Plant health interceptions (EUROPHYT) in August 2024

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August 2024 saw 68 interceptions due to harmful organisms involving 21 AGRINFO partner countries, and 357 interceptions due to other non-conformities involving 33 partner countries

TRACES: Number of occurrences of harmful organism(s) in commodities imported into the EU or Switzerland (August 2024)

Update

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

In August 2024, there were 68 interceptions due to harmful organisms involving 21 AGRINFO partner countries, and 357 interceptions due to other non-conformities that involved 33 partner countries.

Impacted products

Plants and plant products

Interceptions

Harmful organisms

In August 2024 there were 68 EUROPHYT interceptions due to harmful organisms involving 21 low- and middle-income (AGRINFO partner) countries (see Table 1).

Other non-conformities

There were also 357 interceptions due to other non-conformities, involving 33 partner countries (see Table 2).

For more detail see TRACES: Number of occurrences of harmful organism(s) in commodities imported into the EU or Switzerland (August 2024).

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Timeline

August 2024

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

To avoid the risk of interceptions, producers and exporters must take proactive measures to ensure their products comply with EU phytosanitary requirements. 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.

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Resources

European Plant Protection Organization (EPPO)

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

Sources

TRACES: Number of occurrences of harmful organism(s) in commodities imported into the EU or Switzerland (August 2024)

Visit the AGRINFO website to view the latest AGRINFO Update newsletters and search the database.

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Tables & Figures

Table 1
EUROPHYT interceptions due to harmful organisms on fruit and vegetables, leafy vegetables, and leaves – August 2024

Country of origin	No.	Intercepted products	Harmful organisms
Angola	1	Pineapples	Weevils
	1	Papaya	Weevils
	1	Pitahaya	Weevils
Argentina	3	Lemons	Fungus
Brazil	5	Persian limes	Fungus
	3	Persian limes	Bacterias
	1	Mango	Fruit flies
Cambodia	1	Sweet and chili peppers	Fruit flies
	1	Chameleon plant	Whiteflies
China	1	Ginger	Bacterias
Colombia	1	Persian limes	Fungus
Democratic Republic of the Congo	1	Roselle, chinese hibiscus, and other Hibiscus species	Whiteflies
Dominican Republic	1	Mango	Fruit flies
Egypt	1	Jute mallow and other Corchorus species	Whiteflies
	5	Mango	Fruit flies
	2	Common guava	Fruit flies
	1	Potatoes	Moths
Kenya	1	Basil	Thrips
Malaysia	1	Carambola	Fruit flies
Mexico	1	Eggplant	Fruit flies
Peru	2	Asparagus	Moths
Philippines	1	Santols	Fruit flies
Senegal	3	Mango	Fruit flies
South Africa	1	Mandarin	Fungus
	7	Lemons	Fungus
Sri Lanka	1	Soursop	Fruit flies
	1	Moringa	Leaf-miner flies
	4	Common guava	Fruit flies
Thailand	5	Curcuma	Bacterias
	2	Culantro	Whiteflies
	1	Basil	Whiteflies
Uruguay	1	Sweet oranges	Fungus
	3	Lemons	Bacterias
Vietnam	1	Sweet and chili peppers	Fruit flies
Zimbabwe	1	Sweet oranges	Fungus
	1	Sweet oranges	False codling moth

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Table 2
EUROPHYT interceptions due to other non-conformities on fruit and vegetables, leafy vegetables, and leaves – August 2024

Country of origin	No.	Intercepted products	Non-conformity
Algeria	1	Beet	PC absent
Argentina	3	Oranges	Mismatch between identification mark and PC
	1	Lemons	Mismatch between identification mark and PC
	4	Lemons	Non-compliance with special requirements (documentary)
Bangladesh	2	Papaya	PC absent
	2	Papaya	Prohibited plants, plants products or other objects
	1	Lemons	PC absent
	1	Lemons	Prohibited plants, plants products or other objects
	1	Mango	PC absent
	4	Horticultural plants	PC absent
	2	Horticultural plants	Prohibited plants, plants products or other objects
	1	Potatoes	PC absent
	1	Potatoes	Prohibited plants, plants products or other objects
Botswana	1	Mandarin	PC: additional declaration inadequate or invalid
	1	Bitter oranges	PC: additional declaration inadequate or invalid
Brazil	1	Papaya	PC absent
	3	Persian limes	Non-compliance with special requirements (physical)
	1	Persian limes	PC: additional declaration inadequate or invalid
Cameroon	1	Safou	Goods' quantity does not correspond with PC
	1	Yams	Non-compliance with special requirements (documentary)
China	1	Litchi	PC absent
	1	Ginger	Consignment not presented for official controls
Comoros	1	Horticultural plants	PC absent
Congo	1	Bananas and plantains	Missing identification marks (production unit, clips, etc.)
	1	Bananas and plantains	PC absent
	1	Eagle fern	Missing identification marks (production unit, clips, etc.)
	1	Eagle fern	PC absent
Côte d'Ivoire	1	Horticultural plants	PC absent
Cuba	1	Mango	PC absent
Dominican Republic	1	Sweet and chili peppers	PC absent
	1	Persian limes	PC absent
	1	Mango	Non-compliance with special requirements (documentary)

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Ecuador	1	Key limes	Non-compliance with special requirements (physical)
	1	Key limes	PC incomplete: botanical name not included
	1	Key limes	WPM: marking absent
	1	Tangor	PC absent
Egypt	1	Onions	WPM: marking absent
	1	Sweet and chili peppers	PC: additional declaration inadequate or invalid
	10	Sweet oranges	Mismatch between identification mark and PC
	1	Mango	Mismatch between identification mark and PC
	1	Mango	PC absent
	2	Mango	PC: additional declaration inadequate or invalid
	1	Mango	PC: false information
	1	Mango	PC: non-certified copy or non-authenticated copy
	1	Mango	PC: unauthorized alterations/ modifications
	1	Common guava	PC: additional declaration inadequate or invalid
	1	Tomato	PC absent
	2	Eggplant	PC: additional declaration inadequate or invalid
Ethiopia	3	Horticultural plants	PC absent
Ghana	1	Eggplant	PC incomplete: botanical name not included
	1	Arrowleaf elephant ear and other *Xanthosoma* species	PC absent
India	1	Taro, eddoe, and other *Colocasia* species	PC absent
	1	Yams	PC absent
Kenya	1	Sweet and chili peppers	PC incomplete: production unit number not provided
	1	Sweet and chili peppers	PC: additional declaration missing
	1	Avocado	PC: false information
Kosovo	1	Sweet and chili peppers	Non-compliance with special requirements (documentary)
	1	Potatoes	PC: additional declaration inadequate or invalid
Mexico	1	Sweet and chili peppers	PC absent
Morocco	1	Potatoes	Non-compliance with special requirements (physical)
Pakistan	1	Onions, garlic, scallions, shallots, leeks, and chives	PC absent
	1	Onions, garlic, scallions, shallots, leeks, and chives	Prohibited plants, plants products or other objects
	10	Mango	PC absent
	5	Mango	Prohibited plants, plants products or other objects
	1	Horticultural plants	PC absent

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Peru	1	Carambola	PC absent
	4	Sweet and chili peppers	PC absent
	1	Sweet oranges	PC: additional declaration missing
	1	Lemons	PC absent
	1	Pumpkin	PC absent
	1	Passion fruit (purple)	PC absent
	1	Otaheite gooseberry	PC absent
	1	Peas	PC absent
	1	Lucuma	PC absent
	1	Pitahaya	PC absent
	2	Tomato	PC absent
	2	Potatoes	Prohibited plants, plants products or other objects
	1	Ambarella	PC absent
	2	Ulluco	Prohibited plants, plants products or other objects
	2	Sweet corn	PC absent
	2	Horticultural plants	PC absent
	1	Basil	PC absent
	2	Potatoes	PC absent
Philippines	1	Papaya	PC absent
	1	Mango	PC absent
	1	Rambutan	PC absent
	1	Santols	PC absent
Senegal	1	Mango	PC absent
	1	Mango	Prohibited plants, plants products or other objects
	1	Cassava	PC absent
	1	Horticultural plants	Prohibited plants, plants products or other objects
	1	Bay laurel	PC absent
	2	Horticultural plants	PC absent

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South Africa	1	Chili pepper	PC incomplete: production unit number not provided
	1	Chili pepper	PC: additional declaration missing
	2	Lemons	PC: additional declaration inadequate or invalid
	7	Lemons	PC: production unit number invalid (unlisted)
	1	Mandarin	Mismatch between identification mark and PC
	6	Mandarin	PC incomplete: production unit number not provided
	1	Mandarin	PC not addressed to the relevant MS NPPO
	1	Mandarin	PC: additional declaration inadequate or invalid
	10	Mandarin	PC: production unit number invalid (unlisted)
	1	Sweet oranges	PC: expired date
	1	Bitter oranges	PC: additional declaration missing
	1	Sweet oranges	Mismatch between identification mark and PC
	1	Sweet oranges	PC absent
	4	Sweet oranges	PC incomplete: production unit number not provided
	5	Sweet oranges	PC: additional declaration inadequate or invalid
	2	Sweet oranges	PC: additional declaration missing
	1	Sweet oranges	PC: false information
	2	Sweet oranges	Presence of goods not mentioned on PC
	3	Lemons	Goods' quantity does not correspond with PC
	5	Lemons	Mismatch between identification mark and PC
	1	Lemons	Missing identification marks (production unit, clips, etc.)
	61	Lemons	Non-compliance with special requirements (documentary)
	1	Lemons	Other
	10	Lemons	PC incomplete: production unit number not provided
	8	Lemons	PC: additional declaration inadequate or invalid
	1	Lemons	PC: additional declaration missing
	33	Lemons	PC: production unit number invalid (unlisted)
	3	Lemons	Presence of goods not mentioned on PC

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Sri Lanka	1	Onions, garlic, scallions, shallots, leeks, and chives	PC absent
	1	Soursop	PC incomplete: botanical name not included
	1	Jackfruit	PC absent
	1	Sweet and chili peppers	PC absent
	1	Papaya	PC absent
	1	Mangosteen and mango	Non-compliance with special requirements (documentary)
	1	Mangosteen and mango	PC absent
	1	Wood apple (other)	PC absent
	2	Mango	PC absent
	1	Curry tree	PC absent
	2	Curry tree	Prohibited plants, plants products or other objects
	1	Rambutan	Non-compliance with special requirements (documentary)
	2	Rambutan	PC absent
	1	Passion fruit (purple)	PC absent
	1	Avocado	PC absent
	2	Horticultural plants	PC absent
	1	Cowpea, yardlong bean, and other *Vigna* species	PC incomplete: botanical name not included
	1	Horticultural plants	PC incomplete: botanical name not included
	1	Asiatic pennywort	PC absent
	1	Laurel/bay leaves	PC absent
	1	*Piper* sp.	PC absent
	1	Potatoes	PC absent
Taiwan	1	Papaya	PC: additional declaration inadequate or invalid
	1	Pomelo	PC: additional declaration inadequate or invalid
Togo	1	Bitter cola	Consignment not presented for official controls
	1	African eggplant	Goods' quantity does not correspond with PC
	1	Spinach	Goods' quantity does not correspond with PC
	1	Jute mallow	Consignment not presented for official controls
	1	African eggplant	Consignment not presented for official controls
	1	Bitterleaves and other *Vernonia* species	Consignment not presented for official controls
Türkiye	1	Sweet and chili peppers	PC: false information
	3	Tomato	PC: false information
Uruguay	1	Sweet oranges	Non-compliance with special requirements (documentary)
Vietnam	1	Horticultural plants	PC absent
Zimbabwe	1	Sweet oranges	PC incomplete: production unit number not provided

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Source : EUROPHYT monthly report

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