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CONTENTS

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2013/184 First report of *Xylella fastidiosa* in Italy

In mid-October 2013, the EPPO Secretariat was alerted via its Facebook page about the possible presence of *Xylella fastidiosa* (EPPO A1 List) on olive trees (*Olea europaea*) in Southern Italy by a member of the public. Shortly after, the NPPO of Italy provided information about the involvement of *X. fastidiosa* in the disease that is currently observed, and almost simultaneously a research team from the University of Bari and the Institute of Plant Virology (CNR) published the first results of their investigations in the Journal of Plant Pathology (Saponari *et al.*, 2013).

Following the reporting of an extensive leaf scorch and dieback of olive trees, spreading rapidly in the area of Salento (Puglia region), the Regional Plant Protection Service promptly initiated investigations to identify the possible causal agent. These surveys were carried out in collaboration with experts from the University of Bari and the CNR. The systematic screening of samples taken from symptomatic olive trees (many of them were a century-old), revealed the presence of extensive brown discoloration of the vascular system. Portions of xylem tissue taken from symptomatic olive trees were subjected to mycological analysis by isolation on different growing media. Fungal colonies were obtained and identified by morphological and molecular tests. The results showed the constant presence of fungal species belonging to the genus *Phaeoacremonium*, the most frequently found species was *P. parasiticum* followed by *P. rubrigenum, P. aleophilum* and *P. alvesii*. Species of the genus *Phaeomoniella* were also isolated. According to the NPPO, this is the first time that *P. parasiticum* and *P. alvesii* have been detected on *O. europaea* in Italy.

In addition, these samples from olive trees were subjected to molecular analysis using specific primers for *X. fastidiosa* which gave positive results. The analysis was extended to almond (*Prunus dulcis*) and oleander (*Nerium oleander*) plants which were growing in the vicinity of affected olive trees and showing symptoms of leaf scorch. The results were also positive. Further serological tests (DAS-ELISA with 2 commercial kits) confirmed the presence of *X. fastidiosa*. The NPPO stressed that the definitive identification of the bacterium still awaits its isolation in pure culture in order to perform pathogenicity tests. In addition, further investigations are on-going to identify the bacterial strain, to evaluate its pathogenicity and identify the putative local insect vector(s). It is recalled that *X. fastidiosa* has an extensive natural host range (more than 100 species), including olive from which the bacterial genotype A (pathogenic to oleander and almond but not to grapevine) has been isolated in California (US).

Surveys are being carried out in Puglia to delimit the extent of the infected area. It is prohibited to move propagation material of any susceptible host species from the infected area. For the control of the disease, which does not seem to be exclusively due to *X. fastidiosa*, the adoption of further phytosanitary measures is currently being evaluated.

Source: NPPO of Italy (2013-10).

Saponari M, Boscia D, Nigro F, Martelli GP (2013) Identification of DNA sequences related to *Xylella fastidiosa* in oleander, almond and olive trees exhibiting leaf scorch symptoms in Apulia (Southern Italy). *Journal of Plant Pathology* (online paper) http://sipav.org/main/jpp/index.php/jpp/article/view/2875/1549

Further reading
EPPO Datasheet: http://www.eppo.int/QUARANTINE/bacteria/Xylella_fastidiosa/XYLEFA_ds.pdf
EPPO diagnostic protocol: https://www.eppo.int/QUARANTINE/bacteria/Xylella_fastidiosa/pm7-24(1)%20XYLEFA%20web.pdf
Pictures (on hosts other than olive): http://photos.eppo.org/index.php/album/84-xylella-fastidiosa-xylefa
Xylella fastidiosa – College of Natural Resources. http://nature.berkeley.edu/xylella/refs/index.html
Janse JD, Obradovic A (2010) *Xylella fastidiosa*: its biology, diagnosis, control and risks. *Journal of Plant Pathology* **92**(1 supl.), S1.35-S1.48. http://sipav.org/main/jpp/index.php/jpp/article/view/2504/1181

Additional key words: new record **Computer codes:** XYLEFA, IT

2013/185 First report of *Pseudomonas syringae* pv. *actinidiae* in Germany

In August 2013, the presence of *Pseudomonas syringae* pv. *actinidiae* (EPPO A2 List) was recorded for the first time in Germany. The bacterium was found in 37 kiwifruit plants (*Actinidia* spp.) in a nursery in Bayern, and on several plants in a garden in Schleswig-Holstein. Affected plants showed spots on the leaves and the pathogen was identified by PCR analysis. In both cases, the infected plants had been delivered by a nursery in Bayern which does not maintain mother plants. Tracing-back studies to identify the possible source of this introduction are still on-going. Official control measures have been taken and all plants concerned have been destroyed.
The pest status of *Pseudomonas syringae* pv. *actinidiae* in Germany is officially declared as: **Transient, only in one area (Bayern and Schleswig-Holstein), under eradication.**

Source: NPPO of Germany (2013-08).

Additional key words: new record **Computer codes:** PSDMAK, DE

2013/186 '*Candidatus* Phytoplasma pyri' found in Portugal

The NPPO of Portugal recently informed the EPPO Secretariat of the first record of '*Candidatus* Phytoplasma pyri' (associated with pear decline – EPPO A2 List) on its territory (see also RS 2013/033). In June 2013, the pathogen was detected in an abandoned pear orchard (0.23 ha) located in Sobrena (Cadaval county) in the region of Lisboa e Vale do Tejo (Central Portugal). This finding was made during a Msc study entitled 'Research on phytoplasmas from pome and stone fruit in Portugal'. '*Ca*. P. pyri' was detected by molecular tests (specific nested- and real-time PCRs) in asymptomatic plant samples and in the psyllid vector, *Cacopsylla pyri*. The owner of the orchard was ordered by the NPPO to destroy all infected trees, and additional phytosanitary measures were taken to eradicate the disease.
The pest status of '*Candidatus* Phytoplasma pyri' in Portugal is officially declared as: **Under eradication.**

Source: NPPO of Portugal (2013-08).

Additional key words: new record **Computer codes:** PHYPPY, PT

2013/187 *Aromia bungii* found for the first time in Lombardia region, Italy

In Italy, the presence of *Aromia bungii* (Coleoptera: Cerambycidae – EPPO Alert List) was first detected in September 2012 in urban areas between Napoli and Pozzuoli (Campania region) on plum and apricot trees (*Prunus domestica* and *P. armeniaca*, respectively). In August 2013, the NPPO of Italy informed the EPPO Secretariat of the first finding of *A. bungii* in Lombardia region. Two adult specimens of *A. bungii* were found in the municipality of Sedriano (province of Milano), emerging from the trunk of a peach tree (*P. persica*) which had been felled and stored as firewood. The infested wood has been destroyed by chipping. Specific studies have been undertaken to identify the origin of this infestation and to determine appropriate phytosanitary measures.
The situation of *Aromia bungii* in Italy can be described as follows: **Present, isolated outbreaks found in Campania and Lombardia, under eradication.**

Source: NPPO of Italy (2013-08).

Additional key words: detailed record **Computer codes:** AROMBU, IT

2013/188 First report of *Aromia bungii* in Japan

In June 2013, the establishment of *Aromia bungii* (Coleoptera: Cerambycidae – EPPO Alert List) was confirmed on cherry (*Prunus* sp.) and Japanese apricot (*Prunus mume*) trees in the Western part of the Aichi Prefecture (Ama district), Japan. It is noted that an adult specimen had been already captured in the same area in July 2012. This is the first time that *A. bungii* is reported from Japan.
The situation of *Aromia bungii* in Japan can be described as follows: **Present, first found in 2012 in Aichi prefecture.**

Source: INTERNET
AgriNews (2013-06-21) The first longicorn beetle in Japan confirmed in Aichi, damaging cherry and Japanese apricot trees. http://english.agrinews.co.jp/?p=482
Aichi Prefectoral Government. News of 2013-06-18 (in Japanese). http://www.pref.aichi.jp/byogaichu/2013/tokusyuhou/tokusyuhou2402.pdf

Additional key words: first record **Computer codes:** AROMBU, JP

2013/189 *Anoplophora glabripennis* found for the first time in Marche region, Italy

At the beginning of August 2013, an outbreak of *Anoplophora glabripennis* (Coleoptera: Cerambycidae – EPPO A1 List) was discovered for the first time in Marche region (Italy). In the municipality of Grottazzolina (Fermo province), a technician reported the presence of suspicious symptoms on a maple tree (*Acer* sp.) in a private garden. Preliminary investigations then showed that 4 maple trees planted in private gardens were infested. Branch dieback, exit holes and oviposition pits were observed on these infested trees. The identity the pest was determined by the laboratory of the regional plant protection service on the basis of the insect morphological characteristics. The origin of this outbreak has not yet been identified but investigations are on-going. Intensive surveys have also been initiated in the area concerned, and an infested area of approximately 1 km² together with a 1 km radius buffer zone have been demarcated. Official control measures have been implemented and include: felling of all infested trees and destruction by chipping, obligation to report any suspicious symptoms to the regional plant protection service, prohibition to plant new susceptible hosts and to move host plants outside the demarcated area.
The pest status of *Anoplophora glabripennis* in Marche region is officially declared as: **Present, under statutory eradication measures.**

Source: NPPO of Italy (2013-08).

Additional key words: detailed record **Computer codes:** ANOLGL, IT

2013/190 First report of *Tuta absoluta* in the Czech Republic

In August 2013, *Tuta absoluta* (Lepidoptera: Gelechiidae – EPPO A2 List) was found for the first time in the Czech Republic. The pest was detected during an official survey in a commercial tomato crop (*Solanum lycopersicum*) in the district of Prostějov (Olomouc region). Severe damage to tomato plants was observed throughout the infested greenhouse. The possible origin of this outbreak remains unknown. Eradication measures were taken against *T. absoluta*, including the destruction of tomato plants.
The pest status of *Tuta absoluta* in the Czech Republic is officially declared as: **Transient, under eradication.**

Source: NPPO of the Czech Republic (2013-08).

Additional key words: new record **Computer codes:** GNORAB, CZ

2013/191 Quarantine treatment of avocadoes against *Bactrocera invadens*

Studies conducted in Kenya have showed that a cold treatment of 'Hass' avocado (*Persea americana*) could eliminate *Bactrocera invadens* (Diptera: Tephritidae – EPPO A1 List) in infested fruit. It was found that a continuous cold treatment at 1.5°C (or lower) for 18 days provided sufficient phytosanitary security.

Source: Ware AB, du Toit CLN, Mohamed SA, Nderitu PW, Ekasi S (2012) Cold tolerance and disinfection of *Bactrocera invadens* (Diptera: Tephritidae) in 'Hass' avocado. *Journal of Economic Entomology* **105**(6), 1963-1970.

Additional key words: quarantine treatment **Computer codes:** BCTRIN

2013/192 First report of *Potato spindle tuber viroid* in Malta

The NPPO of Malta recently informed the EPPO Secretariat of the first record of *Potato spindle tuber viroid* (*Pospiviroid*, PSTVd - EPPO A2 List) on its territory. During an annual survey, PSTVd was detected in 5 *Brugmansia* spp. plants in the nursery of a garden centre in Burmarrad (a locality in St. Paul's Bay). In August 2012, laboratory tests (molecular hybridization) confirmed the presence of PSTVd in 5 plant samples. Official control measures were taken and all plants concerned were destroyed.
The pest status of *Potato spindle tuber viroid* in Malta is officially declared as: **Present, at low prevalence.**

Source: NPPO of Malta (2013-08).

Additional key words: new record **Computer codes:** PSTVD0, MT

2013/193 First report of *Potato spindle tuber viroid* in Hungary

The NPPO of Hungary recently informed the EPPO Secretariat of the first record of *Potato spindle tuber viroid* (*Pospiviroid*, PSTVd - EPPO A2 List) on its territory. There had been records published in the Hungarian literature of PSTVd in tomato and potato in 1979 but these are now considered doubtful by the NPPO. In June 2013, PSTVd was detected during a routine inspection on asymptomatic *Solanum jasminoides* in a small nursery (0.2 ha) located in Sarkad (Békés county), Southeastern Hungary. Samples were taken from a single mother plant of *Solanum jasminoides* and its daughter plants to detect possible latent infections. PTSVd was identified with molecular methods by the Plant Health and Molecular National Reference Laboratory of the NPPO. The possible origin of this infection is unknown. The grower had purchased the mother plant of *S. jasminoides* as a young plant from a garden centre in 2008, and several daughter plants had been produced since then. The first generation of plants produced in 2009 was tested and found free from PSTVd. No symptoms of PSTVd have ever been found on any of the plants produced by this grower. Phytosanitary measures were taken to eradicate PSTVd. The greenhouse was disinfected and placed under quarantine. The single mother plant and all daughter plants (8 potted plants) were burned.
The pest status of *Potato spindle tuber viroid* in Hungary is officially declared as: **Transient, under eradication.**

Source: NPPO of Hungary (2013-09).

Additional key words: new record **Computer codes:** PSTVD0, HU

2013/194 *Potato spindle tuber viroid* detected for the first time in *Dahlia* sp. in the Netherlands

The NPPO of the Netherlands recently informed the EPPO Secretariat of the first detection of *Potato spindle tuber viroid* (*Pospiviroid*, PSTVd – EPPO A2 List) in dahlia, a plant which was not known to be a important host plant for PSTVd. At the end of August 2013, PSTVd was detected in a dahlia corm production field in the province of South Holland during phytosanitary controls carried out before export. The viroid was detected and identified in RNA extract from dahlia leaves, using RT-PCR and subsequent sequencing. No visual symptoms or damage caused by PSTVd were observed in the crop. The presence of PSTVd was confirmed in 17 lots out of all 80 tested lots of the grower under consideration. Further investigations (on all lots grown by the grower concerned and all 119 lots of 3 associated growers) have revealed that only this grower of dahlia corms was affected by PSTVd. This was further supported by a broader survey carried out in 100 dahlia fields (selected at random) and by the export certification testing records of 2012 whereby 130 samples tested negative. The NPPO stressed that the grower concerned is located in an area where cultivation of potatoes is prohibited. The origin of this infection in dahlia is unknown. Phytosanitary measures are being taken to eradicate PSTVd from dahlia production. All the grower's contaminated lots will be destroyed. Other remaining lots from the same grower were put under official control and will be used only for sale to the final consumer or for flower production.
The pest status of *Potato spindle tuber viroid* in the Netherlands is officially declared as:
Transient in ornamentals. No records in 2012.
One outbreak in *Dahlia* sp. in 2013, under eradication.
Absent from the entire potato production chain (*Solanum tuberosum*) based on specific surveillance.

Incidental finding in tomato (*Solanum lycopersicum*) fruit production in 2013, under eradication.
Not known to occur in pepper (*Capsicum*).

Source: NPPO of the Netherlands (2013-09).

Additional key words: host plant, detailed record **Computer codes:** PSTVD0, NL

2013/195 *Pelargonium zonate spot virus*: an emerging disease on tomatoes?

Pelargonium zonate spot virus (*Anulavirus*, PZSV) was originally isolated from *Pelargonium zonale* plants in Italy showing concentric chrome yellow bands on leaves. In the 1980s, PZSV was also found to be the causal agent of a disease in tomato (*Solanum lycopersicum*) in Southern Italy. In addition to tomato, natural infections of PZSV have been observed in artichoke (*Cynara cardunculus*), capsicum (*Capsicum annuum*), kiwifruit (*Actinidia chinensis*), *Chrysanthemum coronarium*, and weeds (e.g. *Capsella bursa-pastoris*, *Diplotaxis erucoides*, *Picris echoides, Sonchus oleaceus*). On tomato, symptoms of PZSV on leaves and fruits are characterized by line patterns, chlorotic and necrotic rings, together with plant stunting, leaf malformation and poor fruit set, which often result in plant death as infected cells show severe cytopathological alterations. PZSV can be transmitted by mechanical inoculation and grafting. Recent studies have shown that it was also transmitted via tomato seed and pollen. It has also been suggested that thrips could also transport infected pollen grains and contribute to disease spread. Following the initial records in Southern Italy, PZSV was also reported from tomato crops in Spain (1996), Southeastern France (2000), USA (California, 2006), and Israel (2007). Although data is lacking on the impact of PZSV in tomato crops, it seems that this virus is emerging around the Mediterranean Basin.

Its currently known geographical distribution is as follows:
EPPO region: France (detected in 2000 in samples from Bouches-du-Rhône and Vaucluse), Italy (Campania, Emilia-Romagna (on kiwi), Puglia), Israel (detected in 2007 in the Lachish area), Spain (detected in 1996 and 2006 in Aragon).
North America: USA (detected in 2006 in California).

Source:

Biccheri R, Babini AR, Blouin A, Lanzoni C, Pisi A, Poggi Pollini C, Credi R, Laghi L, Rocculi P, Rubies Autonell C, Pearson MN, Ratti C (2012) Pelargonium zonate spot virus infecting kiwifruit plants in Italy. Abstract of a paper presented at the 22nd International Conference on virus and other graft transmissible diseases of fruit crops (Rome, 2012-06-03/08), p 27.

CMI/AAB Descriptions of Plant Viruses (1983) *Pelargonium zonate spot virus* no. 272, 4 pp.

Crescenzi A, Vovlas C, Ragozzino A (1992) [Discovery of *Pelargonium zonate spot virus* (PZSV) on tomato in Campania]. *Informatore Fitopatologico* **42**(3), 36-38 (in Italian).

Escriu F, Cambra MA, Luis-Arteaga M (2009) First report of pepper as a natural host for *Pelargonium zonate spot virus* in Spain. *Plant Disease* **93**(12), p 1346.

Gebre-Selassie K, Delecolle B, Gognalons P, Dufour O, Gros C, Cotillon AC, Parrella G, Marchoux G (2002) First report of an isolate of *Pelargonium zonate spot virus* in commercial glasshouse tomato crops in Southeastern France. *Plant Disease* **86**(9), p 1052.

Hanssen IM, Lapidot M, J. Thomma PHJ (2010) Emerging viral diseases of tomato crops. *Molecular Plant-Microbe Interactions* **23**(5), 539–548.

INTERNET

Lapidot M (2013) *Pelargonium zonate spot virus* is transmitted via seed and pollen in tomato. Presentation made at the Tomato Breeder's Round Table 2013-02-06/08, Chiang Mai, Thailand. http://tgc.ifas.ufl.edu/2013/2013/08%20-%20Lapidot.pdf

Lapidot M, Guenoune-Gelbart D, Leibman D, Holdengreber V, Davidovitz M, Machbash Z, Klieman-Shoval S, Cohen S, Gal-On A (2010) *Pelargonium zonate spot virus* is transmitted vertically via seed and pollen in tomato. *Phytopathology* **100**, 798-804.

Liu HY, Sears JL (2007) First report of *Pelargonium zonate spot virus* from tomato in the United States. *Plant Disease* **91**(5), p 633.

Luis-Arteaga M, Cambra MA (2000) First report of natural infection of greenhouse-grown tomato and weed species by *Pelargonium zonate spot virus* in Spain. *Plant Disease* **84**(7), p 807.

NPPO of Italy (2011-10).

Quacquarelli A, Gallitelli D (1979) [Three virus diseases of Pelargonium in Apulia]. *Phytopathologia Mediterranea* **18**, 61-70 (in Italian).

Rana GL, Camele I, Balducci V (1990) *Pelargonium zonate spot* virus in garland chrysanthemum in Apulia. *Informatore Fitopatologico* **40**(7-8), 59-62 (in Italian).

Vovlas C, Gallitelli D, Franco A di (1986) [Epiphytotics of *Pelargonium zonate spot virus* on tomatoes in Apulia]. *Informatore Fitopatologico* **36**(2), 39-41 (in Italian).

Vovlas C, Gallitelli D, Franco A di (1989) [Observations on infections of *Pelargonium zonate spot virus* in tomato]. *Difesa delle Piante* **12**(1-2), 49-55 (in Italian).

Additional key words: distribution list **Computer codes:** PZSV00, ES, FR, IL, IT, US

2013/196 Citrus yellow vein clearing virus, a new *Mandarivirus* associated with the yellow vein clearing disease of citrus

Yellow vein clearing disease was first observed in Pakistan in 1988 in lemon (*Citrus limon*) and sour orange trees (*C. aurantium*). On lemons, symptoms included strong yellow vein clearing, leaf distortion, and occasionally, ringspots and veinal necrosis. The presence of a filamentous virus was consistently observed in symptomatic plants but the identity of the virus remained unknown. In 1997, the disease was observed in several citrus-growing areas of India on different citrus species (Etrog citron (*C. medica* var 'Etrog'), Rangpur lime (*C. x limonia*), sour orange, lemon). Recent reports indicate a rapid spread of the disease in Pakistan and its presence in other countries. In 2000, yellow vein clearing disease was reported from Turkey in lemon and sour orange trees, and in 2009 it was also found in lemon trees in Yunnan, China. Serological, molecular and biological studies now suggest that this disease is caused by a new virus species, belonging to the genus *Mandarivirus*, for which the name Citrus yellow vein clearing virus is proposed.

Source: Loconsole G, Önelge N, Portere O, Giampetruzzi A, Bozan O, Satar S, De Stradis A, Savino V, Yokomi RK, Saponari M (2012) Identification and characterization of *Citrus yellow vein clearing virus*, a putative new member of the genus *Mandarivirus*. *Phytopathology* **102**(12), 1168-1175.

Additional key words: new pest **Computer codes:** CSYV00

2013/197 New additions to the EPPO A1 and A2 Lists

In September 2013, the EPPO Council approved the addition of the following pests to the EPPO A1 and A2 Lists of pests recommended for regulation as quarantine pests.

Addition to the A1 List (pests absent from the EPPO region):

- *Apriona cinerea* (Coleoptera: Cerambycidae)
- *Apriona germari* (Coleoptera: Cerambycidae)
- *Apriona japonica* (Coleoptera: Cerambycidae)
- *Oemona hirta* (Coleoptera: Cerambycidae)

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

- *Baccharis halimifolia* (Asteraceae)
- *Phytophthora kernoviae* (Peronosporaceae)
- *Phytophthora ramorum* (Peronosporaceae)
- *Thaumatotibia leucotreta* (Lepidoptera: Tortricidae)

For each individual pest, a datasheet and PRA documents are being prepared and will be available in due course on the EPPO website.

Source: EPPO Secretariat (2013-09).

Additional key words: EPPO Lists

Computer codes: APRICI, APRIGE, APRIJA, ARGPLE, BACHA, OEMOHI, PHYTKE, PHYTRA

2013/198 PQR - the EPPO database on quarantine pests: new update

PQR - the EPPO database on quarantine pests (geographical distributions, host plants, regulatory status, pathways, and pictures) was updated on 2013-09-12. For users who have already installed PQR on their computers, data update is automatic (when opening PQR, users are asked whether they want to upgrade the database). However, it is important to note that because of their file size, pictures are provided separately and their update is not automatic. New pictures can be downloaded from www.eppo.int/DATABASES/pqr/pqr.htm [click on 'Download Pictures Add-on (~60Mb)'].

The following new items have been added since the previous update (2013-01-21)

- New world distributions: e.g. *Agrilus auroguttatus, Agrilus coxalis, Anisandrus maiche, Apriona cinerea, Apriona germari, Apriona japonica, Bactericera tremblayi, Bactericera trigonica, Corythauma ayyari, Diplodia africana, Ditylenchus gigas, Eoreuma loftini, Hosta virus X, Melon yellow spot virus, Myiopardalis pardalina* (update), *Nematus lipovskyi, Pelargonium zonate spot virus, Pepper chat fruit viroid, Quadrastichus erythrinae, Raspberry latent virus, Takecallis taiwanus.*
- New pest pictures (e.g. *Diplocarpon mali, Drosophila suzukii, Lissorhoptrus oryzophilus, Nematus lipovskyi, Ophiomya kwansonis).*
- All recent data from the EPPO Reporting Service (January to August 2013)

If you have not already installed PQR on your computer, you can download it (free) from the EPPO website: http://www.eppo.int/DATABASES/pqr/pqr.htm

Source: EPPO Secretariat (2013-09).

2013/199 Joint EFSA-EPPO Workshop on 'Data collection and information sharing in plant health' (Parma, IT, 2014-04-01/03)

A joint EFSA-EPPO Workshop will be organized on 2014-04-01/03 at the EFSA headquarters in Parma on 'Data collection and information sharing in plant health'. Data collection is a fundamental element for an evidence based risk assessment and for decision making in plant health. Much risk assessment uncertainty is due to lack of data or to unavailable data. The main objective of this Workshop is to share experiences and reflect on how to collect, store and disseminate plant health information at national, regional and global level. This Workshop is addressed to NPPOs, national and international risk assessment bodies, international organizations, research institutes, agriculture extension services, stakeholders (e.g. growers', manufacturers' and trade associations), or any other parties interested in information aspects of plant health.

More information can be found on the EPPO and EFSA websites:
http://archives.eppo.int/MEETINGS/2014_conferences/efsa-eppo_information.htm
http://www.efsa.europa.eu/fr/events/event/130401.htm

Interested participants are kindly requested to express their interest emailing their **pre-registration and abstract submission form (**to be downloaded from the above websites) by 31 October 2013 to EFSA_EPPO_workshop_2014@efsa.europa.eu

Source: EPPO Secretariat (2013-09).

Additional key words: conference

2013/200 New additions to the EPPO A2 List, List of Invasive Alien Plants and Observation List of Invasive Alien Plants

In September 2013, the EPPO Council approved the addition of *Baccharis halimifolia* (Asteraceae) to the EPPO A2 List of pests recommended for regulation as quarantine pests (pest locally present in the EPPO region). A datasheet, a PRA record and a PRA report are available on the EPPO website.

Furthermore, plant species initially registered on the EPPO Alert List have been assessed against the EPPO prioritization process for invasive alien plants (PM 5/6) and moved to other EPPO lists:

- *Cardiospermum grandiflorum* (Sapindaceae) is now on the EPPO List of Invasive Alien Plants;
- *Asparagus asparagoides* (Asparagaceae) is now on the EPPO Observation List of Invasive Alien Plants;
- *Limnophila sessiliflora* (Plantaginaceae) is now on the EPPO Observation List of Invasive Alien Plants.

A prioritization report is available for each of these species on the EPPO website.

Source: EPPO Secretariat (2013-09)

Additional key words: EPPO Lists **Computer codes:** ASPAS, BACHA, CRIGR, LIOSE

2013/201 New European Union action to address invasive alien species and protect biodiversity

On the 9th of September 2013 the European Commission proposed new legislation to prevent and manage the rapidly growing threat from invasive alien species.
The proposal centres round a list of invasive alien species of concern to the European Union (EU), which will be drawn up with the Member States using risk assessments and scientific evidence. Selected species will be banned from the EU, meaning it will not be possible to import, buy, use, release or sell them. Special measures will be taken to deal with issues arising for traders, breeders or pet owners in the transitional period.
The proposal is for three types of intervention:

- Prevention: Member States will organise checks to prevent the intentional introduction of species of concern. However, many species come into the EU unintentionally, as a contaminant in goods or in containers. Member States will need to take action to spot such pathways and take corrective measures.
- Early warning and rapid response: when Member States detect a species of concern to the EU that is at an early stage of invasion, they will take immediate action to eradicate it.
- Management of established invasive alien species of concern: if species of concern to the EU are already widely spread, Member States will need to put in place measures to minimise the harm they cause.

The proposal encourages a shift towards a harmonized and more preventive approach, increasing efficiency and lowering damage costs and the cost of action over time.

Source: European Commission Website.
http://ec.europa.eu/environment/nature/invasivealien/

Additional key words: invasive alien plants, legislation, EU

2013/202 First report of *Fallopia japonica* in Corse (FR)

Fallopia japonica (Polygonaceae, EPPO List of Invasive Alien Plants) was reported for the first time in Southern Corse (FR) in May 2013. This species is thought to have been introduced as an ornamental plant by a private individual. The species was detected for the first time during a study for the restoration, maintenance, management and development of the Taravo Valley. *F. japonica* is currently only known to occur in the valley of Taravo and is localized on the shores of the Taravo river and its tributary the Fiumicellu.
The National Botanical Conservatory of Corse in collaboration with the local authorities (Conseil Général de Corse du Sud) initiated a control plan for *F. japonica* in August 2013, in the framework of its strategy of early-warning/fast intervention. The aim of this management action is the eradication of this species in Corse.

Source: Laetitia Hugot L & Yohan Petit, Conservatoire Botanique National de Corse.
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Meinard Y, Stenou B & Peraldi A (2013) Funeste complément à la flore de Corse : Présence de *Reynoutria japonica* Houtt., 1977 dans la vallée du Taravo. *In prep*.

Additional key words: invasive alien plants, new record, eradication **Computer codes:** FR, POLCU

2013/203 First report of *Cabomba caroliniana* in Serbia

Cabomba caroliniana (Cabombaceae, EPPO List of Invasive Alien Plants) was found for the first time in Serbia in the canal Vrbas-Bezdan in August 2008 in various locations. In this canal, the species occurred sporadically in small, established populations with an average density of 42 stems per m^2 in Sombor. The species also occurred in Mali Stapar, and the species was found in very dense populations both upstream and downstream of the sluice gates, where average population density was 151 stems per m^2. Additional populations were found later in the canal Bečej-Bogojevo in Odžaci. In all these sites, *C. caroliniana* does not appear to be established as it does not survive the winter. No flowering plant could be found, and it is assumed that in Serbia, *C. caroliniana* propagates exclusively by stem fragments.
Two possible pathways of entry of *C. caroliniana* are suggested. It is suspected that its presence in the Vrbas-Bezdan canal is due to individuals discarding aquarium plants. It is also suspected that stem fragments spread from areas of the canal network in Hungary where it has been recorded since 1995, in particular from the river Plazovič. The behaviour of *C. caroliniana* in Serbia needs to be monitored to assess its potential impacts.

Source: Vukov D, Jurca T, Rućando M, Igić R & Miljanivić B (2013) *Cabomba caroliniana* A. Gray 1837 – A new, alien and potentially invasive species in Serbia. *Archives of Biological Sciences* **65**, 1515-1520

Additional key words: invasive alien plants, new record **Computer codes:** CABCA, RS

2013/204 First report of *Ophraella communa* in Italy on *Ambrosia artemisiifolia*

Ophraella communa (Coleoptera: Galerucinae) is recorded for the first time in Europe, in Italy. This species originates from the Nearctic region and is reported in China, the Republic of Korea, Japan and Taiwan. *O. communa* is an oligophagous insect that is reported to feed on some members of Asteraceae family, Heliantheae tribe.
Ambrosia artemisiifolia (Asteraceae, EPPO List of Invasive Alien Plants) is an invasive alien plant with high negative impacts reported on spring-sown crops (especially sunflower) and on human health (due to its highly allergenic pollen). Outbreaks of *O. communa* and damage to *A. artemisiifolia* were observed over a large area including Bergamo, Como, Cremona, Lecco, Lodi, Milano, Novara e Vercelli, Pavia and Varese. *O. communa* has been considered as a potential biological control agent against *A. artemisiifolia* for introduction into Australia and the species is successfully used as a biological control agent in China and in other countries. *O. communa* may therefore represent a biological control agent for *A. artemisiifolia* in Europe.

Source: Boriani M, Calvi M, Taddei A, Tantardini A, Cavagna B, Spadoni Andreani F, Montagna M, Bonini M, Lommen S & Müller-Schärer H (2013) *Ophraella communa* segnalata in Italia su *Ambrosia*. *L'Informatore agrario* **34**, p 61. [In Italian].

NPPO of Italy (2013-09).

Additional key words: new record, biological control **Computer codes:** AMBEL, OPHLCO, IT

2013/205 Outcomes of the 1st Mediterranean Workshop on *Solanum elaeagnifolium*, Thessaloniki (GR), 2013-07-04/06,

The 1st Mediterranean workshop on *Solanum elaeagnifolium* (Solanaceae, EPPO A2 List) held on 2013-07-04/06 in Thessaloniki (GR) was co-organized by the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) and the Perrotis College, American Farm School. Fifteen participants from 10 countries attended the meeting (Albania, Bulgaria, France, Greece, Italy, Jordan, Lebanon, Morocco, Turkey and the USA). From the presentations made during the workshop, it was highlighted that *S. elaeagnifolium* is spreading very rapidly in the Mediterranean region and the Middle East.
A task force of 6 countries is currently preparing a proposal for further studies on the species and possible methods of control. The Food and Agriculture Organization is involved in this proposal which is also open to other countries.

Source: Javid Kashefi, European Biological Control Laboratory
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Additional key words: invasive alien plants, workshop **Computer codes:** SOLEL

2013/206 Israel's list of least wanted alien ornamental plant species

A list of the least wanted alien ornamental plants in Israel has been prepared for use by landscape architects, gardeners, environmentalists, ecologists, foresters and the general public.
The list allows users to check whether an alien plant species has a high invasive potential in Israel and may pose a threat to local ecosystems, in order to dissuade people from using it in planting and landscaping projects. The main objective of the list is to prevent the use of plants that might become invasive in natural ecosystems in Israel's various regions.
The list includes 141 species which are considered to have high invasive potential for Israel, of which 45 are not observed in Israel, 48 are introduced in Israel but not observed outside the places in which they are grown/planted, 17 are casual, 8 are naturalized and 23 are currently exhibiting invasive behaviour.

Source: Dufour-Dror JM (2013) Israel's least wanted alien ornamental plant species. Ornamental plants potentially invasive in Israel's natural ecosystems. 19 p. http://www.sviva.gov.il/English/env_topics/biodiversity/Documents/InvasiveSpecies-July2013.pdf

Additional key words: invasive alien plants, horticulture **Computer codes:** IL

2013/207 Organization of training courses on biological invasions in Reunion Island (FR)

A 3-day training course on biological invasions was organized on 3 to 5 June 2013 by Reunion University (Université de la Réunion) for the members of the 'Groupe Espèces Invasives Réunion' and was open to partners in the Indian Ocean area (Comores, Madagascar, Mauritius, Mayotte, Seychelles). The aim of this training course was to allow the transfer of recent scientific knowledge through presentations and discussions undertaken by experts on this issue.

Source: Groupe Espèces Invasives de la Réunion, Ecole thématique sur les invasions biologiques. http://www.especesinvasives.re/evenements/a-la-reunion/article/ecole-thematique-sur-les-invasions

Additional key words: invasive alien plants, training course **Computer codes:** FR

2013/208 Outcomes of the IUCN conference 'Invasive alien species: the urban dimension', Geneva (CH), 2013-09-05

Following the recent publication of a compilation of case studies on Invasive Alien Species (IAS) in urban areas, the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) held a conference where some of these case studies were presented and discussed. As metropolitan areas are particularly vulnerable to IAS and serve as entry pathways, the key objective of the event was to analyse the issue of IAS from an urban perspective to understand the challenges which cities face and present solutions.
The following case studies targeted invasive alien plants in urban areas:

- The management of *Solidago gigantea* (Asteraceae, EPPO List of Invasive Alien Plants) in the greater Vienna area, which consisted in monitoring of the species in protected riparian areas and management experiments;
- The implementation of a Code of conduct on horticulture and invasive alien plants in Belgium conducted through communication actions (e.g. articles in press, TV or radio broadcasts, etc.);
- The monitoring of invasive alien plants in the Maksimir Park in Croatia, situated near Zagreb, through data collection and analysis of 23 species with their spatial pattern and frequency;
- A study on urban private gardens and spread of invasive plant species in the Czech Republic;
- Monitoring of *Heracleum mantegazzianum* (Apiaceae, EPPO List of IAP) in the Keila municipality in Estonia;
- The management of invasive alien plants in aquatic and riparian habitats in the urban Dublin area, in particular of *Heracleum mantegazzianum* and *Impatiens glandulifera* (Balsaminaceae, EPPO List of IAP);
- The control of *Carpobrotus edulis* (Aizoaceae, EPPO List of IAP) in Dublin;
- The removal of invasive alien plants in Vila Nova de Gaia in Portugal: *Carpobrotus edulis*, *Cortaderia selloana* (Poaceae, EPPO List of IAP), *Crocosmia x croscosmiiflora* (Iridaceae) and *C. aurea x C. pottsii* and *Tradescantia fluminensis* (Commelinaceae);
- The management of *Ambrosia artemisiifolia* (Asteraceae, EPPO List of IAP) in Geneva, Switzerland;
- The control of *Fallopia japonica* (Polygonaceae, EPPO List of IAP) in the city and county of Swansea in the United Kingdom, and in Geneva in Switzerland.

The discussions held during the conference allowed the drafting of recommendations which address voluntary and legislative instruments to combat IAS, communication strategies for IAS as well as financing actions on IAS.

Source: Outcomes of the IUCN conference 'Invasive alien species: the urban dimension' held in Geneva (CH) on 2013-09-05.
http://www.iucn.org/news_homepage/news_by_date/?13588/Invasive-alien-species-the-urban-dimension

Additional key words: invasive alien plants

Computer codes: AU, BE, CH, CZ, EE, HR, IE, PT, UK, AMBEL, CBSED, CDTSE, HERMZ, IPAGL, POLCU, SOOGI, TRAFL, TTRCR,

2013/209 International workshop on invasive alien species in agricultural and non-agricultural areas in the ESENIAS Region, Çanakkale (TR), 2013-12-16/17

The 4th ESENIAS (South and East European Network on Invasive Alien Species) workshop, entitled 'International Workshop on Invasive Alien Species (IAS) in Agricultural and Non-Agricultural Areas in ESENIAS Region' will be held on 2013-12-16/17 at Çanakkale Onsekiz Mart University, in Çanakkale (TR).
The Workshop will bring together representatives of ESENIAS, as well as experts on environmental management and pest control from national and regional environmental and agricultural departments and ministries, the scientific community and other organizations working with IAS to:

- Share information on IAS in agricultural and non-agricultural areas and related initiatives carried out at the regional level, such as national or local monitoring

schemes, risk assessments, control and eradication projects, management plans and national strategies, citizen activities and responsibilities;
- Follow up on the work plan of the ESENIAS network, which was prepared in the previous meeting;
- Discuss the proposed EU Regulation on IAS management;
- Continue to follow requirements of CBD 2020 strategy and review developments in the region;
- Seek further improvement of cooperation.

Registration is open till the 31st of October 2013.

Source: ESENIAS (East and South European Network for Invasive Alien Species) Website http://www.esenias.org/

Additional key words: invasive alien plants, conference **Computer codes:** TR