Plant health interceptions (EUROPHYT) in January 2025

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January 2025 saw 84 interceptions due to harmful organisms involving 22 AGRINFO partner countries, and 282 interceptions due to other non-conformities involving 37 partner countries

TRACES: Number of occurrences of harmful organism(s) in commodities imported into the EU or Switzerland (January 2025)

Update

This report summarises EUROPHYT interceptions on products entering the European Union from low- and middle-income countries that occurred in January 2025.

In January 2025, there were 84 interceptions due to harmful organisms involving 22 AGRINFO partner countries, and 282 interceptions due to other non-conformities that involved 37 partner countries.

Impacted products

Plants and plant products

Interceptions

Harmful organisms

In January 2025 there were 84 EUROPHYT interceptions due to harmful organisms involving 22 low- and middle-income (AGRINFO partner) countries (see Table 1).

Other non-conformities

There were also 282 interceptions due to other non-conformities, involving 37 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 (January 2025).

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Timeline

January 2025

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) 2016/2031on 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 and Mediterranean 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 (January 2025)

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Tables & Figures

Table 1
EUROPHYT interceptions due to harmful organisms on plants – January 2025

Country of origin	No.	Intercepted products	Harmful organisms
Angola	1	Mango	Fruit flies
Bangladesh	2	Key limes	Fungus
Cameroon	1	Avocado	Butterflies and moths
	1	Ethiopian eggplants	Fruit flies
China	2	Sweet and chilli peppers	Virus
	1	Pomelo	Fruit flies
	5	Pomelo	Midges
	3	Pomelo	Bacteria
	1	*Hydrangea* sp.	Whiteflies
	1	Tomato	Viroids
	9	Tomato	Virus
Egypt	1	Strawberry	Whiteflies
	1	Potatoes	Bacteria
Ethiopia	1	Roses	False codling moth
India	2	Custard apple	Fruit flies
	1	Sweet and chilli peppers	Virus
	1	Tomato	Virus
	1	Pointed gourd	Fruit flies
Indonesia	3	*Dracaena* sp.	Whiteflies
	1	*Dracaena marginata*	Whiteflies
	2	Lucky bamboo	Whiteflies
	2	Common guava	Fruit flies
	1	Common guava	Fruit flies
Kenya	1	Culantro and other *Eryngium* spp.	False codling moth
	3	Basil	Thrips
	2	Roses	False codling moth
	2	Fieldbriar	False codling moth
Malaysia	1	Water mint	Whiteflies
	1	Eelgrass	Nematodes
Mexico	1	Persian limes	Fungus
Peru	1	Mango	Fruit flies
	1	Ginger	Bacteria
Senegal	1	Bitter melon	Thrips

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Table 1
Continued

Country of origin	No.	Intercepted products	Harmful organisms
South Africa	1	Chrysanthemums	Thrips
	1	Courgettes, pumpkins, other *Cucurbita* spp.	Fruit flies
	2	Eggplant	Thrips
Sri Lanka	3	Moringa	Leaf-miner flies
Tanzania	1	Bitter melon	Fruit flies
Thailand	1	Asparagus	Fall armyworm
	4	Curcuma	Bacteria
	1	Orchids	Thrips
	1	Mango	Fruit flies
Togo	1	African eggplant	Whiteflies
Tunisia	1	Globe artichokes	Beetles
	1	Globe artichokes	Flies
Türkiye	1	Tomato	Virus
Uganda	1	Mango	Fruit flies
	3	Roses	False codling moth
Vietnam	1	Culantro	Whiteflies
	2	Java apple	Fruit flies

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Source: based on TRACES: Number of occurrences of harmful organism(s) in commodities imported into the EU or Switzerland (January 2025)

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Table 2
EUROPHYT interceptions due to other non-conformities on plants – January 2025

Country of origin	No.	Intercepted products	Non-conformity
Albania	1	*Cupressus* sp.	PC incomplete: botanical name not included
Algeria	1	Blue pea	PC absent
	1	Atlas pistachio	PC absent
	1	Sweet and chilli peppers	PC: additional declaration missing
	1	Courgettes, pumpkins, other *Cucurbita* spp.	WPM: marking absent
	3	Horticultural plants	PC absent
Argentina	1	Onions	PC: false information
	1	Garlic	Non-compliance with special requirements (documentary)
	1	Garlic	PC: expired date
	1	Mixed plants	WPM: incomplete marking
	1	Mixed plants	WPM: marking absent
Brazil	1	Sweetsop	PC incomplete: botanical name not included
	1	Sweet and chilli peppers	PC absent
	4	Persian limes	Non-compliance with special requirements (physical)
	1	Quinces	PC absent
	1	Yams	PC incomplete: botanical name not included
	1	Mango	Others
	1	Common guava	PC absent
	1	Eggplant	PC absent
	1	Grapes	Others
Cameroon	1	Potatoes, tomatoes, peppers, eggplants, other *Solanaceae* spp.	PC absent
	1	Potatoes, tomatoes, peppers, eggplants, other *Solanaceae* spp.	Presence of goods not mentioned on PC
	1	Arrowleaf elephant ear	PC absent
China	1	Trident maple	PC: additional declaration inadequate or invalid
	1	Japanese maple	PC: additional declaration inadequate or invalid
	1	Harland boxwood	PC: additional declaration inadequate or invalid
	1	Horticultural plants	PC: additional declaration inadequate or invalid
	1	Dawn redwood	PC: additional declaration inadequate or invalid
	1	*Podocarpus macrophyllus*	PC: additional declaration inadequate or invalid
	1	*Pseudolarix amabilis*	PC: additional declaration inadequate or invalid
	1	Rhododendron	PC: additional declaration inadequate or invalid
	1	Sweet and chilli peppers	PC: additional declaration missing
	1	Sweet and chilli peppers	PC: expired date
	1	Sweet and chilli peppers	PC: non-certified copy or non-authenticated copy
	1	Cabbages, kales, other brassica vegetables	PC non-compliant with Annex V to Reg. 2016/2031
	1	Cabbages, kales, other brassica vegetables	PC non-compliant with Annex V to Reg. 2016/2031
	1	Calendula	PC absent
	1	European olive	PC absent

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Table 2
Continued

Country of origin	No.	Intercepted products	Non-conformity
China (*continued*)	1	Bamboo shoots	Non-compliance with special requirements (documentary)
	1	Bamboo shoots	PC incomplete: no name of certifying officer
	1	Bamboo shoots	PC incomplete: no official NPPO stamp
	1	Bamboo shoots	PC incomplete: no signature of certifying officer
	1	Bamboo shoots	PC: false information
	1	Teas	Others
	1	Bird of paradise flower	Others
	1	Bird of paradise flower	PC: additional declaration inadequate or invalid
	1	Mixed plants	WPM: marking absent
	1	Poplar	Non-compliance with special requirements (documentary)
	1	Oak	PC: additional declaration missing
	1	Oak	PC: expired date
Colombia	1	Chrysanthemums	Others
	1	Mango	PC absent
Costa Rica	1	Crookneck pumpkin	PC absent
Ecuador	1	Asters	PC incomplete: botanical name not included
	1	St John's wort	Others
	1	Sea-lavender	Others
	2	Asparagus	Others
	1	Mixed plants	WPM: incomplete marking
Egypt	1	Roses	PC incomplete: botanical name not included
	1	Roses	PC: additional declaration missing
	1	Citrus fruits (oranges, lemons, etc.)	PC absent
	1	Citrus fruits (oranges, lemons, etc.)	PC incomplete: botanical name not included
	1	Lemons	Non-compliance with special requirements (physical)
	1	Grapefruit	Non-compliance with special requirements (physical)
	3	Sweet oranges	Non-compliance with special requirements (physical)
	2	Sweet oranges	PC: additional declaration inadequate or invalid
	2	Lemons	Non-compliance with special requirements (physical)
	1	Potatoes	Non-compliance with special requirements (documentary)
	1	Sweet and chilli peppers	PC: additional declaration inadequate or invalid
	2	Eggplant	PC: additional declaration missing
	1	Eggplant	Unfit for inspection due to poor goods' quality
	6	Potatoes	Non-compliance with special requirements (documentary)
Ethiopia	1	Sweet and chilli peppers	PC: additional declaration missing
	2	Horticultural plants	PC absent
Ghana	1	Lilies	PC: additional declaration missing
	1	Yams	Goods' quantity does not correspond with PC
	1	Yams	Others
	1	Plantains	Others
	1	Rice	Others
	1	Aniseed	Others
	1	Arrowleaf elephant ear, other *Xanthosoma* spp.	Others

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Table 2
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Country of origin	No.	Intercepted products	Non-conformity
India	1	Tomato	PC: additional declaration missing
	1	Mixed plants	PC fake / forged
	1	Hyacinth bean	PC fake / forged
	1	Mixed plants	PC fake / forged
	1	Ginger	PC absent
	1	Indian jujube	PC fake / forged
	1	Fig	PC: additional declaration missing
	1	Nephrolepis	PC: additional declaration missing
	1	Philodendron	PC: additional declaration missing
	1	Peace lilies	PC: additional declaration inadequate or invalid
	1	Syngonium	PC: additional declaration missing
	1	Onions, garlic, scallions, shallots, leeks, chives	Others
	1	Cabbages, kales, other brassica vegetables	Others
	1	Yardlong bean, hyacinth bean, other *Dolichos* spp.	Others
	1	Phalsa	Others
	1	Bottle gourd	Others
	1	Bananas and plantains	Others
	1	Horticultural plants	Others
Indonesia	1	Mixed plants	PC incomplete: no signature of certifying officer
	1	Platycerium	PC: additional declaration missing
	1	Licuala	PC absent
	1	Mixed plants	PC absent
	1	Pinanga	PC absent
	1	Basil	PC: additional declaration missing
	1	Basil	PC: false information
	1	Kaffir limes	Prohibited plants, plants products or other objects
Iran	1	Sweet and chilli peppers	Non-compliance with special requirements (documentary)
	1	Sweet and chilli peppers	PC: additional declaration missing
Kazakhstan	1	Mixed plants	PC: additional declaration missing
	2	Mixed plants	PC: additional declaration missing
	1	European larch	PC: additional declaration inadequate or invalid
	1	Siberian larch	PC: false information
	1	Pine	PC: additional declaration missing
	1	Pine	PC: false information
	1	Pine	PC: non-official EU-language
Kenya	1	*Bidens ferulifolia*	Others
	1	*Diascia barberae*	Others
	1	Sweet potato leaves	Others
	1	*Leucophyta brownii*	Others
	1	*Lippia* sp.	Others

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Table 2
Continued

Country of origin	No.	Intercepted products	Non-conformity
Kenya (*continued*)	1	*Lobelia erinus*	Others
	1	Lemon balm	Others
	1	*Oenothera lindheimeri*	Others
	1	Oregano	Others
	1	Daisybushes	Others
	2	*Pelargonium peltatum*	Others
	2	*Pelargonium zonale*	Others
	1	*Sanvitalia procumbens*	Others
	1	*Scaevola* sp.	Others
	1	Thyme	Others
	1	*Xerochrysum bracteatum*	Others
	1	Eucalyptus	PC absent
	1	Sweet William, carnation, other *Dianthus* spp.	PC: additional declaration missing
	1	*Hypericum* sp.	PC absent
	1	Goldenrod, other *Solidago* spp.	Goods' quantity does not correspond with PC
	1	Goldenrod, other *Solidago* spp.	PC incomplete: botanical name not included
	1	*Bidens ferulifolia*	PC: additional declaration missing
	1	*Glandularia peruviana*	PC: additional declaration missing
	1	Lantana	PC: additional declaration missing
	1	*Lobelia erinus*	PC: additional declaration missing
	1	*Scaevola aemula*	PC: additional declaration missing
Kyrgyzstan	1	Poplar	PC absent
Laos	1	Water spinach	PC absent
	1	Mixed plants	PC absent
Malaysia	2	Eggplant	PC: additional declaration inadequate or invalid
Mexico	1	Tomato	PC absent
	1	Eggplant	Non-compliance with special requirements (documentary)
	1	Bitter melon	Non-compliance with special requirements (documentary)
	1	Bitter melon	PC: additional declaration missing
Morocco	1	Turnip	Non-compliance with special requirements (physical)
	1	Sweet and chilli peppers	PC incomplete: botanical name not included
	1	Sweet and chilli peppers	PC: additional declaration inadequate or invalid
	3	Sweet and chilli peppers	PC: false information
	1	Mandarin	PC: additional declaration inadequate or invalid
	2	Sweet oranges	Non-compliance with special requirements (physical)
	2	Sweet oranges	PC: additional declaration missing
	1	Courgettes, pumpkins, other *Cucurbita* spp.	PC: false information
	1	Common beans	PC: false information
	1	Tomato	PC incomplete: absence of consignor, importer
	2	Tomato	PC incomplete: botanical name not included
	4	Tomato	PC: false information
	1	Mixed plants	PC absent
	1	Spearmint	Presence of goods not mentioned on PC
	1	Mixed plants	WPM: marking absent

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Table 2
Continued

Country of origin	No.	Intercepted products	Non-conformity
Nigeria	1	Chilli pepper	PC absent
	1	Yams	PC incomplete: botanical name not included
	1	Cassava leaves	PC absent
	1	Almond	PC absent
	1	Potatoes, tomatoes, peppers, eggplants, other *Solanaceae* spp.	PC absent
Peru	1	Tomato	PC: expired date
	1	Sweet corn	PC absent
	1	Onions	PC: mismatch between means of transport and the declared means of transport in the CHED
	1	Asparagus	Others
	1	Mango	Others
	2	Mango	PC: additional declaration missing
	1	European olive	PC absent
	1	Grapes	Goods' quantity does not correspond with PC
	1	Potatoes	Prohibited plants, plants products or other objects
	1	Mixed plants	WPM: incomplete marking
Rwanda	1	Mixed plants	WPM: marking absent
Senegal	1	Almond	PC absent
South Africa	1	Onions	PC: false information
	1	*Acorus gramineus*	PC: additional declaration missing
	2	*Buddleia* sp.	PC: additional declaration missing
	1	*Carissa* sp.	PC: additional declaration missing
	1	*Chlorophytum* sp.	PC: additional declaration missing
	1	*Delosperma* sp.	PC: additional declaration missing
	1	*Duranta* sp.	PC: additional declaration missing
	1	*Leptospermum* sp.	PC: additional declaration missing
	1	*Melaleuca* sp.	PC: additional declaration missing
	1	*Pittosporum* sp.	PC: additional declaration missing
	2	*Podocarpus* sp.	PC: additional declaration missing
	1	*Sedum* sp.	PC: additional declaration missing
	1	*Sempervivum* sp.	PC: additional declaration missing
	1	*Tecoma capensis*	PC: additional declaration missing
	1	Oak	PC: additional declaration missing
	1	Oak	PC: expired date

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Table 2
Continued

Country of origin	No.	Intercepted products	Non-conformity
Sri Lanka	1	Curcuma, other *Curcuma* spp.	PC absent
	1	Mixed plants	PC absent
Suriname	1	Mangoes, other *Mangifera* spp.	PC absent
Tanzania	1	Bitter melon	Goods' quantity does not correspond with PC
Thailand	1	*Epipremnum pinnatum*	PC: additional declaration missing
	1	Monstera	PC: additional declaration missing
	1	Philodendron	PC: additional declaration missing
	1	*Astrophytum asterias*	Others
	1	Tomato	PC: additional declaration missing
	1	Tomato	PC: expired date
	1	Tomato	PC: non-certified copy or non-authenticated copy
	1	Eggplant	PC: expired date
	1	Eggplant	PC: non-certified copy or non-authenticated copy
	1	Mixed plants	PC absent
	1	*Pteridophyllum racemosum*	PC absent
	2	*Stephania* sp.	PC absent
	1	Mixed plants	PC absent
Togo	1	Pineapples	PC absent
	1	Roselle, Chinese hibiscus, other *Hibiscus* spp.	PC: additional declaration missing
Tunisia	1	Sweet and chilli peppers	PC absent
	2	Mandarin	Prohibited plants, plants products or other objects
	4	Sweet oranges	Prohibited plants, plants products or other objects
	3	Clementines	Prohibited plants, plants products or other objects
	2	Lemons	Prohibited plants, plants products or other objects
	1	Globe artichokes	WPM: marking absent
Türkiye	1	Calibrachoa	PC: additional declaration missing
	1	Penstemon	Presence of goods not mentioned on PC
	1	Petunia	PC: additional declaration missing
	1	Strawberry	Others
	1	Quinces	Others
	1	Mixed plants	WPM: marking absent
Uganda	1	Mixed plants	PC non-compliant with Annex V to Reg. 2016/2031
	1	Chrysanthemums	PC: additional declaration missing
	1	Lantana	PC: additional declaration missing
	1	Pelargonium	PC: additional declaration missing
Ukraine	3	Grapes	Prohibited plants, plants products or other objects
	1	Grapes	Prohibited plants, plants products or other objects
	2	Tomatoes, other *Lycopersicon* spp.	PC absent
	1	Tomato	PC absent
Vietnam	1	Horticultural plants	PC absent
	1	Peaches, plums, other *Prunus*	Unfit for inspection due to poor goods' quality

CHED, Common Health Entry Document; NPPO, national plant protection organisation; PC, phytosanitary certificate; WPM, wood packaging material

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