Revised list of plants susceptible to Xylella fastidiosa

Published by AGRINFO on 07 Feb 2024

EU updates list of plants susceptible to Xylella fastidiosa

Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) 2023/1706 of 7 September 2023 amending Implementing Regulation (EU) 2020/1201 as regards the lists of plants known to be susceptible to *Xylella fastidiosa*

Update

The EU has updated the list of plants known to be susceptible to *Xylella fastidiosa.*

Impacted products

Plants and plant products

What is changing?

This new Regulation amends Regulation (EU) 2020/1201 regarding the list of plants known to be susceptible to *Xylella fastidiosa.* Additions to the list include, among others, *Citrus limon* (lemon), *Arbutus unedo* (strawberry tree), and *Ficus carica* (fig). The complete list of plants for planting is available in the Annexes to the Regulation.

The inclusion of these species, particularly commercial crops such as *C. limon*, does not involve specific import requirements for their fruits. Import requirements are set only for plants for planting (other than seeds). However, consistent with the treatment of all EU quarantine pests, if *X. fastidiosa* is detected in any plant or plant product consignment, it will be refused market access to the EU.

Why?

In response to evolving scientific knowledge and the geographical spread of the pathogen, the EU has adjusted its list of plants susceptible to *X. fastidiosa* (EFSA 2022).

Xylella fastidiosa is included in the list of 20 regulated quarantine pests, qualifying it as an EU priority pest with potentially severe economic, environmental, and social impacts on the EU's

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territory. The associated requirements are mainly directed at European stakeholders, but there are important implications for countries exporting the listed plants.

Timeline

In force from September 2023.

Background

Regulation (EU) 2020/1201 sets out preventive measures against the spread of *X. fastidiosa* within the EU. This includes guidelines for introducing host plants (plants for planting) into the EU from non-EU countries.

For more information see EU Plant Health Law explained, Provisional list of high risk plants explained, Provisional listing of pests, commodities and additional plant health requirements, and Revision of plant health law.

Resources

EFSA (2022) Update of the *Xylella* spp. host plant database – systematic literature search up to 30 June 2022. EFSA Journal, 21(1): 7726.

Regulation (EU) 2016/2031 on protective measures against pests of plants

Regulation (EU) 2020/1201 as regards measures to prevent the introduction into and the spread within the Union of *Xylella fastidiosa*

Sources

Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) 2023/1706 as regards the lists of plants known to be susceptible to *Xylella fastidiosa*

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