Mini data sheet on *Erwinia pyrifoliae*

Added in 1998 – Deleted in 2003

Reasons for deletion:
The pest *Erwinia pyrifoliae* has been included in EPPO Alert List for more than 3 years and during this period no particular international action was requested by the EPPO member countries. In 2003, it was therefore considered that sufficient alert has been given and the pest was deleted from the Alert List.

Erwinia pyrifoliae (a new bacterial disease of Japanese pear)

Why	*Erwinia pyrifoliae* came to our attention as it was reported in 1998 as a new bacterium of Japanese pear (*Pyrus pyrifolia*) in Korea.
Where	Korea Republic. It was isolated from 1995 to 1998 in the region of Chuncheon (south) on necrotic *P. pyrifolia*, but in 1999 and 2000 it could not be isolated again in the previously affected orchards. Kim *et al*. (2002) noted that isolates of a bacterium found in Japan and previously thought to be *E. amylovora* (although this was denied) could be detected by specific primers for *E. pyrifoliae*, suggesting that the bacterium could also be present there.
On which plants	Japanese pear (*P. pyrifolia*), in host range experiments European pears (*P. communis*) were found susceptible but not several other fireblight hosts (*Cotoneaster, Crataegus, Malus, Prunus, Rubus*).
Damage	Symptoms are characterized by black to brown stripes in the leaf midribs, dark brown leaf spot, necrotic petioles. Necrotic symptoms sometimes extended to large parts of the trees and affected entire branches, blossoms and fruitlets. Large numbers of trees in an orchard could show symptoms. But so far, the extent and severity of this disease in Korean orchards is unknown.
Pathway	*P. pyrifolia* and *P. communis* plants for planting (fruits?) from Korea Republic
Possible risks	*E. pyrifoliae* has been isolated from necrotic Japanese pears, it appears related to *E. amylovora* but distinct. Japanese pears are cultivated to a limited extent in the EPPO region, but European pears are very important fruit crops. Data is missing on the extent and importance of the disease in the field.

Source(s)
Rhim, S.L.; Völksch, B.; Gardan, L.; Paulin, J.P.; Langlotz, C.; Kim, W.S.; Geider, K. (1999) *Erwinia pyrifoliae*, an Erwinia species different from *Erwinia amylovora*, causes a necrotic disease of Asian pear trees. Plant Pathology, 48(4), 514-520.
Kim, W.S; Rhim, S.L.; Völksch, B.; Gardan, L.; Paulin, J.P.; Jock, S.; Geider, K. (1998) Characterization of a new *Erwinia* species affecting Asian pear trees. Abstracts of papers presented at the 8th International Workshop on Fire Blight, Kusadasi (TR), 1998-10-12/15.
Kim, W.S.; Jock, S.; Paulin, J.P.; Rhim, S.L.; Geider, K. (2001) Molecular detection of differentiation of *Erwinia pyrifoliae* and host range analysis of the Asian pear pathogen. Plant Disease, 85(11), 1183-1188.

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