

# EPPO

## *Reporting*

### *Service*

Paris, 2000-08-01

Reporting Service 2000, No. 7/8

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Note. The EPPO Reporting Service is normally produced by Anne-Sophie Roy (EPPO Information Officer) who is currently on maternity leave. The EPPO Secretariat provides here a "light" Reporting Service for the combined months of July and August 2000. The normal service will resume in September.

# EPPO *Reporting Service*

2000/112 Update of the EPPO Alert List

The first version of the EPPO Alert List was published in RS 99/134. Since then, the Reporting Service has included a series of additions to and deletions from the List, and also modifications of the "mini data sheets" provided for each entry. An updated Alert List is now presented. To view the mini data sheets in their present form, please consult the EPPO Web site at [www.eppo.org](http://www.eppo.org)

## **Insects**

*Aleurodicus dispersus*  
*Callidiellum rufipenne*  
*Callopietria floridensis*  
*Cameraria ohridella*  
*Chrysodeixis eriosoma*  
*Dasineura oxycoccana*  
*Dendrolimus spectabilis*  
*Lecanoideus floccissimus*  
*Lygus lineolaris*  
*Maconellicoccus hirsutus*  
*Microcephalothrips abdominalis*  
*Neotoxoptera formosana*  
*Phenacoccus gossypii*  
*Platynota flavedana*  
*Platynota stultana*  
*Platynota idaeusalis*  
*Rhizoecus americanus*  
*Rhynchophorus ferrugineus*  
*Rhynchophorus palmatum*  
*Stephanitis pyrioides*  
*Stephanitis takeyai*  
*Thecodiplosis japonensis*  
*Thrips imaginis*  
*Thrips parvispinus*  
*Trialeurodes ricini*

## **Fungi**

*Acremonium cucurbitacearum*  
*Alternaria* brown spot of Minneola tangelos  
*Claviceps africana*  
*Coleosporium phellodendri*  
Fungal oak disease  
*Fusarium circinatum*  
*Monosporascus cannonballus*  
*Phytophthora boehmeriae*  
*Phytophthora quercina*  
*Phytophthora* sp. on alder

*Puccinia psidii*

*Stegophora ulmea*

*Triphragmiopsis laricinum*

## **Bacteria and phytoplasmas**

Chestnut yellows

Cucurbit yellow vine disease bacterium

*Erwinia pyrifoliae*

Oak shoot blight

*Pseudomonas syringae* on broccoli raab

Strawberry lethal yellows phytoplasma

## **Viruses**

Cherry chlorotic rusty spot 'virus'

Chrysanthemum stem necrosis tospovirus

Chino del tomate begomovirus

Citrus seed-borne virus

Cucurbit yellow stunting disorder crinivirus

Iris yellow spot tospovirus

Lettuce chlorosis closterovirus

Lettuce necrotic spot nepovirus

Maize Mal de Río Cuarto fijivirus

Pepino mosaic potexvirus

Pepper huasteco begomovirus

Pepper mild tigre begomovirus

Potato latent carlavirus

Potato yellow mosaic begomovirus

Rice stripe necrosis benyvirus

Serrano golden mosaic begomovirus

Sinaloa tomato leaf curl begomovirus

Soybean severe stunt virus

Squash yellow leaf curl virus

Taino tomato mottle geminivirus and

Havana tomato geminivirus

Texas pepper begomovirus

Tomato chlorosis crinivirus

Tomato dwarf leaf curl begomovirus

Tomato golden mosaic begomovirus

# EPPO *Reporting Service*

Tomato infectious chlorosis virus  
Tomato yellow mosaic begomovirus  
Tomato yellow vein streak begomovirus

Wheat China mosaic furovirus  
Wheat high plains virus  
Zucchini lethal chlorosis tospovirus

**Source:** EPPO Secretariat

## **2000/113**     *Ralstonia solanacearum* not found in Italy since the 1995 outbreak

In 1995, foci of potato brown rot were found in Veneto and Emilia-Romagna regions of northern Italy in association with imports of seed potatoes infected by *Ralstonia solanacearum* (EPPO A2 quarantine pest) (RS 96/001). Field surveys have been carried out every year since then (1996/2000) in the potato-growing areas of all Italian regions, and no other outbreaks of the disease have been found. Italy also applies EU Directive 98/57 concerning controls on seed and ware potatoes imported into Italy from other countries, and has found no infected lots. The status of *Ralstonia solanacearum* in Italy is thus, in terms of ISPM No. 8, "**Absent: pest no longer present (confirmed by surveys)**".

Italy also applies EU Directive 93/85 on the control of bacterial ring rot of potato and has never found any case of this disease on its territory. The status of *Clavibacter michiganensis* subsp. *sepedonicus* (EPPO A2 quarantine pest) in Italy is thus "**Absent: no pest records (confirmed by surveys)**".

**Source:** NPPO of Italy

## **2000/114**     Brown rot and ring rot of potato absent from Israel

*Clavibacter michiganensis* subsp. *sepedonicus* (EPPO A2 quarantine pest) is absent from Israel. No records of its occurrence have ever been published. In the terms of ISPM No. 8, its status in Israel is "**Absent: no pest records**", since general surveillance indicates that the pest is absent now and has never been recorded. Furthermore, this status can be completed by the phrase "**Confirmed by survey**", on the basis of a survey conducted in 1993 and reported in 1994.

*Ralstonia solanacearum* (EPPO A2 quarantine pest) was found in Israel in the 1940s. When found again in 1972, as previously reported, a "documented pest eradication programme was conducted and was successful". In terms of ISPM No. 8, its status in Israel is thus "**Absent: pest eradicated**". Since that time, general and specific surveillance have confirmed the continued absence of potato brown rot in Israel.

**Source:** NPPO of Israel

# EPPO *Reporting Service*

## 2000/115 *Globodera rostochiensis* found in Slovenia

The potato cyst nematode *Globodera rostochiensis* (EPPO A2 quarantine pest) is listed as an A1 quarantine pest for Slovenia. During laboratory tests in a systematic survey of seed-potato fields in 1999, round cysts suspected to belong to this species were found in one sample. In 2000-02, more intensive soil sampling was done in the same area and, using laboratory analysis, it was established that the field was actually infested with *G. rostochiensis*. According to the national legislation harmonized with EU Directive 69/465/EEC, all necessary measures were taken, including: 18 t of seed potatoes from the infected field were destroyed and the storehouse was disinfected; the infested field (6 ha) was marked and grassed for at least 10 years; a safety zone of 50 ha was defined with prohibition of potato growing. Systematic surveys of seed and ware potato fields are now (2000) being carried out, with special stress on the areas surrounding the infected field. In terms of ISPM No. 8, the status of *Globodera rostochiensis* in Slovenia is "**Present: very limited distribution, under eradication**".

**Source:** NPPO of Slovenia

## 2000/116 *Ciborinia camelliae* found in Portugal

In a 2000 survey, *Ciborinia camelliae* (EPPO A1 quarantine pest) has been found in Portugal on *Camellia* in public and private gardens and garden centres in the regions of Entre Douro e Minho, Beira Litoral and Ribatejo e Oeste. The plants were of different ages and origins (Portugal or other EU countries). It is recalled that in a 1999 survey (RS 99/155), *C. camelliae* was found in several EU countries, but not in Portugal. In terms of ISPM No 8, its status could be categorized as "**Present: only in some areas, subject to official control**".

**Source:** NPPO of Portugal

## 2000/117 *Diabrotica virgifera* found in Albania

The first specimens of *Diabrotica virgifera* (EPPO A2 quarantine pest) were recently found in Albania, near Tirana International Airport. The beetle is accordingly continuing its spread from Serbia (Yugoslavia) to the south, as well as to the north, having previously been found in Montenegro (Yugoslavia) (see RS 99/020).

**Source:** IWGO

# EPPO *Reporting Service*

## **2000/118**     *Phytophthora cactorum* found and under eradication in Israel

*Phytophthora cactorum*, considered as a quarantine pest for Israel, has recently been found on strawberry plants at a number of sites in that country. Infection was recorded in one nursery, where all propagation material and mother plants were subject to destruction. All nuclear and foundation stocks of strawberry propagation material were tested, and routine mandatory testing for this pathogen is now required of certified nursery growers. Nationwide surveillance of commercial strawberry fields revealed several additional foci, and specific guidelines on appropriate measures to eradicate the disease and prevent reinfection were issued to the growers concerned. In terms of ISPM No 8, its status could be categorized as "**Present: under eradication**".

**Source:** NPPO of Israel

## **2000/119**     Identity of *Liriomyza* sp. intercepted on basil from Israel

In 1999, *Liriomyza sativae* (EPPO A1 quarantine pest) was reported as intercepted on basil imported into France from Israel (RS 99/164, 99/183), and this identification was confirmed after surveys in Israel (RS 99/151). However, the specimens identified in the Israeli surveys, when sent for confirmatory identification to the Natural History Museum in London (GB), were found to be *L. bryoniae* (EU quarantine pest) (RS 2000/001), and it was concluded that the situation of *L. sativae* in Israel was "unconfirmed". Later in 1999, France again intercepted *Liriomyza* sp. on basil from Israel (RS 2000/071). The specimens were sent to Israel and forwarded again to the Natural History Museum, where they were found to be probably *L. trifolii* (EPPO A2 quarantine pest).

It may be noted that France and UK frequently intercept *L. sativae* on basil from Thailand (cf. RS citations as above), and also that UK has recently been intercepting what is referred to as "suspect *sativae* or *trifolii*" on Aster and Solidago cut flowers from Israel (RS 2000/071, 2000/111).

To be continued!

**Source:** NPPO of Israel

# EPPO *Reporting Service*

## **2000/120**     Black sigatoka transient in Queensland (Australia)

In RS 98/128, the spread of *Mycosphaerella fijiensis* (causing black sigatoka disease of banana) in the Americas was reviewed. This report mentioned the presence of the pest in Queensland (Australia), which is also cited by CABI Plant Disease Distribution Map no 500. A recent report from Australia makes it clear that the disease has occurred only sporadically in Queensland, and is subject to eradication. A first outbreak was reported in 1981, then another in 1988. There was a further outbreak in 1996, and another has just been reported in the north of the state, near Cairns. A quarantine area 7.5 km around the infested farm has been established, and all susceptible plants in that area are being destroyed. A 15 km zone is being surveyed, and no bananas are permitted to move out of a 50 km zone. In terms of ISPM no 8, the status of *M. fijiensis* in Australia seems to be "**Transient: actionable, under eradication**".

**Source:**        ProMED-mail post from E. Kopečný, Sydney

## **2000/121**     Genome of *Xylella fastidiosa* has been sequenced

*Xylella fastidiosa* (EPPO A1 quarantine pest) has become the first phytopathogenic bacterium to have its genome sequenced. The research, which constitutes a milestone in phytobacteriology, was done at the State of Sao Paulo Research Foundation in Brazil, and published in the July 13 issue of *Nature*. The strain of the bacterium concerned is the one causing variegated chlorosis of citrus, which is of particular importance in Brazil. EPPO is also concerned with strains causing Pierce's disease of grapevine, and several diseases of fruit trees. Comparison of the sequences of different strains, in relation to host range, should help to categorize more clearly the phytosanitary risk presented by each.

**Source:**        ProMed-mail  
Simpson *et al.* (2000) *Nature* 406, 151-157.

# EPPO *Reporting Service*

## **2000/122**     Phytoplasma diseases of date palm in Northern Sudan

Palms have not been reported to be affected by phytoplasma diseases in the EPPO region, and palm lethal yellowing phytoplasma is an A1 quarantine pest for EPPO. A new disease of young date palms, known as white tip die-back, has recently been identified in northern Sudan (Cronjé *et al.*, 2000a). It causes severe chlorosis of the emerging spear leaf and chlorotic streaking of the fronds. The young palms die within 6-12 months of symptom appearance. Use of a nested PCR test showed that phytoplasma-specific products could consistently be amplified from affected palms; but not from healthy ones. The product had a high homology with comparable sequences of Bermuda grass white leaf phytoplasma.

It has also been shown (separate report by Cronjé *et al.*, 2000b) that slow decline of mature date palms, a disease of uncertain etiology already known for a long time in northern Sudan and characterized by progressive yellowing and shedding of the fronds leading to death (causing an annual loss of 6%), gives the same test result as above, so that both diseases are very probably caused by the same phytoplasma.

There is thus a probable phytoplasma disease of date palm in northern Africa, which may present a phytosanitary risk to the EPPO countries where date palm is cultivated, and more generally to ornamental palms in the southern part of the EPPO region. The phytoplasma involved may be Bermuda grass white leaf phytoplasma. This pathogen has been reported from at least Pakistan, Taiwan and Thailand. Recently, Marcone *et al.* (1997) have reported it from *Cynodon dactylon* (Bermuda grass) in Italy, while Lee *et al.* (1997) have reported a very closely related phytoplasma from *Poa annua* in Italy. These reports are the first in the EPPO region, but it is not clear that the world distribution of this phytoplasma is adequately known. Cronjé *et al.* incidentally mention a Sudanese isolate, presumably from *C. dactylon*.

**Sources:**     Cronjé *et al.* (2000a, b). New Disease Reports Vol 1, <http://www.bspp.org.uk/ndr>  
Marcone *et al.* (1997) Plant Disease 81, 862-866.  
Lee *et al.* (1997) European Journal of Plant Pathology 103, 251-254.

## **2000/123**     A new blight of *Buxus* in UK caused by *Cylindrocladium* sp.

Henricot *et al.* (2000) report a serious foliar disease of box (*Buxus sempervirens*) occurring in the UK since 1998 (different parts of England, southern and central Scotland). The disease has also been found on other *Buxus* spp. Dark brown spots appear on the leaves, with black streaks on the stems and eventual defoliation. A *Cylindrocladium* sp. has been isolated and shown to satisfy Koch's postulates. This species has been compared with other members of the form-genus by morphological and molecular methods and not found to correspond exactly to any published species. The disease is often found in association with volutella blight caused by *Pseudonectria rousseliana*. There is no indication that box is affected by *Cylindrocladium* in any other country, so the disease appears to be entirely new.

**Source:**     Henricot *et al.* (2000) New Disease Reports Vol 1, <http://www.bspp.org.uk/ndr>

# EPPO *Reporting Service*

## 2000/124 *Ralstonia solanacearum* on artichoke in Egypt

Aly & Abd El Ghafar (2000) report a bacterial wilt of artichoke (*Cynara scolymus*) in Egypt. The pathogen has been identified as *Ralstonia solanacearum* (EPPO A2 quarantine pest), and this is the first report of the bacterium on this host. Although the race of the pathogen is not stated, it may be presumed (from the host involved) to be race 1. Race 3 is already known from Egypt but *Distribution Maps of Quarantine Pests for Europe* does not give any record of race 1 in Egypt or in any Mediterranean country. The disease was found in the north of the country, and thus appears to be a first record in the Mediterranean region. However, it should be stressed that mapping of the races of *R. solanacearum* is in general complicated by the existence of old records which cannot be assigned to race, and also by the current concerns about presence of race 3 in the EPPO region. The true picture of the geographical distribution of race 1 in the Mediterranean region has probably to be reconstructed from zero.

**Source:** Aly & Abd El Ghafar (2000) *New Disease Reports Vol 1*,  
<http://www.bspp.org.uk/ndr>

## 2000/125 New pathogens causing grapevine esca and decline

Esca disease of grapevine is characterized by foliage deterioration and sudden decline of the vine. It has long been recognized as a disease, but its etiology has never been fully elucidated. The most probable cause has long been considered to be trunk infection by fungi such as *Stereum hirsutum* and *Phellinus igniarius* (APS Compendium of Grape Diseases). The true causes of the disease have now been discovered to be quite different fungi (RS 2000/125). Infection of rooted cuttings, rootstocks and grafted plants by *Phaeoacremonium chlamydosporum* (now renamed *Phaeomoniella chlamydospora* Crous & Gams), *Phaeoacremonium aleophilum* and related species causes brown wood streaking, which may lead to a decline of young grapevines now known as "Petri grapevine decline". If these fungi infect actively growing vines (up to 8-10 years old), they cause brown wood streaking and vascular gummosis deep inside the trunk and branches, with or without foliar symptoms. This is known as "young esca", and can develop into "esca proper" if the plants are simultaneously affected by *Fomitiporia punctata* causing white rot. *F. punctata* alone does not cause esca. It should be noted that *F. punctata* was previously known as *Phellinus punctatus*, and that this fungus was frequently misidentified as *P. igniarius*. Further research is needed to show whether the fungi interact with each other to cause a disease complex, or whether there are simply two distinct diseases which have been confused.

The *Phaeoacremonium* spp. have been isolated from diseased grapevines in several European countries, Argentina, Australia, South Africa and USA (at least). It seems that they occur wherever grapevine is grown. *F. punctata* is also widespread. So these fungi do not present a risk of introduction into new countries. Their discovery simply resolves a old pathological problem.

**Source:** Graniti *et al.* (2000) *Phytopathologia Mediterranea* **39**, 16-20.



# EPPO *Reporting Service*

## **2000/126**     Special issue of *Phytopathologia Mediterranea* on esca and grapevine decline

A special symposium on grapevine trunk diseases, organized by the Mediterranean Phytopathological Union, was held at Siena (IT) on 1999-10-01/03. The proceedings appear in *Phytopathologia Mediterranea* 39 (1), dated 2000-04. The Symposium included 34 papers from Argentina, Australia, Austria, France, Germany, Italy, Portugal, South Africa, Switzerland, Turkey and USA. It considered in particular esca and decline diseases of grapevine, which have long been known, but whose etiology has remained uncertain. New pathogens have been identified as the cause of these diseases (RS 2000/124).

To obtain the special issue, or to subscribe to *Phytopathologia Mediterranea*, please contact: [phymed@unifi.it](mailto:phymed@unifi.it) or Phytopathologia Mediterranea, DiBA, Piazzale delle Cascine 28, 50144 Firenze (Italy).

## **2000/127**     A new reporting service from BSPP

The British Society for Plant Pathology (BSPP) has started a new publication *New Disease Reports*. Its purpose is to provide a forum for publication of very short refereed articles on plant pathological discoveries whose principal interest is that they are new (new hosts, new races, new symptoms, new geographical location, significant new outbreaks, new diseases remaining to be fully characterized). These articles appear in the first instance on the Web site <http://www.bspp.org/ndr>. They will also appear at the end of each year in the journal *Plant Pathology*.

*New Disease Reports* revives an element which existed for many years in *Plant Pathology*, going back to the time when the journal was published from the Harpenden Laboratory of the Ministry of Agriculture and had a stronger orientation towards plant quarantine. Similar articles are also regularly published in *Bulletin OEPP/EPPO Bulletin*, in the same tradition.

*New Disease Reports* will present EPPO with a good new source of material for the EPPO Reporting Service. This issue already contains three items based on such articles, bringing out the phytosanitary implications of the reports for the EPPO region.

**Source:**     <http://www.bspp.org/ndr>

# EPPO *Reporting Service*

## 2000/128 Forthcoming meetings

*Workshop on alternatives to methyl bromide*: the 24<sup>th</sup> NAPPO Annual Meeting at San Diego (US) will include a one-day workshop (on 2000-10-19) exploring alternative phytosanitary treatments to methyl bromide. Contact [narcy.g.klag@usda.gov](mailto:narcy.g.klag@usda.gov).

*European whitefly symposium*: the first European whitefly symposium, organized by the European Whitefly Study Network (EWSN), will be held at Ragusa (IT) on 2001-02-27/03-03. It will encompass: taxonomy and systematics, ecology and population dynamics, whitefly-transmitted viruses, natural enemies, plant protection. Contact [network.ewsn@bbsrc.ac.uk](mailto:network.ewsn@bbsrc.ac.uk) for general information, [l.bascietto@tin.it](mailto:l.bascietto@tin.it) for local information, or [whitefly.symposium@mbox.unict.it](mailto:whitefly.symposium@mbox.unict.it) for submission of papers. General contact address: EWSN Office, John Innes Centre, Norwich Research Park, Colney Lane, Norwich NR4 7UH (GB).

*Symposium on parasitic Hymenoptera*: an international symposium on "Parasitic Hymenoptera: taxonomy and biological control" will be held on 2001-05-14/17 in Kőszeg (HU). Contact [chalcini@savaria.hu](mailto:chalcini@savaria.hu) or Systematic Parasitoid Laboratory, PO Box 34, Kelcz-Adelffy u. 6, 9730 Kőszeg (Hungary).