Plant Pest Risk Assessment: EFSA’s role

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Joint conference
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The regulatory context of plant health

- Council Directive 2000/29/EC on protective measures against introduction into the Community of organisms harmful to plants and plant products and against their spread within the Community

- Sanitary and Phytosanitary Agreement (WTO SPS)

- International Plant Protection Convention (FAO IPPC)

RISK ASSESSMENT
EFSA’s Mission [Reg. 178/2002, art 22.5(b)]:

“... provision of scientific opinions on other matters relating to animal health and welfare and plant health” (art 22.5 (b) )
EFSA’s Tasks [Reg. 178/2002, art. 23]:

- to provide ... best possible scientific opinions ...
- to promote and coordinate development of uniform risk assessment methodologies ...
- to commission scientific studies necessary for the accomplishment of its mission;
- to search for, collect, collate, analyse and summarise scientific and technical data...
- to undertake action to identify and characterise emerging risks...
- to ensure that the public and interested parties receive rapid, reliable, objective and comprehensible information ...
EFSA’s core values & guiding principles

- Risk assessment separated from risk management
- Independence
- Scientific excellence
- Transparency and openness
- Responsiveness
• Created Dir. 575/2006

• Recognition PLH essential factor in food chain

**The mandate:** to provide scientific opinions on risks related to plant health in order to help secure the safety of the food chain

• **Scientific excellence:**
  - 21 permanent members
  - external experts on specific issues
  - selected in open call
  - knowledge, expertise & skills in plh related fields

• I term ➔ 2006-2009
• II term ➔ 2009-2012
Risks presented by non-indigenous living organisms harmful to plants and/or plant products that are associated with the movement of plants or plant products and which may enter, establish, spread and cause harmful effects on plants and/or plant products and biodiversity.

The range of the organisms of concern includes:

- plant pathogenic microorganisms (viruses, bacteria, fungi and other yet unidentified pathogenic agents)
- phytophagous invertebrates
- parasitic plants
- weeds
EFSA PLH: Achievements

- 40 opinions (on request from the Commission)
- 2 guidance documents
- Scientific colloquium on phytosanitary risk assessment
- Scientific events and publications
- 21 plenary meetings
EFSA PLH: Example opinions

- **DOM PRAs [30 opinions]**
  (evaluation of documents prepared by France on organisms considered harmful for citrus and banana in French Overseas Departments of French Guiana, Guadeloupe, Martinique and Reunion)

- **Citrus Black Spot [The EFSA Journal (2008) 925]**
  (evaluation of pest risk assessment and additional supporting evidence prepared by South Africa on *Guignardia citricarpa* Kiely)

- **Oak Processionary Moth [The EFSA Journal (2008) 1195]**
  (evaluation of a PRA prepared by the UK on *Thaumetopoea processionea* L. and extension of the scope to the EU territory)

- **Oriental Chestnut Gall Wasp *Dryocosmus kuriphilus* Yasumatsu [EFSA-Q-2009-00677]**
  (evaluation of risk to plant health within the EU territory)

- Guidance document on a harmonised framework for pest risk assessment and the evaluation of pest risk management options by EFSA

public consultation
deadline: 02 October 2009
EFSA PLH: Collaboration with Member States

- **Art 36 projects**
  - 2 on-going
  - 1 launched

- **Special Advisory Forum on PLH**
PRASSIS
Pest risk assessment in the European Community: inventory of data sources

MO-PEST
Models for pest’s epidemiology: review, documentation and evaluation for pest risk analysis

Call for proposal – Pest risk assessment for the European Community on plant health:
A comparative approach with case studies

Deadline 2 October 2009
Meetings:

- **1st annual meeting, 8-9 October 2008**
  [Link](http://www.efsa.europa.eu/EFSA/efsa_locale-1178620753812_1211902107736.htm)

- **2nd annual meeting Parma, 22-23 October 2009**
1. Provision of high-quality, independent and transparent scientific advice for decision making in the EU

i. Opinions by request from the Commission, European Parliament and Member States on organisms harmful to plants or plant products
   o Evaluation of PRA documents
   o Extension to EU territory
   o Assessment of plh risks

ii. Development of internal guidance documents to ensure high quality, consistency and transparency of the scientific outputs
2. Contribution to further development of science-based approach for pest risk assessment in the EU in close collaboration with Member States

i. Further development of methodologies
ii. Responsiveness in emergency situations
iii. Scientific support for EU surveillance programmes, diagnostics and analysis of data
3. Communication and collaboration

   i. EU Risk managers (Commission, SCPH)
   ii. MS Risk assessors (networking)
   iii. European consumer
   iv. Scientific community
   v. International organisations incl. EPPO
B + B = B
Thank you for your attention!

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