Scientific Panel on Plant Health (PLH)

Minutes of the 73rd Plenary meeting

16 May & 17 May; 2018, Parma, (Italy)

16 May 2018 from 09:00 to 18:00
17 May 2018 from 09:00 to 13:00
Meeting room: EFSA – MO9

(Agreed with written procedure, 08 June 2018)

Participants

- Panel Members
  Claude Bragard, David Caffier, Elisavet Chatzivassiliou, Katharina Dehnen-Schmutz, Gianni Gilioli, Jean-Claude Gregoire, Josep Jaques Miret, Michael Jeger, Alan MacLeod, Maria Navajas, Björn Niere, Stephen Parnell, Roel Potting, Trond Rafoss (by web), Vittorio Rossi, Gregor Urek, Ariena Van Bruggen, Wopke van der Werf (by web), Jonathan West, & Stephan Winter
- Hearing experts:
  Muriel Suffert (European and Mediterranean Plant Protection Organisation – EPPO) (participated by web-conference)
- European Commission representatives:
  Maria Mirazchiyska (DG SANTE) (participated by web-conference)
- EFSA:
  ALPHA Unit: Ramona Ciubotaru, Ewelina Czwienczek, Alice Delbianco, Franco Ferilli, Ciro Gardi, Tomasz Kaluski, Virag Kertesz, Svetla Kozelska, Andrea Maiorano, Maria Rosaria Mannino, Joshua Oyedele, Marco Pautasso, Giuseppe Stancanelli, Emanuela Tacci, Sara Tramontini, Sybren Vos

  SCER Unit: Bernard Bottex

1. Welcome and apologies for absence

The Chair welcomed the participants. Apologies were received from Thierry Candresse

2. Adoption of the agenda

The agenda was adopted without changes.

3. Declarations of Interest of Scientific Panel Members

In accordance with EFSA's Policy on Independence and Scientific Decision-Making Processes and the Decision of the Executive Director on Declarations of Interest, EFSA screened the Annual Declarations of Interest and the Specific Declarations of Interest filled in by the Panel Members invited for the present meeting. No Conflicts of Interest related to the issues discussed in this meeting have been identified during the screening process.

4. Report on written procedures since the 72nd meeting

4.1. Report on the agreement with written procedure of the minutes of the 72nd Plenary minutes

The minutes of the 72nd PLH Plenary meeting were agreed by written procedure on 17 April 2018 and published on the EFSA webpage on the same date: https://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/event/180321-m.pdf

5. New Mandates

No new mandates were received

6. Scientific outputs submitted for discussion and/or possible adoption

6.1. Scientific Opinion on pest categorisation of *Glomerella gossypii* (EFSA-Q-2017-00372)

Following a request from the European Commission, the EFSA Panel on Plant Health (PLH) performed a pest categorisation of *Colletotrichum gossypii*, the fungal agent of anthracnose and ramulosis diseases of cotton, for the European Union (EU). The identity of the pest is well established and reliable methods exist for its detection/identification. The pest is present in most of the cotton-growing areas worldwide, including Bulgaria and Romania in the EU. *Colletotrichum gossypii* is listed as *Glomerella gossypii* in Annex IIB of Directive 2000/29/EC and is not known to occur in Greece, which is a protected zone (PZ). The only hosts are *Gossypium* species, with *G. hirsutum* and *G. barbadense* being the most susceptible. The pest could potentially enter the PZ on cotton seeds originating in infested third countries or EU infested areas. Entry into PZ by natural means from EU infested areas is possible, although there is uncertainty on the maximum distance the pest can travel by wind or insects. Bolls and unginned cotton are minor pathways of entry. Pest distribution and climate matching suggest that the pest could establish and spread in cotton-producing areas of northern Greece. In the infested areas, the pest causes damping-off, leaf/boll spotting, boll rot, witches' broom symptoms and stunting resulting in yield and quality losses. It affects also the lint and seeds reducing fibres quality and seed germinability. It is expected that its introduction and spread in the EU PZ would impact cotton yield and quality. The agricultural practices and control methods currently applied in Greece would not prevent pest establishment and spread. *Colletotrichum gossypii* meets all the criteria assessed by EFSA for consideration as potential quarantine pest for the EU PZ of Greece. The criteria for considering *C. gossypii* as a potential Union regulated non-quarantine pest are also met since cotton seeds are the main means of spread.

The opinion was adopted by the Panel on 17 May 2018.

6.2. Scientific Opinion on pest categorisation of Enarmonia packardi (EFSA-Q-2018-00020)

Following a request from the European Commission, the EFSA Panel on Plant Health (PLH) performed a pest categorisation of *Grapholita packardi* Zeller, (Lepidoptera: Tortricidae), for the European Union (EU). *G. packardi* is a well-defined and distinguishable species. It is widely distributed in the USA and has a restricted distribution in Canada and Mexico. It is recognised as a pest of blueberry and cherry and has occasionally been reported in apple, pear and plum. It is cited on quince and wild rosaceous plants such as *Crataegus*. Larvae feed on blueberry and cherry fruits internally and overwinter in pruned twigs. External evidence of infestation of cherries by young larvae is occasionally not detectable. In apple, fruit damage is less common; rather, the pest bores into terminal shoots of nursery stock and young orchard trees. Feeding damage spoils fruit quality and marketability and reduces crop yield. *G. packardi* is not known to occur in the EU and is listed in Annex IIAI of Council Directive 2000/29/EC under the synonym *Enarmonia packardi*. Host plants for planting and infested fruit could potentially provide a pathway into the EU. Considering the climatic similarities between North America and Europe, and that wild and commercial host occur widely within the EU, *G. packardi* has the potential to establish within the EU. There would be one to three generations per year, as in North America. Based on literature, blueberries and cherries are likely to be impacted more than apples and pears. Phytosanitary measures are available to reduce the likelihood of introduction of *G. packardi*. All criteria assessed by EFSA for consideration as a potential Union quarantine pest are met. As *G. packardi* is not known to occur in the EU, this criterion assessed by EFSA to consider it as a Union regulated non-quarantine pest is not met.

The opinion was adopted by the Panel on 17 May 2018.

6.3. Scientific Opinion on pest categorisation of Guignardia laricina (EFSA-Q-2018-00032)

Following a request from the European Commission, the EFSA Panel on Plant Health performed a pest categorisation of *Guignardia laricina*, a well-defined and distinguishable fungal species of the family Phyllostictaceae. The pathogen is regulated in Council Directive 2000/29/EC (Annex IAI) as a harmful organism whose introduction into the EU is banned. *G. laricina* is native to East Asia and causes a shoot blight disease of *Larix* spp. Major hosts of *G. laricina* are European larch (*L. decidua*) and two North American larch species (*L. laricina* (tamarack), and *L. occidentalis* (Western larch)). *Larix kaempferi* (Japanese larch) is reported as susceptible. The only other host in nature is Douglas fir (*Pseudotsuga menziesii*), which is reported as an incidental host, but various other conifers have been reported as susceptible following artificial inoculation, including *Picea abies*. The fungus is not known to occur in the EU but could enter via plants for planting (including artificially dwarfed plants) and cut branches of *Larix* spp. It could establish in the EU, as hosts are present and climatic conditions are favourable. The pathogen would be able to spread following establishment by natural

dissemination of ascospores and pycnospores and by human movement of infected plants for planting. Should the pathogen be introduced in the EU, impacts can be expected in larch forests, plantations and nurseries, leading to reduced tree growth and ecosystem service provision. The key uncertainties concern the current distribution and level of impacts in the native range of the pathogen. The criteria assessed by the Panel for consideration as a potential quarantine pest are met. As the pest is not present in the EU, not all criteria for consideration as a regulated non-quarantine pest, are met.

The opinion was adopted by the Panel on the 17 May 2018.

6.4. Scientific Opinion on pest categorisation of *Coniferiporia weirii* and *Coniferiporia sulphurascens* (EFSA-Q-2018-00033)

Following a request from the European Commission, the EFSA Panel on Plant Health performed a pest categorisation of *Coniferiporia weirii* and *Coniferiporia sulphurascens*, two well-defined and distinguishable fungal species of the family Hymenochaetaceae. The pathogens are regulated in Council Directive 2000/29/EC (Annex IAI, under the previous name Inonotus weirii for both species) as a harmful organism whose introduction into the EU is banned. The two pathogens are native to North America, where *C. sulphurascens* causes laminated root rot primarily in Douglas fir (*Pseudotsuga menziesii*) and grand fir (Abies grandis), whilst C. weirii causes cedar laminated root and butt rot mainly in cedars (*Thuja plicata* and *Cupressus nootkatensis*). *C. weirii* has been reported from Japan and China, and *C. sulphurascens* from China, Russia and Turkey. Neither species has been reported from the EU. *C. sulphurascens* may infect all conifers, whilst *C. weirii* is reported to mainly cause disease in tree species of *Thuja* spp. and *Cupressus* spp. The two pathogens could enter the EU mainly via wood with bark, isolated bark and plants for planting (including bonsai) of Pinaceae and Cupressaceae. Both fungi could establish in the EU, as hosts are present and climatic conditions are favourable. The two pathogens would be able to spread following establishment by the pathways mentioned for entry and also by dissemination of basidiospores and root contact with infected root/wood. Should the pathogen be introduced in the EU, impacts can be expected on coniferous woodlands, plantations and ornamental trees, thus leading to reduced tree growth and ecosystem service provision. The key uncertainties concern (i) the distribution of the two pathogens in Asia, (ii) the level of susceptibility of conifers native to Europe and (iii) the role of plants for planting as a pathway of entry and spread. For both pathogens, the criteria assessed by the Panel for consideration as a potential quarantine pest are met. As the two pests are not present in the EU, not all the criteria for consideration as regulated non-quarantine pests are met.

The opinion was adopted by the Panel on 17 May 2018.

6.5. Scientific Opinion on pest categorisation of *Dendrolimus sibiricus* (EFSA-Q-2017-00374)

Following a request from the European Commission, the EFSA Panel on Plant Health (PLH) performed a pest categorisation

The Panel on Plant Health performed a pest categorisation of the Siberian moth, *Dendrolimus sibiricus* Tschetverikov (Lepidoptera: Lasiocampidae). *D. sibiricus* is well-defined and distinguishable species, native to Asian Russia and northern regions of Kazakhstan, Mongolia, China and North Korea, and recognized as a severe pest of Pinaceae conifers, mainly larch (*Larix* spp.), fir (*Abies* spp.), spruce (*Picea* spp.), five-needle pines (*Pinus* spp.). It has also a potential to develop on non-native Pinaceae: *Cedrus*, *Pseudotsuga*, *Tsuga*. It defoliates healthy trees and kills thousands of hectares of forests. It is absent from the EU and is listed as a quarantine pest in Annex IAI of Directive 2000/29/EC. Plants for planting, branches of conifers and non-squared wood from its distribution range are considered as pathways for the pest, which can also disperse by flight over tens of kilometers. The females produce sex pheromones. Adults do not feed and can survive for about two weeks. One female lays up to 400 eggs, attaching them to needles. One generation usually develops in 2-3 years, with larvae passing winter diapause and some undergoing facultative summer diapause. Exceptionally, one-year generations may occur if the number of degree-days above 10°C is higher than 2200. Larvae feed on needles through 5-6 instars and pupate in a cocoon on tree branches. Mature larvae have urticating setae on thoracic segments that protect them from enemies and may cause allergic reactions in humans and animals. The contradictory studies regarding the climatic requirements of D. *sibiricus* make the issue of its establishment in most of the EU territory uncertain, although its host trees are widely present. All criteria for considering *D. sibiricus* as a potential quarantine pest are met. The species is presently absent from the EU, and thus the criteria for consideration as a potential regulated non-quarantine pest are not met.

The opinion was adopted by the Panel on 17 May 2018.

6.6. Scientific Opinion on pest categorisation of *Pissodes spp* (EFSA-Q-2017-00626)

Following a request from the European Commission, the EFSA Panel on Plant Health (PLH) performed a pest categorisation

The Panel on Plant Health performed a pest categorisation of the non-EU *Pissodes* spp. (Coleoptera: Curculionidae). They constitute a well-defined taxon, with non-EU species distributed in the USA, Canada, Mexico, Guatemala, El Salvador, China, Japan, Korea, Russia and South Africa, some of which are recognized as severe pests of conifers, mainly *Pinus* spp. and *Picea* spp, or vector pathogens. The immature stages either live in the phloem and cambium of healthy, weakened or dead trees, or in the terminal shoots of living trees. They are listed as quarantine pests in Annex IAI of Directive 2000/29/EC. Plants for planting, branches of

conifers and non-squared wood are considered as pathways. The pest can also disperse by hitchhiking, and fly over kilometres. The adults are long-lived (up to 4 years). They feed by puncturing the bark of stems or shoots. Females lay eggs in chewed-out cavities in the bark. The life cycle varies with species and local climatic conditions. At the end of the larval stage, the larva excavates a pupal cell between the sapwood and the bark, in the sapwood or in terminal shoots. *Pissodes* spp. overwinter as adults in the litter or as larvae or teneral adults in the galleries or pupal cells. The current geographic range of the non-European *Pissodes* spp. suggests that many of them may establish in the EU territory, where their hosts are widely present. We list some species which, if introduced to the EU, would most probably have an economic impact on plantations or may interfere with forest ecosystem processes although they are mainly abundant and damaging in intensively managed monocultures. All criteria for considering those non-EU *Pissodes* spp. as potential quarantine pests are met. The criteria for considering them as non-regulated quarantine pests are not met because they are absent from the EU territory.

The opinion was adopted by the Panel on 17 May 2018.

6.7. Scientific Opinion on pest categorisation of *Curtobacterium flaccumfaciens* pv. *flaccumfaciens* (EFSA-Q-2017-00625)

Following a request from the European Commission, the EFSA Panel on Plant Health performed a pest categorization of the seed-borne bacterium *Curtobacterium flaccumfaciens* pv. *flaccumfaciens*. The pest is regulated in Council Directive 2000/29/EC (Annex IIB) as a harmful organism whose introduction into, and spread within, the protected zones (PZ) of Greece, Portugal and Spain shall be banned if present on seeds of *Phaseolus vulgaris* and of *Dolichos*. The bacterium is widely distributed outside the EU and causes a systemic vascular disease (bacterial wilt of bean) as well as bacterial tan spot disease on soybean. The pest has been sporadically recorded in several EU Member States in the past, but is currently not known to occur in the EU. The identity of the bacterium is well established and identification methods are available. The major host is common bean (*Phaseolus vulgaris*), but other crops and weeds are, or may be, hosts or play a role as reservoirs, with uncertainties. Seed transmission remains uncertain for minor and alternative host species. The main pathway for entry is seed. The role of other pathways (e.g. irrigation water and infected residues) is uncertain. Should the bacterium enter the EU (including the PZ), it may establish, spread and have an impact on its host crops. The use of healthy seeds is the most effective control measure. *Curtobacterium flaccumfaciens* pv. *flaccumfaciens* fits all the criteria assessed by EFSA to be regarded as a Union quarantine pest.

The opinion was adopted by the Panel on 17 May 2018.

6.8. Scientific Opinion on pest categorisation of *Xiphinema americanum* (EFSA-Q-2017-00379)

Following a request from the European Commission, the EFSA Panel on Plant Health (PLH) performed a pest categorisation of *Xiphinema americanum* sensu lato (Nematoda: Longidoridae) for the European Union (EU). Sixty-one species in this group are recognized. They are polyphagous pests found in soil associated with a number of plant species. As a migratory ectoparasitic species, it punctures cells of plant roots. Nematodes were classified in four categories based on their distribution and ability to transmit viruses. Category I contains the seven virus vector species present outside the EU: *X. americanum* sensu stricto*, X. bricolense, X. californicum, X. inaequale, X. intermedium, X. rivesi* (non-EU populations) and *X. tarjanense*. Category II contains the 28 species not present in the EU and not known to transmit any virus. Twenty-six species are present in the EU and are not known to be virus vectors (category III). Category IV contains the species present in the EU which is a virus vector (EU populations of *X. rivesi*). All nematodes known to be virus vectors occurring outside the EU (category I) satisfy all the criteria that are within the remit of EFSA to assess to be regarded as Union quarantine pests. This is mainly due to their association with non-EU virus isolates. Categories II and III contain species that are not reported to transmit viruses or cause economic damage to crop plants. Although uncertainty concerning their ability to transmit viruses exists, those species do not satisfy all the criteria to be regarded as Union quarantine pests. Category IV contains the EU-populations of *X. rivesi.* The species is a virus vector but current EU populations of *X. rivesi* have not been reported to be associated with any of the EU-viruses or their non-EU isolates. *Xiphinema rivesi* (EU populations) is widespread in some Member States and does not satisfy all the criteria to be regarded as a Union quarantine. None of the species can be regarded as regulated non-quarantine pest.

The opinion was adopted by the Panel on 17 May 2018.

6.9. Scientific Opinion on pest categorisation of *Hirschmanniella* spp (EFSA-Q-2017-00377)

Following a request from the European Commission, the EFSA Panel on Plant Health (PLH) performed a pest categorisation of nematodes belonging to the genus *Hirschmanniella* (Nematoda: Pratylenchidae). Twenty-nine species in this genus have been considered of which five species are present in the EU (*H. behningi*, *H. gracilis*, *H. halophila*, *H. loofi* and *H. zostericola*). The whole genus except *H. gracilis* is regulated by Council Directive 2000/29/EC (Annex IAI). *Hirschmanniella* species are root endoparasites uniquely adapted to aquatic environments. Most species are reported from tropical regions. Monocotyledons including aquatic plants are main hosts and some *Hirschmanniella* species are important pests of rice. Plants for planting are potential pathways for entry. *Hirschmanniella* species are frequently intercepted on imported aquarium plants. Measures are available to avoid entry. Environmental conditions in greenhouses and potentially in rice production areas of the

EU are suitable for establishment. The nematode may be spread with irrigation, tools or plants for planting. *Hirschmanniella* species were categorized in four groups. The first group includes species reported as pests of crop plants; those satisfy all the criteria that are within the remit of EFSA to assess to be regarded as Union quarantine pests. The second group includes species that are not reported to cause economic damage to crop plants; those species do not satisfy all the criteria to be regarded as Union quarantine pests. Uncertainty exists whether species in this group can cause damage once introduced into the EU. The third group includes species that are known to be present in the EU and do not cause damage; they do not satisfy the criteria to be regarded as Union quarantine pests or regulated non-quarantine pests. The fourth group consists of *H. gracilis* only. This worldwide occurring species is present in the EU where it does not cause economic damage. It does not satisfy all the criteria to be regarded as a Union quarantine pest.

The opinion was adopted by the Panel on 17 May 2018.

7. Feedback from the Scientific Committee/Scientific Panels, EFSA

7.1. PLH Scientific Panel including its Working Groups

7.1.1. Update on the public consultation of the draft guidance on quantitative pest risk assessment methodologies (EFSA-Q-2014-00351, EFSA-Q-2018-00057)

The Panel was updated regarding the outcome of the public consultation of the draft Guidance on quantitative pest risk assessment methodologies. EFSA has carried out a public consultation on this Guidance with the aim to collect input from the scientific community and all interested parties. EFSA received 176 comments from 11 interested parties. A draft technical report on the outcome of the public consultation which summarises the comments received through the public consultation and presents the responses of the PLH Panel to the comments was presented to the Panel.

The WG chair and EFSA staff presented in detail the updated version of the draft Guidance taking into account the comments received during the public consultation highlighting the main changes. The Panel agreed with all changes proposed by the working group and provided its final comments on the Guidance asking specifically a thorough check of the terminology used in the document.

7.1.2. Update of the working group on the pest risk assessment of *Spodoptera frugiperda* (EFSA-Q-2018-00068)

The Panel was updated regarding the progress on the *Spodoptera frugiperda* Risk Assessment.

The WG chair outlined the Expert Elicitation process carried out at the last WG meeting. Particular attention was paid to information regarding natural spread and on the suitability of abiotic conditions for establishment in the EU.

7.1.3. Update of the working group on *Xylella fastidiosa* pest risk assessment of (EFSA-Q-2018-00069)

The WG chair presented the composition of the working group.

7.1.4. Update of the working group on guidances for dossier submission and commodity risk assessment for high-risk plants, plant products or other objects (EFSA-Q-2018-00117, EFSA-Q-2018-00116)

The Panel was updated on the progress on the draft protocol/guidance for dossier submission and commodity risk assessment for high-risk plants.

The WG chair presented the draft document and explained how the comments received so far from Panel members have been addressed. Further comments and suggestions and corrections were received also during the Plenary.

7.1.5. Update of the working group on Bonsai Plant derogations (EFSA-Q-2017-00715, EFSA-Q-2018-00277)

Firstly, the Panel was updated regarding the mandate dealing with the request from Japan regarding export of black pine (*Pinus thunbergii* L.) bonsai to the EU. EFSA submitted a letter with a request for additional information to the Japanese competent Authority. The WG will continue with its work on the opinion when the additional information will be available.

Secondly, the WG chair presented shortly the background and the terms of reference and the progress done on mandate dealing with the request from China regarding export of Japanese white pine (*Pinus parviflora* L.) bonsai to the EU. The WG analysed in detail the technical information provided by Chinese competent Authority and identified the needs for additional information.

7.1.6. Update on work progress from the PLH Panel Working Groups on pest categorisations (M-2017-0055)

- Agricultural fungal pathogens

An update on WG activities and the plan for next pest categorisations delivery was provided.

- Agricultural insects

The WG is working on two pest categorisations that are due for adoption in June: *Lopholeucaspis japonica* and *Aleurocanthis* spp. For *L. japonica*, clarification will be asked from Greece and Croatia on pest status. *Aleurocanthus*: the genus comprises of over 90 species with challenging and uncertain taxonomy. Focus is on those listed as having citrus and Rutaceae hosts. Work has recently started also on Tephritidae spp (non-EU), with the tasking grant contractor from the Thessaly University.

- Forest fungal pathogens

The Panel was informed about the progress of the WG on forest fungal pathogens. During the last WG meeting in April, the WG revised the two opinions adopted during this plenary meeting and prepared the two opinions planned for adoption at the June plenary meeting (on *Chrysomyxa arctostaphyli* and *Melampsora medusae*), which were then sent to the Panel for comments and will be revised in the light of this feedback during the WG meeting after the May plenary.

- Forest insects

The WG has started working on *Monochamus* spp. Species within this genus are responsible for transmitting the pinewood nematode. The interpretation of the terms of reference raised some questions whether all non-EU species should be considered or only those on conifers, and how those EU species should be considered that have a wider range than the EU territory.

- Bacterial plant pathogens

The Panel was informed about the progress of the WG on bacterial plant pathogens. The WG prepared a draft of the pest categorisation of *Pantoea stewartii* subsp. *stewartii*, which will be circulated among the Panel members for comments after the May plenary meeting. The main features of this opinion, which is planned for adoption in June, were presented.

- Viruses

The Panel was informed about the progress of the WG on plant viruses. The WG prepared a draft opinion of non-EU viruses of *Cydonia* Mill., *Fragaria* L., *Malus* Mill., *Prunus* L., *Pyrus* L., *Ribes* L., *Rubus* L. and *Vitis* L. Information or evidence on the status of these viruses was sought from the EU national Plant Protection organization. The opinion will be circulated among the Panel members for comments after the July plenary meeting.

- Nematodes

The Panel was informed about the progress of the WG on plant nematodes. The WG prepared two opinions: Categorisation of *Hirschmaniella* spp. and Categorisation of *Xiphinema americanum* sensu lato that were adopted. The panel was informed that WG finished all tasks according to planned activities.

- *Xylella fastidiosa* pest categorisation

The Panel was informed about the progress of the WG on *Xylella fastidiosa* pest categorisation. The WG has prepared an advanced draft, which will be disseminated to the Panel members soon. The interceptions of *Xylella fastidiosa* in EU have been discussed on the base of the questions from the EC.

7.2. EFSA including its Working Groups/Task Forces

7.2.1. Presentation on the request to provide technical support to the JRC with regard to climate suitability and impact assessment for candidate Union priority pests (EFSA-Q-2017-00558)

The Panel was updated on the current status of the project. The general activity plan and next three month calendar were shared. A more detailed presentation was provided on the methodology for obtaining data on impact caused by the different pests. The WG decided to follow a Sheffield protocol for the expert knowledge elicitation process and showed an example on its application and results to the Panel.

7.2.2. Update on Request to provide scientific and technical assistance on survey guidelines relevant for plant health for the EU territory (M-2017-0137)

The progress of the working group on the mandate was presented, including in particular the structure of the pest survey cards, the decision tree to support the MSs in the choice of the most appropriate type of survey depending on the objectives of the survey. The panel discussed the difficulty and importance of the choice of the design prevalence for the sample size calculation considering its effect on the sampling effort.

7.2.3. Update on the request from the European Commission to provide scientific and technical assistance on a horizon scanning exercise in view to crisis preparedness on plant health for the EU territory (M-2017-0012)

Following the presentation of the 13th edition of the EFSA Plant Health Newsletter, suggestions of improvement of the icons used to characterize the pests were expressed. The Panel was informed on the contributions of the Working Group on the Horizon Scanning project to the three last newsletter editions. EFSA presented the update of the activities carried out in the framework of the tasking grant on the project.

7.3. Scientific Committee and its Working Groups

8. Feedback from the European Commission

8.1. Feedback from annexes WG on E. Lewisi and D. Vaccini

The European Commission provided a very positive feedback on the presentations delivered by EFSA staff to the experts working group of the European commission on the Annexes of the CD 2000/29/EC, in particular, for the quantitative pest risk assessments for the EU territory of the mite Eotetranychus lewisi and the fungus Diaporthe vaccinii.

9. Other scientific topics for information and/or discussion

9.1. Feedback from COPHS meeting, Sofia (BG) 3 May 2018

Feedback was provided from the recent participation of ALPHA Unit PLH Team leader to the European Commission Working Group of the EU Chief Plant Health Officers held in Sofia (BG) on 2-3 May 2018. EFSA presented at this meeting an update on EFSA PLH Panel and ALPHA Unit plant health activities of the first 2018 quarter and a request to COPHs on information and evidence regarding the status of viruses and viroids of fruit tree species.

9.2. Feedback from ANSES EFSA EPPO conference on global change and plant health

Feedback was presented from participation of Panel members and EFSA staff to the recent ANSES EFSA EPPO conference on "The impact of global change on the emergence of plant diseases and pests in Europe", held on Paris on 23-24 April 2018. The presentations are now published at https://www.anses.fr/fr/content/pr%C3%A9sentations-de-la-conf%C3%A9rence-internationale-%C2%ABimpact-du-changement-global-sur-l%E2%80%99%C3%A9mergence.

10. Any other business

10.1. Next Plenary timeline and agenda was discussed.