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Reporting

Service

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CONTENTS

98/120 First record of *Diaphorina citri* in Guadeloupe

In January 1998, *Diaphorina citri* (EPPO A1 quarantine pest), a vector of citrus greening bacterium (EPPO A1 quarantine pest), was found for the first time in the overseas French département of Guadeloupe (GP). Adults and larvae were found in rather high numbers in two gardens in Baie-Mahault-La Jaille and Lamentin-Bréfort, on young shoots of orange, mandarin and tangelo trees. Surveys will be carried out in Guadeloupe on citrus, and also on *Murraya* which is probably a natural host of *D. citri*. In parallel, citrus plants will be tested (testing on susceptible hosts, electron microscopy) for citrus greening bacterium which has so far not been found in Guadeloupe. The introduction of a parasitoid (*Tamarixia radiata*) is envisaged to limit the populations of *D. citri*. The authors stressed that the record of *D. citri* in Guadeloupe is also the first for the Caribbean. (EPPO note: in the Americas, *D. citri* has only been found in Brazil, Honduras, Paraguay, Uruguay, and citrus greening bacterium does not occur). They felt that this insect represents a serious threat for citrus-growing countries of the region (e.g. Cuba, Dominican Republic, Jamaica, Puerto Rico, and Florida (US)) which should actively make surveys in order to take rapid measures if needed.

Source: Etienne, J.; Burckhardt, D.; Grapin, C. (1998) *Diaphorina citri* (Kuwayama) en Guadeloupe, premier signalement pour les Caraïbes. **Bulletin de la Société entomologique de France, 103(1), p 32.**

Additional key words: new record **Computer codes:** DIAACI, GP

98/121 *Sternochetus mangiferae* introduced into St Vincent and the Grenadines

The presence of the mango seed weevil, *Sternochetus mangiferae* (EPPO A1 quarantine pest) was reported for the first time in 1998 from St. Vincent and the Grenadines.

Source: Pollard, G.V. (1998) Mango seed weevil, *Sternochetus mangiferae*. **CPPC Circular Letter, no. 2/98, 1st June 1998. FAO Sub Regional Office for the Caribbean, Barbados**.

Additional key words: new record **Computer codes:** CRYPMA, VC

98/122 *Globodera pallida* occurs in Bulgaria

In Bulgaria, *Globodera pallida* (EPPO A2 quarantine pest) was found for the first time in 1992, in five potato-growing regions. Studies were carried out in two of these regions and *G. pallida* was found in only 3 farms, in mixed populations with *G. rostochiensis*. Studies showed that the pathotype present is Pa3. The EPPO Secretariat had previously no data on the occurrence of *G. pallida* in Bulgaria.

Source: Samaliev, K. (1998) [Distribution and virulence of *Globodera pallida* (Nematode: Heteroderidae) in Bulgaria]
Plant Science, 35(1), 66-69.

Additional key words: new record **Computer codes:** HETDPA, BG

98/123 *Guignardia citricarpa* is present in Argentina

Citrus black spot (*Guignardia citricarpa* – EPPO A1 quarantine pest) had been reported in the past in Argentina, but these records were not confirmed. However, in the last few years, the disease has become important and has been recorded in the two major citrus-producing regions: Tucuman, Misiones and Corrientes. The disease also occurs in the region of Entre Rios where the first symptoms were observed on Valencia Late oranges in 1986/87. In this region, the pycnidial form (*Phyllostictina citricarpa*) was readily isolated from most symptomatic fruits, but the sexual stage, *G. citricarpa* has not yet been detected (no details are given for the other regions of Argentina mentioned above). All commercial cultivars are susceptible to *G. citricarpa* to a varying extent (except sour orange, *Citrus aurantium*). *G. citricarpa* can cause significant losses due to premature fruit drop, and refusal of fruits for fresh market (as they are disfigured by the presence of black spots).

Source: Garrán, S.M. (1996) Citrus black spot in the Northeast of Entre Rios: etiology, epidemiology and control.
Proceedings of the International Society of Citriculture, 466-4470.

Rodriguez, V.A.; Mazza Gaiad, S.M. (1996) The effects of fungicides and fertilization on the control of black spot of citrus (*Guignardia citricarpa*).
Proceedings of the International Society of Citriculture, 482-484.

Additional key words: new record **Computer codes:** GUIGCI, AR

98/124 *Guignardia citricarpa* is not present in Peru

The Ministry of Agriculture in Peru has recently informed the EPPO Secretariat that *Guignardia citricarpa* (EPPO A1 quarantine pest) is absent from Peru. There were old reports of citrus black spot in Peru, but these have not been confirmed. In addition, recent surveys carried out by the official authorities of Peru in collaboration with APHIS have failed to detect *G. citricarpa*.

Source: **Ministerio de Agricultura, Servicio Nacional de Sanidad Agraria, Peru, 1998-06**.

Additional key words: denied record **Computer codes:** GUIGCI, PE

98/125 Occurrence of apple proliferation and pear decline phytoplasmas in pears in Hungary

In Hungary, typical symptoms of pear decline phytoplasma (EPPO A2 quarantine pest) weren observed on indicators (cv. Williams) during a graft-transmission experiment with budwood from different pear cultivars in 1976. However, at that time, was not possible to confirm the result by laboratory identification of the pathogen, and infection by pear decline phytoplasma was not further reported. Apple proliferation phytoplasma (EPPO A2 quarantine pest) is widespread in apple orchards, but so far had not been found on pear in Hungary. Studies were carried out on samples (leaves and shoots) taken from seven symptomatic pear plants (cvs Williams and Esperen's Bergamotte) in a nursery at Alsótekeres. Analysis (PCR, RFLP, PCR-ELISA) showed the presence of pear decline and apple proliferation phytoplasmas (in mixed infections in some cases). According to the EPPO Secretariat this is the first report of pear decline phytoplasma in Hungary.

Source: Del Serrone, P.; La Starza, S.; Krystai, L.; Kölber, M.; Barba, M. (1998) Occurrence of apple proliferation and pear decline phytoplasmas in diseased pear trees in Hungary.
Journal of Plant Pathology, 80(1), 53-58.

Additional key words: new record **Computer codes:** APPXXX, PRDXXX, HU

98/126 Outbreak of *Erwinia amylovora* in Lebanon

Fireblight (*Erwinia amylovora* – EPPO A2 quarantine pest) was first reported in Lebanon in the north-eastern part in 1988 (see EPPO RS 498/12, 1988). However, the first serious outbreak was only reported this year. A current survey has shown that the disease is present throughout the growing regions of pome fruits in Lebanon. The disease is found on the following host plants: cultivated and wild pears (*Pyrus communis*, *P. syriaca*, *P. bovei*), several apple cultivars with varying degrees of severity, and quince (*Cydonia oblonga*, a highly susceptible host). Further details on this new outbreak of fireblight in Lebanon will be presented at the 8th International Workshop on Fire Blight (Kusadasi, TR, 1998-10-12/15).

Source: Personnal communication from Prof. Saad, A.T. American University of Beirut, Lebanon.

Additional key words: detailed record **Computer codes:** ERWIAM, LB

98/127 Situation of grapevine flavescence dorée in Cataluña (Spain)

In October 1996, grapevine flavescence dorée phytoplasma (EPPO A2 quarantine pest) was reported for the first time in Spain in Cataluña (Alt Empordá), near the French border (see EPPO RS 97/113). The two first foci found in the municipalities of Agullana and Sant Climent de Sescebes were destroyed during winter 1996/1997. Later, four foci were found near the initial point of discovery, and two other foci of limited extent were also observed at a slightly greater distance (in the municipalities of Espolla and Cantallops). However, the disease is still limited to Alt Empordá. A survey was also carried out to determine the distribution of the vector, *Scaphoideus titanus*, in Cataluña. It is present in Alt Empordá where the disease occurs and also in the western part of Cataluña, but many areas are still free from it. Eradication measures have been taken and include: strict control of grapevine planting material, destruction of affected grapevines (and of abandoned vineyards), compulsory control of *Scaphoideus titanus*.

Source: Barrios, G.; Giralt, L.; Rahola, J.; Reyes, J.; Torres, E. (1998) Evolución de la Flavescencia dorada de la viña en Cataluña.
Phytoma-España, no 99, 18-26.

Additional key words: detailed record **Computer codes:** GVFDXX, ES

98/128 Black Sigatoka disease of banana and plantain is spreading in the Americas

Black Sigatoka (or black leaf streak disease), caused by *Mycosphaerella fijiensis*, is one of the most serious disease of banana and plantain. Although it is not a quarantine pest for the EPPO region, it is useful to provide new data on its current spread in the Americas. The pathogen is closely related to *M. musicola* (yellow Sigatoka). Symptoms caused by *M. fijiensis* and *M. musicola* are very similar, but the two pathogens can now be differentiated in culture and in leaf tissue by PCR. It seems that, as black Sigatoka is more aggressive, it has replaced yellow Sigatoka in most banana-growing regions where both of them were present. Symptoms caused by *M. fijiensis* are characterized by brown flecks which are first observed on the leaves and then enlarge to form necrotic lesions with yellow haloes and light grey centres. Large areas of foliar tissue can be destroyed which result in yield reduction and premature ripening of fruit. *M. fijiensis* is disseminated locally by ascospores and conidia. Long-distance spread is likely to be ensured by the movement of infected suckers or diseased leaves. *M. fijiensis* (as well as *M. musicola*) was first observed in the Sigatoka valley on the island of Fiji in 1963. Subsequently, the disease was reported throughout the Pacific and Asia. It was then reported in Latin America in 1972 in Honduras where it spread to many other countries (northwards to Guatemala, Belize, Mexico; and southward to El Salvador, Nicaragua, Costa Rica, Panama, Colombia and Ecuador). In Africa, the first record was in Gabon in 1978. It then spread along the west coast to Cameroon, Nigeria, Benin, Togo, Ghana, Ivory Coast and Guinea. The disease also occurs in Congo and probably spread eastwards across Zaire to Burundi, Rwanda, western Tanzania and Uganda. An independent introduction occurred on the island of Pemba around 1987 and *M. fijiensis* spread there to Zanzibar and coastal areas of Kenya and Tanzania.
Coming back to the situation in the Americas, recent reports of the disease have been made. *M. fijiensis* was found for the first time in 1991 in Venezuela and in Cuba. It was confirmed in Jamaica in 1995. CPPC reports that it is also present in Bolivia (found in 1996, Tejerina *et al*., 1997), Haiti, Peru, and that Brazil has very recently noted its introduction.

Distribution List: *Mycosphaerella fijiensis*

Asia: Bhutan, China (Guangdong, Hainan, Yunnan), Indonesia (Java (unconfirmed), Kalimantan, Maluku, Sumatra), Malaysia (Peninsular, Sarawak), Philippines, Singapore (unconfirmed), Taiwan, Thailand (unconfirmed), Vietnam.

Africa: Benin, Burundi, Cameroon, Central African Republic, Comoros, Congo, Côte d'Ivoire, Gabon, Ghana, Guinea Bissau, Kenya, Malawi, Niger, Nigeria, Rwanda, Tanzania, Togo, Uganda, Zaire, Zambia (unconfirmed).

North America: Mexico, USA (Hawaii).

Central America and Caribbean: Belize, Costa Rica, Cuba, Dominican Republic, El Salvador, Guatemala, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Jamaica, Netherlands Antilles, Nicaragua, Panama.

South America: Brazil, Bolivia, Colombia, Ecuador, Peru, Venezuela.

Oceania: American Samoa, Australia (Queensland), Cook Islands, Fiji, French Polynesia, Micronesia, New Caledonia, Niue, Norfolk Island, Northern Mariana Islands, Papua New Guinea, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Tonga, Vanuatu, Wallis and Futuna Islands.

Source:

CABI Distribution maps of plant diseases, no. 500 (1997).

Pollard, G.V. (1998) Black Sigatoka, *Mycosphaerella fijiensis* var. *fijiensis*.
CPPC Circular Letter, no. 2/98, 1st June 1998. FAO Sub Regional Office for the Caribbean, Barbados.

Tejerina, J.C.; Stover, R.H.; Ploetz, R.C.; Romanoff, S. (1997) First report of black Sigatoka in Bolivia.
Plant Disease, 81(11), p 1332.

Pro-MED-mail posts (Promed@usa.healthnet.org)
Black Sigatoka: Jamaica (1996-06-30)
Black Sigatoka: Fact sheet (1998-03-19)
Black Sigatoka: Venezuela (1998-03-12)
Black Sigatoka: Caribbean (1998-03-10)
Available also from Internet: http://www.agnic.org.pmp

Additional key words: new records, distribution list **Computer codes:** MYCOFI

98/129 Further spread of *Maconellicoccus hirsutus* in the Caribbean

Since the last report on the spread of *Maconellicoccus hirsutus* (EPPO RS 97/164), further introductions are reported by CPPC. The pink hibiscus mealybug has now been reported from Guadeloupe, the United States Virgin islands of Saint Croix and Saint John, and from Puerto Rico (including the islands of Vieques and Culebra). In Guadeloupe, *M. hirsutus* was found for the first time in April 1998, in Capesterre Belle-eau on *Allamanda cathartica*, *Alpinia purpurata*, *Artocarpus altilis*, *Citrus* spp. *Gliricidia sepium* and *Hibiscus rosa-sinensis* (Etienne *et al*., 1998). It is noted that in countries where biological control has been implemented (*Cryptolaemus montrouzieri*, *Anagyrus kamali*), the pest can be controlled to some extent.

The distribution of *Maconellicoccus hirsutus* in the Caribbean is now the following:
Caribbean: Anguilla (unconfirmed), British Virgin Islands (Tortolla*), Grenada (including Carriacou and Petit Martinique), Guadeloupe, Guyana, Montserrat*, Netherlands Antilles (Aruba*, Curaçao, Sint Eustatius, Sint Maarten), Puerto Rico (including the islands of Vieques and Culebra), Saint Kitts & Nevis (both islands), Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Trinidad & Tobago (both islands), United States Virgin Islands (Saint Croix, Saint John, Saint Thomas).

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* CPPC mentions these islands in its distribution list and they are new records according to the EPPO Secretariat.They are not reported by CPPC among the most recent introductions.

Source: Pollard, G.V. (1998) Pink mealybug, *Maconellicoccus hirsutus*.
CPPC Circular Letter, no. 2/98, 1st June 1998. FAO Sub Regional Office for the Caribbean, Barbados.

Etienne, J.; Matile-Ferrero, D.; Leblanc, F.; Marival, D. (1998) Premier signalement de *Maconellicoccus hirsutus* (Green) en Guadeloupe: situation actuelle de ce ravageur des cultures dans les Antilles françaises (Hemiptera, Pseudococcidae).
Bulletin de la Société entomologique de France, 103(2), 173-174.

Additional key words: new records, detailed records **Computer codes:** PHENHI, AN, GP, MS, PR, VI, VG

98/130 New tospovirus in chrysanthemum

Until 1994, tomato spotted wilt tospovirus (TSWV - EPPO A2 quarantine pest) was the only tospovirus reported on chrysanthemum in the Netherlands. However, since then an aberrant tospovirus has occasionally been found. Affected plants showed severe stem necrosis, partial wilting and chlorotic to necrotic spots on some leaves. These symptoms are similar to those of TSWV but are generally more severe, and serological tests failed to detect TSWV. Further studies have revealed the presence of a distinct tospovirus, tentatively designated as Ch-1. At three locations the first symptoms of this new tospovirus were found in chrysanthemum cultivars raised from cuttings originating from a nursery in Brazil. In addition, this virus gave a positive reaction with the antiserum to a Brazilian tospovirus of chrysanthemum (Chry-virus, see EPPO RS 96/082 and 96/198). The authors concluded that Ch-1 may originate from Brazil.

Source: Verhoeven, J.T.J.; Roenhorst, J.W.; Cortes, I.; Peters, D. (1996) Detection of a novel tospovirus in chrysanthemum.
Acta Horticulturae, no. 432, 44-51.

Additional key words: new pest **Computer codes:** NL

98/131 First report of *Puccinia distincta*, a new and severe rust of daisies

In October 1996, an abundant rust was observed on daisies (*Bellis perennis*) growing on the lawn of the tennis club at Belfort (FR). The following year, heavy rust infections were also seen in ornamental beds of cultivated daisies at Exeter University and the Royal Botanical Gardens, Kew (GB). Both cultivated and wild daisies are severely affected by this disease. Investigations have shown that the causal agent is *Puccinia distincta*. It is a short-cycled autoecious rust fungus with aecia and telia on *Bellis*, which was first described in Australia. So far, it had never been found in Europe. It is suggested that it may have been introduced from Australia, or that it may derive from a related fungus *P. obscura* (recorded in Europe and North America). The authors noted that the rust is so severe that it seriously impairs the growing of daisies (although they also pointed out with humour that *P. distincta* may be welcomed by those interested in controlling daisies in their lawns!).

Source: Weber, R.W.S.; Webster, J.; Wakley, G.E.; Al-Gharabally; D.H. (1998) *Puccinia distincta*, cause of a devastating rust disease of daisies.
Mycologist, 12(2), 87-90.

Additional key words: new pest **Computer codes:** PUCCSP, FR, GB

98/132 *Peronospora hyoscyami* f.sp. *tabacina* is a quarantine pest for Israel

The Plant Protection Service of Israel has recently informed the EPPO Secretariat that *Peronospora hyoscyami* f.sp. *tabacina* (tobacco blue mould) is considered a quarantine pest in Israel as its distribution and host-range are limited to isolated non-commercial tobacco plots in the North of Israel and it is under official control. The disease was found for the first time in Israel in 1962 and caused problems on tobacco fields and seedbeds in the North (at present there is no commercial tobacco production in the country). There had been at that time a report of young capsicum (*Capsicum annuum*) seedlings, growing under plastic near infected tobacco seedbeds, which showed infection (Hindi, *et al.*, 1965). This isolated observation had led to the assumption that *C. annuum* might be a host. From October 1996 to April 1998, a field survey was carried out in capsicum fields and glasshouses for tobacco blue mould and gave negative results. In addition, artificial infection experiments showed that *C. annuum* is not a host of tobacco blue mould. Finally, it is stressed that no symptoms of this disease have ever been observed on commercially grown solanaceous crops since the mid-60s in Israel.

Source: **Plant Protection and Inspection Services of Israel, 1998-06.**

Hindi, E.; Dishon, I.; Nevo, D. (1965) Observations on tobacco blue mold in Israel.
Plant Disease Reporter, 49(2), 154-156.

Additional key words: denied host plant **Computer codes:** PEROTA, IL

98/133 Viruses of *Hosta* spp. in USA

Hosta spp. (also called plantain-lilies) are rather commonly used as landscape plants due to their attractive foliage. Virus-like foliar disorders have been observed on *Hosta*, but so far there had been no publications on *Hosta* virus diseases in North America. Surveys were carried out in USA on samples of *Hosta* spp. from commercial greenhouses and nurseries. The following viruses were found: hosta X potexvirus, tomato ringspot nepovirus (EPPO A2 quarantine pest), impatiens necrotic spot tospovirus (potential EPPO A2 quarantine pest) and a tobravirus. In addition, three unidentified isometric viruses were detected by electron microscopy and dsRNA analysis in *Hosta* plants showing chlorotic ringspots, veinal necrosis and interveinal chlorosis.

Source: Lockhart, B.E.L.; Currier, S. (1966) Viruses occurring in *Hosta* spp. in the USA.
Acta Horticulturae, no. 432, 62-67.

Additional key words: new host plant **Computer codes:** INSV, TomRSV

98/134 New detection method for potato spindle tuber viroid

A new detection method has been developed in Germany for potato spindle tuber viroid (EPPO A2 quarantine pest). The method is based on immobilization of plant sap on filter paper, by dotting or tissue printing followed by RT-PCR. The print PCR was shown to be suitable for testing large samples of potato plants, whereas dot PCR was recommended for *in vitro* plantlets and tuber tissue. It was also found that the dotted or imprinted papers can be stored at 4 °C for at least two weeks (in Triton X-100 solution or under dry conditions) but that they should not be stored at room temperature.

Source: Weidemann, H.L.; Buchta, U. (1998) A simple and rapid method for the detection of potato spindle tuber viroid (PSTVd) by RT-PCR.
Potato Research, 41(1), 1-8.

Additional key words: new detection method **Computer codes:** PSTVd

98/135 Progress made towards the creation of NEPPO

The creation of NEPPO (Near East Plant Protection Organization) was decided five years ago. During the last FAO Regional Conference for the Near East (Damascus, SY, 1998-03-21/25), it was noted that seven countries: Egypt, Jordan (EPPO member country), Malta (EPPO member country), Morocco (EPPO member country), Pakistan, Sudan and Tunisia (EPPO member country) have ratified the Agreement for the establishment of NEPPO. Three more ratifications are needed for the creation of NEPPO.

Source: **Report of the 24th FAO Regional Conference for the Near East (Damascus, SY, 1998-03-21/25).**

98/136 NAPPO Standards

Recently, two new NAPPO Standards for Phytosanitary Measures have been published: 'Guidelines for the development and amendment of NAPPO Standards for Phytosanitary Measures', and 'The accreditation of individuals to sign Federal phytosanitary certificates'.

At present the list of approved NAPPO Standards is:

- NAPPO Irradiation Standards – Guidelines for the use of irradiation as a phytosanitary treatment
- NAPPO Standard for Pest Free Area
- Guidelines for preclerance programmes
- Guidelines for the development and amendment of NAPPO Standards for Phytosanitary Measures
- The accreditation of individuals to sign Federal phytosanitary certificates.

These standards can be obtained from the NAPPO Web Site: http://www.nappo.org or the NAPPO Secretariat:

59 Camelot Drive
Nepean
Ontario
Canada, K1A OY9

Source: **NAPPO, 1998-06.**

98/137 EPPO Electronic Documentation Service: new files are available

All published EPPO standards on **Good Plant protection Practice** are now available as files (in English and French) from eppo_docs@eppo.

- Principles of good plant protection practice (File name: Gpp01-e.doc (English), Gpp01-f.doc (French))
- Potato (File name: Gpp02-e.doc (English), Gpp02-f.doc (French))
- Glasshouse lettuce (File name: Gpp03-e.doc (English), Gpp03-f.doc (French))
- Allium crops (File name: Gpp04-e.doc (English), Gpp04-f.doc (French))
- Rodent control for crop protection and on farms (File name: Gpp05-e.doc (English), Gpp05-f.doc (French))
- Hop (File name: Gpp06-e.doc (English), Gpp06-f.doc (French))
- Vegetable brassicas (File name: Gpp07-e.doc (English), Gpp07-f.doc (French))
- Rape (File name: Gpp08-e.doc (English), Gpp08-f.doc (French))
- Strawberry (File name: Gpp09-e.doc (English), Gpp09-f.doc (French))

The **Phytosanitary Regulations of Jordan** (original text) can also be obtained (in English - File name: Pre-jo.exe

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Source: **EPPO Secretariat, 1998-07.**