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HEALTH AND CONSUMERS DIRECTORATE-GENERAL

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**SUMMARY REPORT OF THE MEETING OF THE  
STANDING COMMITTEE ON PLANT HEALTH ON  
09-10 JULY 2012**

Chair: Harry Arijs

All Member States present, except Luxembourg. Switzerland was present as observer. Croatia was absent as observer.

**1. Miscellaneous**

The Commission clarified the implementing rules for plant health co-financing dossiers to speed up procedures and narrow the time gap between implementation of the measures by Member States and co-financing by the Commission.

**2. Presentation by the Commission of the results of the 2011 monitoring campaigns by Member States for the detection of *Ralstonia solanacearum* (potato brown rot) and *Clavibacter michiganensis* ssp. *sepedonicus* (potato ring rot) on potatoes, followed by an exchange of views.**

The Commission presented the results of the official surveys carried out by Member States with regards to potato brown rot (*Ralstonia solanacearum*) and potato ring rot (*Clavibacter michiganensis* ssp. *sepedonicus*), conducted on potato tubers harvested in 2011 in their countries, in application of Council Directives 93/85/EEC (control of potato ring rot) and 98/57/EC (control of potato brown rot) respectively.

The number of samples taken from seed and ware potatoes for *Clavibacter michiganensis* ssp. *sepedonicus* was around 63 000 and 25 000 respectively. The number of samples taken from seed and ware potatoes for *Ralstonia* was around 61 000 and 23 000 respectively. The incidence level for *Clavibacter michiganensis* ssp. *sepedonicus* has improved slightly since last year. The incidence level for *Ralstonia* has increased slightly since the previous year. It was concluded that the monitoring campaigns for brown rot and ring rot in Member States remain extensive.

- 3. Presentation by the Commission of the results of the 2011 monitoring campaigns by Member States for *Globodera pallida* (white potato cyst nematode) and *Globodera rostochiensis* (yellow potato cyst nematode) detection on potatoes, followed by an exchange of views.**

The monitoring exercise for ware potato production areas was carried out in the EU in connection with Council Directive 2007/33/EC on the control of potato cyst nematodes. The total area surveyed for potato cyst nematodes in ware potato production for 2011 was about 20 000 ha. This resulted in 32 600 samples for the whole EU territory and 2 000 specific samples were taken in *Globodera pallida* Protected Zones.

Continued monitoring will result in a more complete overview in the future.

- 4. Presentation by the European Food Safety Authority (EFSA) of a Scientific Opinion on the risks to plant health posed by European versus non-European populations of the potato cyst nematodes (PCN) *Globodera pallida* and *Globodera rostochiensis*, followed by an exchange of views.**

The scientific opinion of the European Food Safety Authority (EFSA) published on 16 April 2012 was presented by the Chair of the PCN Working Group of the EFSA Panel on Plant Health. After the presentation of the opinion, the speaker and representatives of EFSA answered questions from the Committee on the opinion. It was concluded that the opinion is a good additional background document to develop a proposal for amending the EU's phytosanitary requirements for PCN.

- 5. Presentation by the Commission of the results of 2011 monitoring campaigns by Member States for the detection of *Diabrotica virgifera virgifera* (Western corn root worm).**

In 2011, the Western corn rootworm was found to be present in 12 Member States and absent in the other 15 Member States. Eradication measures are applied in Greece and in some areas of Germany and France. The other infested countries (HU, BG, RO, IT, AT, CZ, PL, SK, SI and parts of DE and FR) apply containment measures.

- 6. Exchange of views on a non-paper for a draft Commission Implementing Decision as regards emergency measures to prevent the introduction into and spread within the Union of *Pseudomonas syringae* pv *actinidiae*.**

Possibilities for EU emergency measures against this bacterium were further explored.

- 7. Exchange of views on regulated harmful organisms for which the status and/or the related phytosanitary requirements need to be revised at mid-term.**

An exchange of views took place in order to identify the most urgent needs for new pest risk analyses to allow revising the listing and phytosanitary requirements of certain harmful organisms.

**8. Exchange of views on the implementation and review of Decision 2011/787/EU concerning the requirements for the import of Egyptian potatoes during the recent import season.**

The import of Egyptian potatoes during the last trade season was discussed. No interceptions of imported consignments were notified. The Commission reminded Member States to submit information on the amounts of imported Egyptian potatoes for the previous season to the Commission and other Member States by 31 August 2012. No requests for amending the Decision, due for review by 30 September 2012, were raised.

**9. Exchange of views related to the final report of an audit mission by the Food and Veterinary Office to China from 23 February until 2 March 2012 to evaluate the official control of plants exported to the European Union with particular attention to measures against *Anoplophora chinensis*.**

The conclusions of the final report of an audit mission carried out in China in February and March 2012 to evaluate the official control of plants exported to the European Union, with particular attention to measures against *Anoplophora chinensis*, were discussed. It was concluded that the import ban for *Acer* plants from China should not be renewed at this stage. However, Member States expressed serious concern about a restart of the trade. Therefore any new trade will be intensively checked by Member States and followed up by the Commission in case of irregularities.

**9. B Exchange of views on a non-paper for a draft Commission Implementing Decision as regards the inclusion of phytosanitary requirements for fruit plants in Annex IV to Directive 2000/29/EC.**

An exchange of views was organised as regards the amendments to Annex IV Part A Section II of Directive 2000/29/EC in the framework of harmonization of the certification scheme for fruit plants. The discussion will be continued.

**10. Exchange of views and possible opinion of the Committee on a draft Commission Implementing Decision as regards temporary emergency measures to prevent the introduction into and the spread within the Union of the genus *Pomacea* (Perry). (Doc. SANCO/11161/2012) (Legal Base: Article 16.3 of Council Directive 2000/29/EC) (Opinion of the Committee via the examination procedure).**

The Committee progressed on a draft version for emergency measures to prevent the introduction into and the spread within the Union of the genus *Pomacea*. The discussion and possible vote will continue in the next Committee.