



EUROPEAN COMMISSION

HEALTH AND CONSUMERS DIRECTORATE-GENERAL

**SUMMARY REPORT OF THE MEETING OF THE
STANDING COMMITTEE ON PLANT HEALTH HELD ON
22-23 SEPTEMBER 2009**

Chair: Ms. Dorothee André for points 3 and 6. Mr. Harry Arijs for the other points.

All Member States (MS) present, except EE . Switzerland was present as observer.

1. MISCELLANEOUS.

The Netherlands announced that traces of *Anoplophora chinensis* were detected on *Cornus* sp. and *Crataegus* sp. plants; appropriate measures have been taken.

Sweden notified the finding of two adult living beetles of *Anoplophora glabripennis* in ISPM 15 marked wooden pallets of Chinese origin. Phytosanitary measures, identification and tracing-back surveys are in place.

The United Kingdom announced ten outbreaks of *Tuta absoluta* and notified a large number of interceptions in packing stations. A suppression campaign combined with eradication measures will be continued at the places of production. In addition the United Kingdom reported a new single outbreak of *Columnea latent viroid* on tomato and the spread of the non-regulated blueberry gall midge *Dasineura oxycoccana* in blueberry crops.

Further to an earlier report the United Kingdom announced that a population of Siberian pine moth *Dendrolimus pini* has been established in Scotland and that recent laboratory data suggest that *Phytophthora ramorum* has been isolated from both stem and foliar infections of *Larix decidua*, which should be considered as a new host.

France notified the detection of *Gibberella circinata* (pitch canker anam. *Fusarium circinatum*) in pine trees possibly originating from contaminated pine seed. In addition France announced that the recently increased findings of *Diabrotica virgifera virgifera* adults suggest that a new eradication strategy should be considered.

Greece announced the first finding of *Diabrotica virgifera virgifera* in four different maize producing areas of North Greece.

Slovenia informed the Committee on the first findings of *Rhynchophorus ferrugineus* on *Phoenix dactylifera* and *Phoenix canariensis*, of *Tuta absoluta* on a tomato producing area and of *Monilinia fructicola* in a peach orchard.

Germany announced two findings of *Anoplophora chinensis*; the first in the area of Berlin and the second in Hessen probably deriving from neighboring imported *Acer palmatum* plants. Additionally two new outbreaks of *Diabrotica virgifera virgifera* were observed in Baden-Württemberg and in Bavaria.

2. PRESENTATION BY THE EUROPEAN FOOD SAFETY AUTHORITY (EFSA) OF THE SCIENTIFIC OPINION ON THE UK PEST RISK ANALYSIS OF *THAUMETOPOEA PROCESSIONEA*, FOLLOWED BY A DISCUSSION.

European Food Safety Authority (Plant Health Panel) presented its scientific opinion on the UK pest risk analysis of *Thaumetopoea processionea* (oak processionary moth), as well as its assessment on the risk posed by this organism to plant health in the rest of the Community. EFSA also identified and evaluated potential risk management options. The presentation was followed by a discussion on EFSA's scientific opinion. The Commission (SANCO E.1) indicated that it will reflect on the views expressed by the Member States during this discussion to decide on further steps to take.

3. FOLLOW-UP DISCUSSION ON THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE EMERGENCY MEASURES AGAINST *ANOPLOPHORA CHINENSIS* LAID DOWN IN DECISION 2008/840/EC AS REGARDS IMPORTS FROM CHINA.

The Commission (SANCO E.1) informed the Committee of the results of a videoconference held with Chinese plant health authorities on 18 September 2009 as regards the application of EU emergency measures for CLB laid down in Decision 2008/840/EC. During that conference, the Chinese authorities described the plant health measures put in place to improve the control of CLB in the production of susceptible plants destined for export to the EU. The Chinese authorities also informed the Commission that a short list of registered nurseries allowed to export susceptible plants to the EU had been established. The Commission informed the Committee that the issue would be further discussed in the next SCPH, on the basis of written information from China to be provided for end September.

4. DISCUSSION ON THE CONTROLS OF PINE WOOD NEMATODE (PWN) ON EU TERRITORY ON THE BASIS OF:

- **A PRESENTATION BY THE FOOD AND VETERINARY OFFICE (FVO) OF THE OVERVIEW OF THE 2008 MONITORING RESULTS BY MEMBER STATES;**
- **A PRESENTATION BY PORTUGAL OF THE 2008 PWN MONITORING RESULTS IN THE DEMARCATED AREA;**
- **AN OVERVIEW BY PORTUGAL OF THE ONGOING ROAD CONTROLS;**
- **A REPORT BY THE COMMISSION OF THE WORKING GROUP MEETING ON 8-9 JUNE 2009 CONCERNING PWN CONTROLS IN THE EU;**

- **AN OVERVIEW BY THE COMMISSION OF THE REPLIES FROM MEMBER STATES ON THE COMMISSION REQUEST OF 15 JUNE 2009 FOR INFORMATION ON THE NATIONAL PWN PROGRAMMES.**

The Commission (SANCO F.4) presented the monitoring results of the Member States for 2008. Portugal presented its monitoring results in the demarcated area and in the buffer zone with Spain; it will provide the Commission and the Member States with a full report after completion of the 2009 campaign. On the basis of the intensive monitoring reports, it was concluded that the spread of PWN remains limited to Portugal and that the rest of the EU keeps its status as pest free. Portugal presented the outcome of its weekly controls on movements of susceptible materials out of the demarcated area. Portugal clarified that intercepted non-marked wood packaging material was not allowed to leave the demarcated area, up to 31 December 2009 with the exception of pallet pools. From the information it was concluded that the supervision on the movements of susceptible wood in Portugal has improved. The Commission (SANCO E.1) presented the report of the Working Group on plant health issues in forestry concerning its meeting of 8-9 June 2009. An updated version of the EU protocol for pine wood nematode monitoring, developed by the Working Group and amended according to the Member States' subsequent comments, was presented. An overview of the Member States' plans for PWN surveillance in their forests, at import and in relation to movements from continental Portugal was presented and discussed.

5. DISCUSSION ON THE REQUEST FROM AUSTRALIA TO BE RECOGNIZED AS A COUNTRY FREE FROM *XANTHOMONAS CAMPESTRIS*, BACTERIAL CAUSE OF CITRUS CANCKER.

The Commission (SANCO E.1) presented the dossier submitted by Australia in support of its request. It was concluded that more information from Australia regarding their citrus canker related survey activities since 2005-2006 was needed. The Committee will continue in its deliberations once that additional information becomes available in one of its forthcoming meetings.

6. FOLLOW-UP DISCUSSION ON THE IMPORT OF EGYPTIAN POTATOES IN RELATION TO DECISION 2004/4/EC AND THE DOSSIER FOR THE UPCOMING SEASON.

The Commission (SANCO F.4) presented the various interceptions, the basins from which they had originated and the measures taken by Egypt. As for the documentary non-compliances, the Member States were requested to liaise with Egypt concerning these. The Commission (SANCO E.1) recalled that, as a follow-up to the discussion in the July meeting of the SCPH, Egypt had been notified that further imports of ware potatoes are prohibited for the remainder of the 2008-2009 season. On 17 September 2009, a meeting of Commission services with Egypt had taken place to discuss the actions taken and additional guarantees proposed by Egypt. A mission of the FVO to Egypt will take place in early 2010. The Member States welcomed the action taken by the Commission. A draft Decision for re-opening the EU for the 2009-2010 import season which will be presented to the SCPH on 19-20 October 2009 was discussed. In addition, a first discussion took place on the list of PFAs for next

season, in particular the ones that were banned during the previous import season.

7. PRESENTATION BY THE FVO AND DISCUSSION ON THE RESULTS OF THE 2008 MONITORING CAMPAIGNS BY MEMBER STATES FOR THE DETECTION OF *PSEUDOMONAS SOLANACEARUM* AND *CLAVIBACTER MICHIGANENSIS* SPP. *SEPEDONICUS* ON POTATOES.

The Commission (SANCO F.4) presented a report of the results of the official surveys carried out by Member States with regards to potato brown rot (*Pseudomonas solanacearum*) and potato ring rot (*Clavibacter michiganensis* ssp. *sepedonicus*) conducted on tubers of potatoes harvested in 2007, originating in or moved/imported into their countries, in application of Council Directives 93/85/EEC (control of potato ring rot) and 98/57/EC (control of potato brown rot) respectively. Member States welcomed this report. Additional information was supplied by Member States on the situation in their respective countries. From the reports it was concluded that the monitoring campaigns for brownrot and ringrot in Member States remain extensive and that outbreaks are under strict control.

8. PRESENTATION BY THE UK AND DISCUSSION ON A REQUEST FOR A DEROGATION FOR THE IMPORT OF CITRUS FRUIT FOR PROCESSING UNDER A PHYTOSANITARY SYSTEMS APPROACH.

The UK presented their request for a derogation. It was clarified that the request concerns import of citrus fruit from southern hemisphere for processing for premium grade fresh orange juice. Because of a lack of time the Committee decided to discuss the request in one of its forthcoming meetings.

9. DISCUSSION ON THE TERMS OF REFERENCE FOR FUTURE MEETINGS OF THE EXPERT WORKING GROUP FOR UPDATING THE TECHNICAL ANNEXES OF DIRECTIVE 2000/29/EC.

The Commission (SANCO E.1) intends to reconvene in the near future the expert Working Group on the Annexes of Council Directive 2000/29/EC. The Commission (SANCO E.1) presented for discussion draft Terms of Reference and Rules of Procedure for this Working Group, and it will reflect on the comments made by the Member States to further develop these documents. The Commission (SANCO E.1) requested the Member States to submit by 15 November 2009 nominations for experts who could participate in the Annexes Working Group.