

◆ **EPPO Standards** ◆

GUIDELINES ON *ARTHURDENDYUS TRIANGULATUS*

IMPORT REQUIREMENTS CONCERNING *ARTHURDENDYUS TRIANGULATUS*

PM 1/3



European and Mediterranean Plant Protection Organization

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September 2000

APPROVAL

EPPO Standards are approved by EPPO Council. The date of approval appears in each individual standard. In the terms of Article II of the IPPC, EPPO Standards are Regional Standards for the members of EPPO.

REVIEW

EPPO Standards are subject to periodic review and amendment. The next review date for this EPPO Standard is decided by the EPPO Working Party on Phytosanitary Regulations.

AMENDMENT RECORD

Amendments will be issued as necessary, numbered and dated. The dates of amendment appear in each individual standard (as appropriate).

DISTRIBUTION

EPPO Standards are distributed by the EPPO Secretariat to all EPPO member governments. Copies are available to any interested person under particular conditions upon request to the EPPO Secretariat.

SCOPE

The earthworm predator *Arthurdendyus triangulatus* (synonym *Artioposthia triangulata*¹) has a restricted geographical distribution in the EPPO region. It is recognized that certain EPPO Member Governments may seek to prevent its introduction and spread because it may have an effect on earthworms; this effect could be considered damaging to the environment and it may have consequences for the horticultural trade and for agricultural/horticultural production, especially organic farming. At present, the regulatory basis for taking measures to prevent introduction and spread of this organism is not clear, because it is not a direct pest of plants and its potential agro/environmental impacts are difficult to assess. Where action is considered desirable, EPPO Governments should determine whether a regulatory approach is justified and, if so, the most appropriate legal framework and enforcement agency. The EPPO standards on *A. triangulatus* propose measures that may be taken by EPPO Member Governments.

REFERENCES

IPPC (1999) *Glossary of Phytosanitary Terms*. ISPM no. 5. IPPC Secretariat, FAO, Rome (IT).

OUTLINE OF REQUIREMENTS

The most probable pathway for introduction and spread of *A. triangulatus* into new areas is with consignments of container-grown nursery plants (i.e. plants grown in growing medium and, usually, in plastic containers). While such container-grown plants can be directly inspected at points of entry or places of destination, a higher degree of security can be ensured if measures are taken at the place of production. It is proposed that importing countries may require such measures to be applied by exporting countries. Details are provided on a number of alternative requirements which may be made, and on the procedures to be followed at the place of production to satisfy these requirements.

¹ This species was transferred to a new genus as the type species (Jones, H.D. & Gerard B.M. (1999) A new genus of terrestrial planarian (Platyhelminthes: Tricladida; Terricola) from Scotland, and an emendation of the genus *Artioposthia*. *Journal of Natural History* 33, 387-394).

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Specific scope

This standard proposes the requirements that importing countries may address to exporting countries with the aim of preventing the introduction of *Arthurdendyus triangulatus*.

Specific approval and amendment

First approved in September 2000.

Organism concerned

- 1 Countries may declare themselves to be at risk from the introduction of *Arthurdendyus triangulatus*.

Principal commodities concerned

2. Plants with growing media traded in pots, trays and other containers, including root-balled plants.

Specific measures

3. Plants for planting with growing media attached, traded in pots, trays or other containers, including root-balled plants, from countries where *Arthurdendyus triangulatus* occurs.

- 3.1 The plants must have been grown on raised on benches (slatted or open-meshed)

or

- 3.2 The consignment must come from a place of production found free from *Arthurdendyus triangulatus* by inspection according to EPPO Standard PM 1/4

or

- 3.3 The consignment must come from a part of a place of production maintained free from *Arthurdendyus triangulatus* according to EPPO Standard PM 1/4 and, prior to export, representative samples of the consignment should have been examined and found free from *Arthurdendyus triangulatus*

or

- 3.4 The consignment must have been subjected to a disinfestation treatment to eliminate *Arthurdendyus triangulatus*, according to EPPO Standard PM 1/4

4. Countries may require appropriate accompanying documentation.