Changes to Union quarantine pest list, and new citrus phytosanitary requirements for China

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Draft Commission Implementing Regulation amending Implementing Regulation (EU) 2019/2072 as regards measures to prevent the entry into the Union territory, and the spread within it, of *Resseliella citrifrugis*, *Chrysobothris femorata*, *Chrysobothris mali*, *Citripestis sagittiferella* and Begomoviruses as regards the name of *Dendroctonus micans* (Kugelann), and amending Implementing Regulation (EU) 2022/1941 as regards *Resseliella citrifrugis*

Draft Annex

What is changing and why?

The European Union (EU) proposes to amend the Union quarantine pest list as follows.

Two pests associated with citrus fruits are added to the list:

- citrus fruit midge (Resseliella citrifrugis), a citrus gall midge affecting Citrus species and Poncirus trifoliata
- citrus fruit borer (Citripestis sagittiferella), a moth whose larvae develop inside citrus fruits, particularly pomelo (Citrus maxima).

Two viruses are removed from the list:

- honeysuckle yellow vein virus
- cotton leaf curl Gezira virus.

The draft Regulation also introduces new phytosanitary import requirements for citrus fruits, *Poncirus* fruits, and their hybrids originating in **China** to prevent the introduction of **citrus fruit midge** (*R. citrifrugis*). The phytosanitary certificate must confirm that the fruits originate from a pest-free area or place of production, or have undergone an approved systems approach, or an effective post-harvest treatment. See the full report for details.

Although *C. sagittiferella* is added as a Union quarantine pest affecting citrus, no additional import requirements are introduced at this stage as interceptions have been limited, and larval damage is detectable during inspections.

Other proposed new requirements mainly concern plants for planting and wood.

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Actions

The World Trade Organization consultation closed on 18 August 2026 (G/SPS/N/EU/958).

China will need to adapt its citrus export certification and pest-management procedures to meet the new requirements for *Resseliella citrifrugis*. Consignments found to contain any listed Union quarantine pest may be refused entry into the EU.

Timeline

The Regulation is expected to be published in the fourth quarter of 2026, and will enter into force 20 days after publication. There will be a transition period of 6 months before the new requirements are applied.

For more information see the full record on the AGRINFO website – where you can also view the latest AGRINFO Update newsletters and search the database.

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