS, AMBTR, CENDI, CVCCA, CVCCH, ELDCA, ERIAN, ERICA, EUOEU, FRXEX, HORJU, IVAXA, ORAAE, HIEAU, SENVI, XANOR, XANSP