Plant health interceptions (EUROPHYT) in June 2024

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June 2024 saw 98 interceptions due to harmful organisms concerning 25 AGRINFO partner countries, and 308 interceptions due to other non-conformities concerning 35 partner countries

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

Update

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

In June 2024, there were 98 interceptions due to harmful organisms involving 25 AGRINFO partner countries, and 308 interceptions due to other non-conformities involving 35 partner countries.

Impacted products

Plants and plant products

Interceptions

Harmful organisms

In June 2024 there were 98 EUROPHYT interceptions due to harmful organisms affecting 25 low- and middle-income (AGRINFO partner) countries (see Table 1).

Other non-conformities

There were also 308 interceptions due to other non-conformities, affecting 35 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 (June 2024).

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Timeline

June 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 (June 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 – June 2024

Country of origin	No. of interceptions	Intercepted products	Harmful organisms
Argentina	1	Lemons	Fungus
Brazil	14	Persian limes	Fungus
	4	Persian limes	Bacteria
	1	Mango	Fall armyworm
Burkina Faso	4	Mango	Fruit flies
Burundi	1	Sweet and chilli peppers	Fruit flies
Cambodia	3	Culantro	Whiteflies
	1	Mango	Fruit flies
Cameroon	2	Avocado	False codling moth
Colombia	2	Persian limes	Fungus
	1	Mango	Fruit flies
	1	Ground cherries	Virus
Congo, Democratic Republic of	1	Onions	Leaf-miner flies
	1	Common sorrel	Whiteflies
	1	Potatoes, tomatoes, peppers, eggplants, other *Solanaceae* species	Leaf-miner flies
Côte d'Ivoire	12	Mango	Fruit flies
Dominican Republic	1	Mango	Fruit flies
Egypt	1	Sweet oranges	Fruit flies
	1	Ground cherries	Flies
India	2	Mango	Fruit flies
Kenya	1	Basil	Thrips
Malaysia	2	Carambola	Fruit flies
Mali	3	Mango	Fruit flies
Mexico	3	Asparagus	Moths
	1	Persian limes	Scales
	1	Bitter melon	Moths
	1	Bitter melon	Thrips

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Table 1
Continued

Country of origin	No. of interceptions	Intercepted products	Harmful organisms
Nigeria	1	Not specified	Whiteflies
Peru	1	Asparagus	Moths
	2	Asparagus	Fall armyworm
	1	Persian limes	Fungus
	1	Curcuma	Bacteria
	2	Ginger	
Senegal	2	Ethiopian eggplants	Fall armyworm
South Africa	1	Chilli pepper	Fruit flies
	2	Bitter oranges	Fungus
	1	Lemons	
Sri Lanka	1	Angled luffas	Fruit flies
	2	Snake gourd, pointed gourd, other *Trichosanthes* species	
	1	Cowpeas, yardlong beans, other *Vigna* sub-species	
Tanzania	1	Courgettes, pumpkins, other *Cucurbita* species	Fruit flies
Thailand	1	Asparagus	Butterflies and moths
	2	Holy basil	Whiteflies
	2	Betel leaves	
	1	Eggplant	Moths
Vietnam	1	Chilli pepper	Fruit flies
	1	Mango	
	1	Passion fruit (purple)	
	2	Java apple	
Zimbabwe	1	Lemons	False codling moth

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Source: EUROPHYT monthly report

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

Country of origin	Number of interceptions	Intercepted products
Albania	1	Red cabbage
	2	Sweet and chilli peppers
	1	Melons (excluding watermelons)
	2	European pear
	1	Tomato
Bangladesh	2	Papaya
	4	Litchi
	10	Mango
	3	Not specified
	2	Pears
Botswana	13	Bitter oranges
Brazil	1	Persian limes
	1	Coconut
	1	Mango
Cambodia	1	Culantro
Cameroon	2	Safou
China	2	Sweet and chilli peppers
	2	Mango
Colombia	1	Peruvian ground cherry
Congo, Democratic Republic of	1	Kola nut
	1	Mango
Côte d'Ivoire	1	Not specified
	1	Sweet and chilli peppers
	1	Mango
	1	Ethiopian eggplants
	1	African eggplant
	1	Turkey berry
Cuba	2	Mango
Dominican Republic	1	Key limes
	1	Sweet potato
	1	Mango
	1	Passion fruit (purple)
	1	Avocado
Ecuador	1	Tamarillo
	1	Not specified
Egypt	5	Citrus fruits (oranges, lemons, …)
	2	Mandarin
	75	Sweet oranges
	1	Pumpkin
	1	Potatoes
	1	Grapes
Eswatini	1	Bitter oranges
Ghana	1	Sweet and chilli peppers
	1	Eggplant

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Table 2
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Country of origin	Number of interceptions	Intercepted products
Guinea	1	Avocado
Iran	1	Mango
Jordan	1	Okra
	1	White gourds
	1	Jute mallow, other *Corchorus* species
	1	Melons (excl. watermelons)
	1	Pumpkin
	1	Courgettes, pumpkins, other *Cucurbita* species
	1	Common sage
	1	Eggplant
	1	Thyme
	1	Lowbush blueberry
	1	Cowpeas, yardlong beans, other *Vigna* sub-species
Kenya	1	Sweet and chilli peppers
Kosovo	5	Head cabbages
	5	Sweet and chilli peppers
Mauritius	2	Onions
	2	Not specified
Morocco	1	Peanut
	3	Watermelon
	1	Sweet oranges
	1	Lemons
	3	Melons (excluding watermelons)
	1	Tomato
Nepal	1	Not specified
Nigeria	2	Mints
Pakistan	2	Mango
Peru	1	Cherimoya
	1	Soursop
	2	Sweet and chilli peppers
	3	Chilli pepper
	1	Sweet chestnut
	1	Lemons
	2	Caigua
	1	Carrots
	1	Mango
	2	Passion fruit (purple)
	1	Sweet granadilla
	1	Avocado
	1	Sweetcorn
	1	Bay laurel
	1	Rue
	1	Huacatay

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Table 2
Continued

Country of origin	Number of interceptions	Intercepted products
Senegal	1	Sweetcorn
South Africa	1	Horseradish
	1	Lemons
	3	Mandarin
	16	Bitter oranges
	2	Sweet oranges
	18	Lemons
Sri Lanka	1	Soursops, cherimoyas, custard apples, sweetsops
	4	Papaya
	2	Litchi
	4	Mango
	2	Avocado
	2	Common beans
	2	Pears
	5	Not specified
Thailand	2	Sweet and chilli peppers
	1	Mango
	1	Common guava
Togo	1	Okra
	1	Onions
	1	*Dalium* species
	1	Purple yam
	1	Baobab leaves
	1	Jute mallow, other *Corchorus* species
	1	Lemon grass
	1	Tigernut
	1	Purslanes
	1	African eggplant
	1	Not specified
	1	Bitterleaves
Tunisia	1	Sweet and chilli peppers
	1	Almond
Uganda	1	Yams
	1	Tamarillo
Vietnam	3	Potatoes, tomatoes, peppers, eggplants, other *Solanaceae* species

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