

EUROPHYT interceptions in February 2024

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Report on EUROPHYT interceptions in February 2024

Update

This report summarises EUROPHYT interceptions of products entering the European Union from low- and middle-income countries that occurred in February 2024.

In February 2024 there were 70 interceptions due to harmful organisms affecting 17 countries, and 330 interceptions due to other non-conformities affecting 38 partner countries.

Impacted products

Plants and plant products

What is changing?

Harmful organisms

In February 2024 there were 70 EUROPHYT interceptions due to harmful organisms as detailed in Table 1.

Other non-conformities

There were also 330 interceptions due to other non-conformities, affecting 38 partner countries (see Table 2).

For more detail see [EUROPHYT interception February 2024 report](#).

What are the major implications for exporting countries?

EUROPHYT interceptions can have significant impacts on producers and exporters. A shipment is intercepted at EU border controls when products do not comply with the EU's phytosanitary requirements. As a result, the affected importer/exporter/producer may face a range of consequences including delayed shipments, additional costs of testing and inspection, and potential rejections or destruction of their products. These interceptions can also damage the reputation of the producer/exporter in the EU market, which may affect their ability to conduct future trade with EU buyers. It can also have impacts on the export sector as a whole, particularly when repeated interceptions lead to more stringent plant health measures or bans.

Recommended Actions

Producers and exporters must take proactive measures to ensure their products comply with EU phytosanitary requirements to avoid the risk of interceptions. This can include implementing effective pest management strategies, using certified seeds and planting material, and complying with regulations and standards.

Background

[EUROPHYT](#) is the European Union Notification System for Plant Health Interceptions.

The basis for EUROPHYT interceptions is the obligation for EU Member States (and Switzerland) to rapidly report the occurrence of harmful organisms and other non-conformities found during import controls, to prevent the introduction and spread of pests and diseases. Interceptions due to "other non-conformities" are usually caused by an inaccurate or missing phytosanitary certificate.

Notifications of such interceptions are disseminated EU-wide and to the National Plant Protection Organisation (NPPO) of the exporting country. The legal framework for EUROPHYT interceptions is provided by Regulation (EU) [2016/2031](#) on plant health. For more information about plant health law, see [EU plant health law explained](#).

Also see [Official Controls Regulation - explained](#).

Resources

European and Mediterranean Plant Protection Organization ([EPPO](#))

European Commission (2024) [Interceptions of harmful organisms in imported plants and other objects](#)

Sources

European Commission (2024) [Number of occurrences of harmful organism\(s\) in commodities imported into the EU or Switzerland \(February 2024\)](#)

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Table & Figures

| Table 1 EUROPHYT interceptions due to harmful organisms on fruit and vegetables, leafy vegetables, and leaves – February 2024 | | | |
|--|----|--------------------------|--|
| Country of origin | N* | Intercepted products | Harmful organisms |
| Brazil | 11 | Limes | Fungus, citrus canker |
| | | Passion fruit | Fruit flies |
| Cambodia | 1 | Peppers | Fruit flies |
| China | 1 | Grapefruit | Fungus |
| Colombia | 8 | Limes | Fungus |
| | | Tamarillos | Tomato fruit borer |
| | | Physalis | Tobacco budworm |
| Congo | 11 | Solanaceae | Nematodes, whiteflies, leaf-miner flies, moths |
| | | Amaranth | Whiteflies |
| | | Cassava | Whiteflies |
| | | Chicory | Leaf-miner flies |
| | | Onions | Leaf-miner flies |
| | | Spinaches | Moths |
| | | Non-specified vegetables | Moths, whiteflies |
| Ecuador | 1 | Asparagus | Fall armyworm |
| Egypt | 1 | Guava | Fruit flies |
| India | 2 | Gourds | Fruit flies |
| Kenya | 19 | Beans | Moths |
| | | Basil | Fall armyworm, whiteflies, leaf-miner flies |
| | | Brassica vegetables | Moths |
| | | Sweet corn | Moths |
| | | Peas | Moths |
| | | Gourds | Fruit flies |
| Mexico | 3 | Asparagus | Fall armyworm, yellow-striped armyworm |
| Peru | 2 | Asparagus | Tobacco budworm, fall armyworm |
| Senegal | 2 | Eggplants | Moths |
| Sri Lanka | 1 | Gourds | Fruit flies |
| Suriname | 2 | Celery | Moths |
| Thailand | 3 | Asparagus | Thrips |
| | | Curcuma | Bacterial disease (<i>Ralstonia</i>) |
| | | Coriander | Whiteflies |
| Vietnam | 1 | Rambutan | Fruit flies |
| Zimbabwe | 1 | Peppers | False codling moth |
| *N = number of interceptions.  www.agrininfo.eu | | | |


Source: [EUROPHYT monthly report](#)

| Table 2 EUROPHYT interceptions due to other non-conformities on fruit and vegetables, leafy vegetables, and leaves – February 2024 | | | | | |
|--|----|---|-------------------|----|--|
| Country of origin | N* | Intercepted products | Country of origin | N* | Intercepted products |
| Algeria | 1 | Sweet and chili peppers | Egypt | 62 | Celery |
| Argentina | 2 | Garlic | | | Sweet and chili peppers |
| Bolivia | 1 | Potatoes | | | Mandarin |
| Brazil | 3 | Persian limes, mango | | | Sweet oranges |
| Cameroon | 3 | Garlic, sweet and chili peppers, ginger | | | Potatoes |
| China | 2 | Peanut | | | Potatoes |
| | | Ambarella and other <i>Spondias</i> species | Equatorial Guinea | 3 | Sweet potato |
| Colombia | 6 | Palm hearts | | | Cassava |
| | | Papaya | | | Ginger |
| | | Mango | Ethiopia | 1 | Sweet and chili peppers |
| | | Peruvian groundcherry | Ghana | 6 | Okra |
| | | Potatoes | | | Sweet and chili peppers |
| Congo | 18 | Amaranths | | | Sweet potato |
| | | Courgettes, pumpkins, and other <i>Cucurbita</i> species | | | Cassava |
| | | Sweet potato | India | 7 | Sweet and chili peppers |
| | | Potatoes, tomatoes, peppers, eggplants, and other <i>Solanaceae</i> species | | | Mango |
| | | Chives | | | Moringa |
| | | Cassava | | | Curry tree, orange jessamine, and other <i>Murraya</i> species |
| | | Amaranths | | | Ginger |
| | | Chicory roots | Iran | 2 | Sweet and chili peppers |
| | | Water spinach | | | Lemons |
| | | Spinach | Kenya | 4 | Asparagus |
| Cuba | 8 | Mango | | | Basil |
| | | Avocado | | | Sweet corn |
| Democratic Republic of the Congo | 7 | Ethiopian eggplants | Laos | 32 | Soursop |
| | | Amaranths | | | Sweetsop |
| | | Roselle, chinese hibiscus, and other <i>Hibiscus</i> species | | | Chili pepper |
| | | Sweet potato and other <i>Ipomoea</i> species | | | Mango |
| | | Spinach | | | Common guava |
| | | Vegetable plants | | | Eggplant |
| Dominican Republic | 4 | Sweet and chili peppers | | | Turkey berry |
| | | Mango | | | Culantro |
| | | Avocado | | | Basil |
| | | Potatoes | | | Culantro |
| Ecuador | 7 | Mediterranean mandarin | | | Rice paddy herb and other <i>Limnophila</i> species |
| | | Loquats/Japanese medlars | | | Basil |
| | | Mango | | | Holy basil |
| | | Peaches, plums, and other <i>Prunus</i> | Mali | 2 | Peanut |
| | | Common plum | | | Mango |
| | | Tomato | Mexico | 2 | Asparagus |
| | | | | | Chili pepper |

*N = number of interceptions.

Continued...

Source: [EUROPHYT monthly report](#)

| Table 2 Continued | | | | | | | |
|-------------------|----|---|-------------------|----|--|--|--------|
| Country of origin | N* | Intercepted products | Country of origin | N* | Intercepted products | | |
| Morocco | 50 | Onions | Philippines | 1 | Ginger | | |
| | | Garlic | Senegal | 8 | Okra | | |
| | | Celery | | | Watermelon | | |
| | | Peanut | | | Key limes | | |
| | | Beet | | | Mango | | |
| | | Sweet and chili peppers | | | Bay laurel | | |
| | | Clementines | | | Horticultural plants | | |
| | | Lemons | South Africa | 7 | Chili pepper | | |
| | | Sweet oranges | | | Lemons | | |
| | | Cucumber | | | Nectarine | | |
| | | Courgettes, pumpkins, and other <i>Cucurbita</i> species | | | Japanese plum | | |
| | | Artichoke | | | European pear | | |
| | | Carrots | Sri Lanka | 20 | Sweet and chili peppers | | |
| | | Walnuts | | | Papaya | | |
| | | Apple | | | Courgettes, pumpkins, and other <i>Cucurbita</i> species | | |
| | | European olive | | | Mangosteen | | |
| | | Common beans | | | Mango | | |
| | | Date palm | | | Rambutan | | |
| | | Sweet cherry | | | Passion fruit, sweet granadilla, and other <i>Passiflora</i> species | | |
| | | Almond | | | Passion fruit (purple) | | |
| | | Tomato | | | Avocado | | |
| | | Potatoes | | | Common guava | | |
| | | Ginger | | | Basil and edible flowers | | |
| | | Jujube | | | Laurel/bay leaves | | |
| | | Spearmint | | | Spinach | | |
| | | Horticultural plants | Suriname | 1 | Cowpea, yardlong bean, and other <i>Vigna</i> species | | |
| | | Basil | Thailand | 3 | Litchi | | |
| | | Parsley | | | Apple | | |
| | | Thyme and other thyme species | | | Mango | | |
| Nigeria | 1 | Sweet and chili peppers | Türkiye | 7 | Sweet and chili peppers | | |
| Pakistan | 3 | Sweet and chili peppers | | | Cucumber | | |
| | | Mango | | | Mango | | |
| Peru | 33 | Peanut | | | | | Tomato |
| | | Asparagus | Uganda | 1 | Curry tree, orange jessamine, and other <i>Murraya</i> species | | |
| | | Sweet and chili peppers | Uzbekistan | 8 | Turnip | | |
| | | Citrus fruits (oranges, lemons, etc.) | | | Carrots | | |
| | | Artichoke | Venezuela | 1 | Avocado | | |
| | | Fennel | Vietnam | 1 | Chili pepper | | |
| | | Pacay – legume vegetable | Zimbabwe | 2 | Sweet and chili peppers | | |
| | | Sweet potato | | | | | |
| | | Apple | | | | | |
| | | Mango | | | | | |
| | | Horticultural plants | | | | | |
| | | Passion fruit, sweet granadilla, and other <i>Passiflora</i> species | | | | | |
| | | Passion fruit (yellow) | | | | | |
| | | Avocado | | | | | |
| | | Potatoes | | | | | |
| | | Ulluco | | | | | |
| | | Sweet corn | | | | | |
| | | Bay laurel | | | | | |
| | | *N = number of interceptions. | | | | | |
| | |  www.agrinfo.eu | | | | | |

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