Ministry for Primary Industries
Manatū Ahu Matua

MPI Emerging Risks System for Biosecurity

Stakeholder Report
10th June – 9th September 2016

24 November 2016

New Zealand Government

Growing and Protecting New Zealand

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MPI Emerging Risks System for Biosecurity

9th Stakeholder Report

10th December 2015 to 9th June 2016

Biosecurity Science, Food Science and Risk Assessment Directorate
Ministry for Primary Industries

MPI Emerging Risks System - Biosecurity

The MPI Emerging Risks System – Biosecurity (ERS) is designed to proactively identify and manage potential and emerging risks to New Zealand's biosecurity. The ERS focusses on plant and animal hazards and other invasive species in the terrestrial and aquatic environments. The current priorities of the ERS are significant changes to the distribution, hosts or virulence of exotic organisms of biosecurity concerns to New Zealand.

Recent Alerts

This is the 9th in a series of updates for MPI staff and external stakeholders on the ERS. This Stakeholder Report covers activity from the 10th June to the 9th September 2016.

Background to this work is provided in Appendix 1.

Since the inception of the ERS on 31st August 2012, the total number of alerts sent to the system is 5,811 with 1,013 of these alerts progressed into the ERS. Of these, about 800 required further risk assessment and a small proportion (approximately 10%) required risk management evaluation.

A complete list of all alerts sent to the ERS since its inception on 31 August 2012 is available in our previous Stakeholder Reports: June 2013, August 2013, January 2014, May 2014, October 2014, May 2015, December 2015 and June 2016. Copies are available on request.

Between 10th June and 9th September 2016 the total number of alerts sent to the ERS was 791. Only 96 of these alerts were progressed into the ERS, as they contained new information such as: a change to a host of an important commodity; a new distribution, or; a new species. A significant proportion of alerts sent to the ERS are not progressed into the ERS because the information in the alert: is already known; does not signal an increased risk to New Zealand Biosecurity, or; concerns a commodity that we do not have an industry for.

Of the 96 alerts progressed into the ERS, 75 were closed after an initial assessment (as the assessment indicated that the risk was currently managed or there was no pathway) and 6 alerts are awaiting conclusion of the initial assessment. The remaining 15 alerts were sent to risk analysts and/or risk managers for further assessment and to determine whether existing measures are sufficient. The risk management conclusion of one of these alerts was to log the information for amendment consideration at the next review of the relevant Import Health Standard.

Of the 75 alerts closed after an initial assessment, 3 generated situational awareness reports for border staff and a further 10 generated active monitoring (search terms created in an electronic notification system) to alert the ERS to new published information that could influence decision making.

This Stakeholder Report provides a summary of conclusions made within the ERS during the period of the 10th June to the 9th September 2016 (Refer appendix 2).

Some examples of recent alerts are included below. They are some of the alerts that resulted in the need for a review of risk management, or interesting examples that we are following more closely.

Alert: **PP 16-040, received 25/02/2016 from an MPI pathologist who had attended a workshop at which an American attendee considered the bacterium *Rathayibacter toxicus* to be a high risk pathogen for USA.**

Conclusion: After further assessment by a risk analyst, a risk manager is review ing the risk management options.

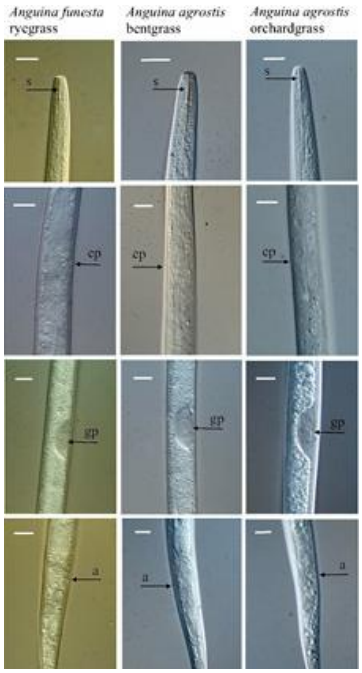
Rationale:

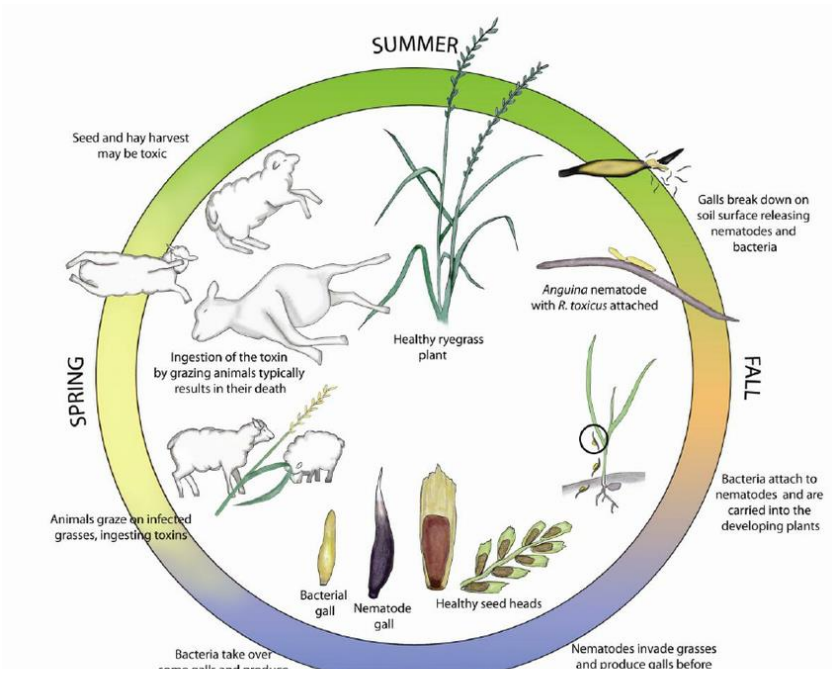
An MPI pathologist attended a Plant and Food Research workshop at which an American attendee considered the bacterium *Rathayibacter toxicus* to be a high risk pathogen for USA. Further correspondence between MPI and Plant and Food Research considered the possibility that this bacterium was also a biosecurity risk for New Zealand.

Rathayibacter toxicus is currently only known from Australia and South Africa, although there is a suspicion it was present in Oregon, USA, from about 1940 to the mid-1960s. It is a bacterium that relies on a seed gall nematode vector, *Anguina funesta*, to enter its primary host plant, the annual ryegrass *Lolium rigidum*. *R. toxicus* produces toxins that cause annual ryegrass toxicity (ARGT) in stock that eat infected grass. Mortalities of livestock are commonly 40-50%, and can be much higher. *L. rigidum* is present and naturalised in New Zealand. Several other grass species have also been recorded as hosts for the bacterium, including Italian ryegrass (*L multiflorum*), which is commercially important as a pasture grass in New Zealand. Some sources also include perennial ryegrass, *L. perenne*, the dominant grass species in New Zealand pastures, as a host. A number of different *Anguina* species can act as vectors of *R. toxicus*. There are two species of *Anguina* present in New Zealand, *A. agrostis* and *A. tritici*; they have been shown to vector *R. toxicus* experimentally but their ability to act as a vector in the field is unknown.

Vector nematodes, potentially infected with *R. toxicus*, could arrive in New Zealand in seed galls as sexual adults, eggs, or dauer larvae. Each individual seed gall can contain up to 3,560 larvae. The dauer stage is most likely to survive entry as they can survive in dry galls for up to 10 years. The import health standard for seeds for sowing (*Lolium* species, as well as other potential host grasses) does not have any phytosanitary measures in place for either the bacterium or the nematode.

R. toxicus has the potential to cause significant harm if it establishes in New Zealand. There is at least one viable entry pathway (seeds of *Lolium multiflorum* from affected countries). A review of risk management options is currently underway.





Alert: PP 16-037 received 16/02/2016 from an MPI staff member: the first report of *Blueberry leaf mottle virus* (BLMoV) on grapevine.

Conclusion: No immediate concern, as the affected commodity is not currently imported to New Zealand. The information has been logged for amendment consideration at the next review of the Import Health Standards (IHSs). In addition, information was provided to Border Clearance Services for situational awareness.

Rationale: In 2014 the testing of grapevine (*Vitis* spp.) leaf samples (symptomatic – yellowing and mottling on leaves – and asymptomatic) from major grape-growing areas of Korea showed that BLMoV is present in grapevines in Korea, though not associated with major damage. This is the first report of BLMoV outside of North America and Europe.

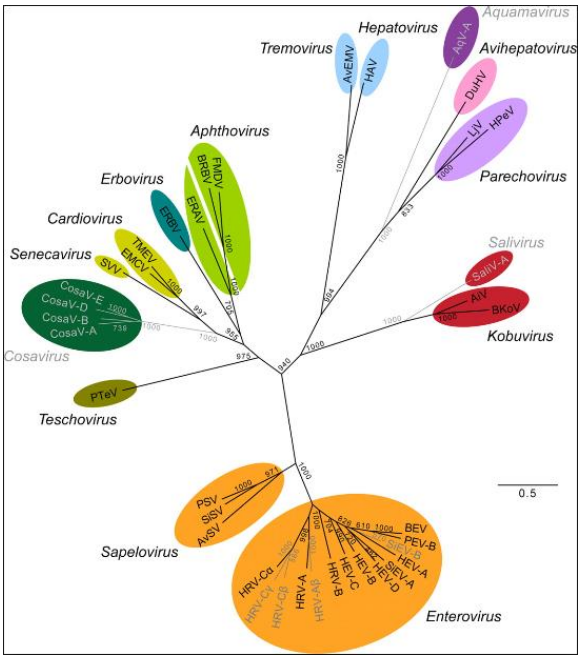
Risk pathways for BLMoV are nursery stock and, at least in blueberries, seed for sowing (there are no reports of seed transmission in *Vitis*). Fresh grapes are not a risk pathway. BLMoV is a quarantine pest for blueberries and therefore managed on the blueberry nursery stock and seed pathways. *Vitis* nursery stock and seed pathways are a potential risk, but both are inactive from Korea.

The risk is currently managed on active pathways, and the economic impacts of the *Vitis* strains of BLMoV are not well known to date. However, consideration of risk management changes for both *Vitis* nursery stock and *Vitis* seed for sowing schedules is recommended at the next review of the IHSs. In addition, information was passed to Border Clearance Services for situational awareness.

Alert: AA 16-017 received 3/08/2016 from ProMED electronic reporting system: a novel porcine sapelovirus has been implicated in an acute outbreak of atypical neurologic disease in pigs in USA.

Conclusion: No immediate concern but is worth monitoring to capture any new information about this disease and the biology of the virus and its role in disease causation.

Rationale: Porcine sapelovirus (PSV) has been implicated in an acute outbreak of atypical neurologic disease in pigs in USA. To date, sapelovirus from other species have not been reported to be associated with nervous disease. In this case, a novel sapelovirus was the only agent associated with a unique presentation of Central Nervous System disease. However, there is not yet conclusive evidence the disease is caused by the sapelovirus, and knowledge gaps remain concerning epidemiology, pathogenesis and biological relevance of this potential pathogen.



Faecal-oral is the primary mode of transmission of porcine sapelovirus, though fomites (non-living objects capable of carrying infectious organisms) may play a role. The only potential risk pathway from USA would be associated with imported meat and there is no evidence to suggest this is likely to be a viable pathway for this organism.

No further assessment of this alert is needed at this stage. Active monitoring has been set up to capture any new information about this disease and the biology of the virus and its role in disease causation.

Alert: PP 16-189 received 9/08/2016 from a commercial berry grower: Tasmania has indefinitely suspended strawberry imports from Western Australia after a third detection of the exotic pest green snail (*Cantareus apertus).*

Conclusion: Current phytosanitary measures in place are likely to manage the risk of green snail. Additional information was passed to Border Clearance Services for situational awareness.

Rationale: On 9/08/2016 the ERS was alerted by the owner of a commercial berry-growing operation to a press release stating that Tasmania has indefinitely suspended strawberry imports from Western Australia after the third detection of the exotic pest green snail (*Cantareus apertus*). The grower was concerned because New Zealand would at that time be importing Australian (including Western Australian) strawberries.

Green snail is native to Southern Europe and North Africa and has wide host range, including most leafy vegetables, cereal crops, lucerne, lupins and pasture grasses. It has been detected in West Australia (near Perth) since the 1980s and in NE Victoria (near Cobram) in September 2011. Eradication activities have been undertaken. In Australia, green snail also attacks native plants. It can be destructive on some of these hosts at least. It is slightly smaller than the common garden snail, though can be confused with this.

The most likely entry pathway into New Zealand is fresh produce or plant foliage (including cut flowers). Strawberries are frequently imported from Australia, including Western Australia, though the snail could be associated with many other plant species. The snail could also be associated with nursery stock or arrive as a hitchhiker with shipping containers or machinery, equipment, vehicles etc. from agricultural areas, where the snail can achieve high populations on crops. The risk on all of these pathways is likely to be managed by required inspection and, in the case of nursery stock, post-entry quarantine.

Alert: AA 16-019 received 22/08/2016 from an MPI staff member: 183-mile stretch of Yellowstone River closed after thousands of fish found dead.

Conclusion: This alert information does not signal an increased risk to New Zealand. No further action. Is required.

Rationale: On 22 August 2016 an MPI staff member alerted the ERS to press reports of a 183-mile stretch of Yellowstone River (Montana, USA), and hundreds of miles of other waterways, being closed indefinitely to prevent the spread of a parasite, *Tetracapsuloides bryosalmonae* (also known as PKD or Proliferative Kidney Disease) believed to have killed tens of thousands of fish. Most of the fish have been mountain whitefish, a native game fish. Officials believe the parasite was introduced by people e.g. via a contaminated boat or fishing waders, or possibly by birds.

PKD is a parasitic disease of great economic significance to salmonid aquaculture. The causative parasite's life cycle alternates between an invertebrate host (freshwater bryozoans) and a vertebrate host, salmonid fish (family Salmonidae). PKD was previously only known in fish of the subfamily Salmoninae, which includes trout and salmon. Mountain whitefish are in a different subfamily, but now appear to be highly susceptible. Freshwater bryzozoans in the same genera as those known to act as alternate hosts of the parasite are present in New Zealand.

Potential entry pathways for the parasite into New Zealand are fish for human consumption, bait fish, used equipment associated with freshwater, ornamental products and pet food. However, the risk of *Tetracapsuloides bryosalmonae* is managed by Import Health Standard requirements on these pathways, and the likelihood that the parasite will enter New Zealand is considered to be negligible. No further assessment is required for this alert.

Appendix 1 Background - MPI Emerging Risks System - Biosecurity

What:

The MPI Emerging Risks System for Biosecurity is a centralised system, to provide a systematic intelligence-led approach that enables early prioritisation and coordination of risk based interventions for new and emerging biosecurity risks across MPI and industry.

The MPI ERS monitors the flow and uptake of information of potential emerging biosecurity risk, including actions taken by risk analysts and risk managers.

Focus:

The current focus of the MPI ERS is information that signals significant changes to the distribution, hosts, or virulence of exotic organisms of biosecurity concern. It covers risks affecting plants and animals (terrestrial or aquatic) or organisms that may carry human disease.

Regular reporting across the Ministry and external stakeholders provides the information to identify key emerging risks and the coordination of risk based interventions.

When:

The MPI ERS was implemented in August 2012. It is under continuous improvement.

Why:

Identifying potential and emerging threats is an important component of effective biosecurity risk management. Staff from across MPI have historically kept watch on new and emerging pests and diseases. Doing this in a coordinated way and ensuring appropriate action was being taken was, however, challenging. The MPI ERS provides a clear entry point for emerging risk information from staff, stakeholders and other sources to enter the organisation, be properly assessed, and have appropriate action taken. Importantly, it also provides a mechanism to communicate emerging risks to stakeholders so they also have an opportunity to consider and take appropriate action within their own sphere of influence.

How:

The MPI Emerging Risks System for Biosecurity enables every New Zealander to engage with the system and be biosecurity-conscious. The emergingrisks@mpi.govt.nz enables you to submit any new information about a potential new pest that could impact your industry, and/or New Zealand's Biosecurity System.

Industry members are key contributors of alerts to the MPI ERS. These alerts are prioritised in the MPI ERS as experience has taught us that this is the most valuable information to inform the MPI ERS of emerging biosecurity risks.

Essentially the ERS involves:

1. Submission of new alert information of changes in hosts, distribution and impacts of exotic organisms, into the ERS. External stakeholders and MPI staff members are all contributors to the MPI ERS. In addition, the following global electronic notification systems provide alerts into ERS:

   - EPPO (European and Mediterranean Plant Protection Organization) alerts,
   - IBIS (International Biosecurity Intelligence System) alerts,

- PestLens - a United States Department of Agriculture exotic plant pest monitoring system that provides timely information to support informed safeguarding against pests that threaten U.S. agriculture and natural resources), and
- ProMed (Program for Monitoring Emerging Diseases) - an Internet-based reporting system dedicated to rapid global dissemination of information on outbreaks of infectious diseases and acute exposures to toxins that affect human health, including those in animals and in plants grown for food or animal feed)

2. Screening of multiple information sources according to a science-based filter using specified criteria.

3. Risk assessment to determine whether there is an increase in the risk profile for the biosecurity of New Zealand.

4. Communication of any change in risk profile to risk managers who assess what action (if any) may be needed (off-shore, at the border, or in readiness and response planning)

5. Regular reporting to stakeholders to identify key emerging risks and for the coordination of risk based interventions.

If the result of the risk assessment indicates a significant emerging risk for New Zealand, the information is communicated to risk managers for their consideration. Our risk managers will check through a number of sources to consider:

- Are there any identified hosts or associated products that are eligible for import under a valid Import Health Standard (IHS)?
- Are there already specific pre-export, on shore (border) or off-shore measures in place that would appropriately manage the emerging risk?
- Does an IHS need to be amended, revoked or suspended? Are amendments required urgently?
- Do procedures at the border require urgent amendments?
- Are there commodities in transit to NZ that we need to action on?
- Are we already sufficiently prepared? If not, is the residual risk sufficient to warrant preparedness actions?
- Are there other factors that make action advisable?
- What communications are required and what audience needs to be targeted (includes internal, external stakeholders – exporters, importers, NPPO's, Minister, MPI Officials etc.)?
- Do stakeholders need to be involved in this decision?

Refer to appendix 2 for a summary of conclusions made within the ERS during the period of the 10th June to the 9th September 2016.

How you can help:

Email any new information of potential emerging biosecurity risks directly into the ERS, EmergingRisks@mpi.govt.nz.

As a guide we would be particularly interested in events that in your experience, or noted through your contacts might be "significant" changes to the distribution, hosts, or virulence of exotic organisms of biosecurity concern. For example: witnessing outbreaks in unusual circumstances overseas on crops that we grow in New Zealand; or receiving reports of pests and diseases occurring on new hosts that have not been seen before; or outbreaks of disease in new animal

populations overseas. Early alerts to these situations provide an opportunity to more effectively respond to and communicate these new risks.

As the scope of the system expands to cover biosecurity impacts and potential new pathway information, we will be interested to receive information on any big changes to the way we do business in New Zealand where this may impact on our biosecurity risk profile. For example, large scale changes that may mean we might import higher volumes of particular commodities or cultivate new plant varieties on a wider scale.

The first step in the ERS screens multiple information sources according to a science-based filter that uses specified criteria. The Risk Analyst receives and assesses the "alert" against specified criteria, which include:

- Have we looked at this before?
- What has changed?
- What is the potential for organism establishment and impact?
- Are there viable pathways?
- What does the information mean about the risk? Has it changed substantially?
- Is it worth considering further?
- Is it urgent?

Where the information does not indicate a significant emerging risk, the alert is closed and the information filed.

Value of the MPI Emerging Risks System – Biosecurity so far?

- Has systematically increased the rate at which MPI is informed of new information on pests associated with commodities. There is a significant amount of new information signaling pests associated with imports which is captured by the centralized process of ERS, and then communicated to the right people.
- Has highlighted that for certain crops (e.g. grapes) our knowledge of associated risks is changing radically (new information, new pathways).
- Has been used systematically as a source of information by some risk managers to consider whether new risks have arisen when issuing permits under import health standards.
- Has resulted in streamlining the communication of emerging risk information to relevant parties – resulting in a less scatter-gun communication and response (with decreased duplication of risk assessment).
- Has facilitated some amendments to MPI's current measures in response to emerging risks processed by the system
- Is providing confidence that MPI's measures are adapting to the changing environment of emerging risk information
- Is continuously improving including: the refining of decision criteria throughout the system; increasing the Administrator's role in monitoring system performance; evaluation of system performance by Quality Assurance reviews, and the establishment of system evaluation discussions between Risk Team Managers and Risk Managers.
- Provides the opportunity to apply a quality assurance process to MPI's identification and management of emerging risks.

APPENDIX 2

ERS - Summary of actions and conclusions of emerging risk alerts (10th June – 9th September 2016)

Risk management is underway

Risk management action is undertaken when the alert signals an increased risk to New Zealand biosecurity. Amendment to a schedule of an Import Health Standard is currently being undertaken to manage the changed risk.

Risk to plant or animal	Species/ Causative agent	Organism type	Host	Alert details	IHS standard to change or review	Tracking #	Date of contribution to ERS
Plant	*Pantoea ananatis*	Bacterium	*Zea mays* (maize)	An extension of geographical and host range of *Pantoea ananatis (P. ananatis)* on maize (*Zea mays*) in Victoria was announced on 3 May 2016.	IHS 155.02.06: Importation of Nursery Stock	PP 16-097	16/05/2016

Risk management changes will be considered at the next review of Import Health Standard

Risk management action is required when the alert is new information of an increased risk to New Zealand biosecurity.

The changed risk is not covered by an existing standards, however the affected commodity is not currently imported. The changed risk is logged for amendment consideration of Import Health Standard at next review. In the meantime they are managed on an import-by-import basis.

Risk to plant or animal	Species/ Causative agent	Organism type	Host	Alert details	Tracking #	Date of contribution to ERS
Plant	*Teratosphaeria zuluensis*	Fungus	*Eucalyptus* spp.	First report of the fungus *Teratosphaeria zuluensis* in Uganda.	PP 15-040	27/02/2015
Plant	*Blueberry leaf mottle virus* (BLMV)	Virus	*Vitis* spp.	First report of *Blueberry leaf mottle virus* on grapevine in Korea	PP 16-037	6/02/2016
Plant	*Verticillium longisporum*	Fungus	*Brassica* spp.	A national survey led by the Canadian Food Inspection Agency (CFIA) has found *Verticillium longisporum* in six provinces: British Columbia, Alberta, Saskatchewan, Manitoba, Ontario, and Quebec.	PP 16-062	19/03/2016
Plant	*Peronospora belbahrii* (downey mildew)	Oomycete~~Fungus~~	*Ocimum basilicum* (basil)	First report of downey mildew, *Peronospora belbahrii*, affecting Basil in China. It is estimated that the disease affected almost 40% of the plants.	PP 16-084	12/03/2016
Plant	*Papaya leaf curl Guangdong virus* (PaLCuGdV)	Virus	*Eustoma grandiflorum* (lisianthus)	First report of the begomovirus *Papaya leaf curl Guangdong virus* (PaLCuGdV) infecting *Eustoma grandiflorum* (lisianthus).	PP 16-127	18/06/2016

Alerts used for Situational Awareness to assist border staff

Additional information from assessed alerts was passed on to assist border staff for their situational awareness.

Risk to plant or animal	Species/ Causative agent	Organism type	Host	Alert details	Tracking #	Date of contribution to ERS
Plant	*Anastrepha ludens*	Insect	*Citrus* spp, and other fruits	Brownsville, Texas: the quarantine zone for the Mexican fruit fly (*Anastrepha ludens*) is expanding to even more areas of the Rio Grande Valley.	PP 16-078	21/04/2016
Animal	*Vespa velutina nigrithorax* (Asian hornet)	Insect	Honeybees, other invertebrates	Asian hornet (*Vespa velutina nigrithorax*) detected in the UK	PP 16-108	24/05/2016
Plant	n/a	n/a	n/a	Chinese news article with incorrect MPI entry requirements leading foreign passengers to believe they can bring any animal products in if they declare them	PP 16-114	26/05/2016
Plant	Unknown disease	Unknown disease	*Metrosideros collina*	Email from Matt Buys (Scion): "I attended a talk by Cameron Ewen (Auck. War Mem. Museum Herbarium) last night. He has just returned from a holiday from Tahiti. He had some photos to show of dead *M. collina*. Apparently they are all dying from an unknown disease."	PP 16-133	28/06/2016
Plant	*Diuraphis noxia* (Russian wheat aphid)	Insect	*Triticum* spp. (wheat) *Hordeum vulgare* (barley)	Russian wheat aphid detected in Victoria, Australia (recently first detected in Australia in South Australia - see PP 16-115).	PP 16-134	1/07/2016
Plant	*Cantareus apertus* (green snail)	Gastropod	Associated with strawberry in alert, but wide host range, including most leafy vegetables, cereal crops, lucerne, lupins, pasture graasses, native plants (Australian reference).	Tasmania has indefinitely suspended strawberry imports from Western Australia after a third detection of the exotic pest green snail was found.	PP 16-189	9/08/2016
Plant	*Philydrum lanuginosum* (woolly waterlily)	Plant	n/a	Recently, a large, naturalized population of woolly waterlily, *Philydrum lanuginosum* (Commelinales: Philydraceae), was observed in a wetland in North Carolina. This is the first report of *P. lanuginosum* in the United States and in North America.	PP 16-195	12/08/2016

Active monitoring set up to inform ERS as new information becomes available

The potential risk is of no immediate concern but is worth monitoring for change – 'Active monitoring' has been set up. The alert has been closed.

Risk to plant or animal	Species/ Causative agent	Organism type	Host	Alert details	Tracking #	Date of contribution to ERS
plant	*Trichoderma* spp.	Fungus	*Pinus* spp.	*Trichoderma* spp. ~~F~~found on pinus	PP 14-249	12/12/2014
Plant	*Hyaloperonospora lobulariae*	Oomycete	*Alyssum*	First report of the oomycete *Hyaloperonospora lobulariae* (Peronosporea: Peronosporales), causal agent of downy mildew of alyssum, in Japan	PP 15-041	27/02/2015
Plant	*Verticillium longisporum*	Fungus	*Brassica* spp.	A national survey led by the Canadian Food Inspection Agency (CFIA) has found *Verticillium longisporum* in six provinces: British Columbia, Alberta, Saskatchewan, Manitoba, Ontario, and Quebec.	PP 16-062	19/03/2016
Plant	*Peronospora belbahrii* (downey mildew)	Oomycete~~Fungus~~	*Ocimum basilicum* (basil)	First report of downey mildew, *Peronospora belbahrii*, affecting Basil in China. It is estimated that the disease affected almost 40% of the plants.	PP 16-084	12/03/2016
Plant	*Holocryphia capensis*	Fungus	*Metrosideros* spp.	*Holocryphia capensis* is a recently described fungus that infects native *Metrosideros angustifolia* (Myrtaceae, Myrtales) trees in South Africa. This species is related to a number of serious canker pathogens of trees in the Cryphonectriaceae. Pathogenicity tests showed that *H. capensis* is pathogenic to *Eucalyptus*.	PP 16-085	4/05/2016
Plant	*Soybean vein necrosis virus* (SVNV)	Virus	*Glycine max* (Soybean)	Seed Transmission of *Soybean vein necrosis virus*: The First *Tospovirus* Implicated in Seed Transmission. Tospoviruses are not usually considered to be seed-transmitted. However this recent article reports seed transmission of a tospovirus. Although the virus itself may not be a risk to NZ, the information may affect our screening criteria.	PP 16-088	6/05/2016
Plant	Not specifically stated for this outbreak, but noted that *Colletotrichum acutatum* and *C. gloeosporioides* have been reported as causing this disease.	Fungus	Orange (*Citrus* spp.)	A fungal disease is affecting all types of orange trees statewide [in Florida, USA] right now. It's called PBFD, or post bloom fruit drop. The fungus causes oranges to fall off prematurely.	PP 16-091	9/05/2016
Plant	*Dickeya dianthicola*	Bacteria	*Solanum tuberosum* (potato)	*Dickeya dianthicola* causing blackleg in potatoes in USA. *D. dianthicola* was known to be present in USA on ornamentals but has only recently been implicated in blackleg disease on potatoes there, with the suggestion there may be a new pathogen strain with an extended host range. *D. dianthicola* blackleg is now considered an emerging disease in North America.	PP 16-092	10/05/2016
Plant	*Pantoea ananatis*	Bacterium	*Zea mays* (maize)	An extension of geographical and host range of *Pantoea ananatis* on maize (*Zea mays*) in Victoria was announced on 3 May 2016.	PP 16-097	16/05/2016

Risk to plant or animal	Species/ Causative agent	Organism type	Host	Alert details	Tracking #	Date of contribution to ERS
Plant	*Tobacco leaf curl Cuba virus* (TbLCuCUV)	virus	*Phaseolus vulgaris* (bean)	First report of the begomovirus *Tobacco leaf curl Cuba virus* (TbLCuCUV) infecting *Phaseolus vulgaris* (bean). *Tobacco leaf curl Cuba virus* is known to occur in Cuba and has been reported from Jamaica.	PP 16-101	18/05/2016
Plant	Avian vacuolar myelinopathy (AVM). Recent studies have implicated exotic hydrilla and associated epiphytic cyanobacterial species as a link to AVM.	Cyanobacteria	*Hyrdilla* spp. (host plant). Affects avian species.	A mysterious lethal disease known as avian vacuolar myelinopathy, or AVM, has been killing birds in the US. It is caused by a toxic species of blue-green algae that grows on aquatic plants. It has a particular fondness for hydrilla, an invasive plant that was also introduced into U.S. waterways by aquarium owners.	PP 16-107	18/05/2016
n/a	*Vespa velutina nigrithorax*	Insect	n/a	Asian hornet (*Vespa velutina nigrithorax*) detected in the UK	PP 16-108	24/05/2016
Plant	*Fusarium euwallaceae*	Fungus	*Persea americana* (avocado) and many other trees and shrubs	An ambrosia beetle, *Euwallacea* sp. and its newly described symbiotic fungus *Fusarium euwallaceae* causing dieback and mortality of numerous trees and shrubs, including avocado (*Persea americana)*.	PP 16-120	1/06/2016
Plant	*Penthimiola bella*	Insect	*Citrus* spp.	*Penthimiola bella*: a new leafhopper found on citrus in Portugal.	PP 16-122	1/06/2016
Animal	*Aedes aegypti*	Insect	Humans	First report of *Aedes mosquito* (vector of dengue, malaria and zika virus) in Chile, in decades.	AA 16-015	22/06/2016
Plant	*Paragona multisignata*	Insect	*Lentinula edodes* (shiitake) mushrooms	First report of *Lentinula edodes* (shiitake mushroom) as a host of the noctuid moth *Paragona multisignata*	PP 16-131	24/06/2016
Plant	Unknown disease	Unknown	*Metrosideros collina*	Email from Matt Buys (Scion): "I attended a talk by Cameron Ewen (Auck. War Mem. Museum Herbarium) last night. He has just returned from a holiday from Tahiti. He had some photos to show of *dead M. collina.* Apparently they are all dying from an unknown disease."	PP 16-133	28/06/2016
Plant	*Verticillium alfalfae* and *V. nonalfalfae*	Fungus	Hops, lucerne and *Actinidia* spp. (kiwifruit)	Two new species, *Verticillium alfalfae* and *V.nonalfalfae*, have been described from *Verticillium albo-atrum* s.l. There are records of *V. albo-atrum* from hops and from lucerne (these hosts are said to be severely affected), however *V. albo-atrum* from hops has only been reported once in 1953 (when it was probably not being reliably distinguished from *V. dahliae)*. *Verticillium albo-atrum* has also been reported severely affecting *Actinidia chinensis* from Chile (see PP 14 105).	PP 16-150	14/07/2016
Plant	Unknown fungus	Fungus	*Fragaria* spp. (Strawberry)	Strawberry crops in Norway have been hit by an unknown fungus which causes berries to rapidly rot. It has started to infect plants in the southern counties of Agder, and it is now moving north.	PP 16-151	14/07/2016
Plant	*Persimmon cryptic virus* (PeCV)	Virus	*Diospyros kaki* (Japanese persimmon)	First report of the unclassified *Partitivirus Persimmon cryptic virus* (PeCV) in Turkey. *Diospyros kaki* (Japanese persimmon) trees in Turkey exhibited leaf vein necrosis. Molecular analysis confirmed that the causal agent was PeCV. This is the first report of PeCV in Turkey.	PP 16-153	15/07/2016

Risk to plant or animal	Species/ Causative agent	Organism type	Host	Alert details	Tracking #	Date of contribution to ERS
Animal	*Tilapia lake virus* (TiLV)	Virus	*Oreochromis niloticus* (Nile tilapia)	Characterization of a novel Orthomyxo-like virus causing mass die-offs of tilapia	AA 16-016	21/07/2016
Animal	Porcine sapelovirus	Virus	Livestock (pigs)	A novel porcine sapelovirus has been implicated in an acute outbreak of atypical neurologic disease in pigs (USA)	AA 16-017	3/08/2016
Plant	*Phytophthora ilicis*	Oomycete	*Ilex aquifolium* (holly)	First report of *Phytophthora ilicis* in Germany	PP 16-179	4/08/2016
Plant	*Neofabraea* sp. (putative causal agent)	Fungus	*Olea europaea* (olive)	Emerging disease of olives in California, causing defoliation, twig lesions, and leaf spots. A putative fungal pathogen, *Neofabraea* sp., has been isolated from lesions.	PP 16-180	8/08/2016
Plant	*Cowpea mild mottle virus* (CPMMV)	Virus	*Salvia hispanica* (chia)	First report of the carlavirus *Cowpea mild mottle virus* (CPMMV) infecting *Salvia hispanica* (chia)	PP 16-199	19/08/2016

Alerts currently undergoing further evaluation by risk managers

Risk managers are currently determining whether additional risk management is required.

Risk to plant or animal	Species/ Causative agent	Organism type	Host	Alert details	Tracking #	Date of contribution to ERS
Plant	*Massicus raddei (*oak longhorn beetle)	Insect	*Quercus* spp. (oaks) and *Castanea* spp. (chestnuts) Other tree species such as *Castanopsis cuspidata, C. cuspidata* var. *sieboldii*, *Morus* spp. and *Paulownia* spp. are also mentioned.	*Massicus raddei* (Coleoptera: Cerambycidae – oak longhorn beetle): addition to the EPPO Alert List	PP 15-072	1/04/2015
Plant	'*Candidatus* Liberibacter solanacearum' haplotype B	Bacterium	Solanaceae species	Regulated pest status of '*Candidatus* Liberibacter solanacearum' haplotype B	PP 15-143	6/07/2015
Plant	'*Candidatus* Liberibacter caribbeanus'	Bacterium	*Citrus sinensis* (Orange)	'*Candidatus* Liberibacter caribbeanus' - a new citrus liberibacter	PP 15-152	13/07/2015
Plant	*Rathayibacter toxicus/Anguina funesta*	Bacterium/ Nematode vector	*Lolium perrene* (perennial ryegrass)	USA concerned about *Rathayibacter toxicus*, a bacterium which infects *Lollium perrene* and may cause mortalities in livestock	PP 16-040	25/02/2016
Plant	*Bursaphelenchus* spp.	Nematode	*Pinus* spp.	An infestation of an exotic pine nematode (*Bursaphelenchus* sp.) was discovered in the wood of a single dying pine tree in Sydney in March 2016.	PP 16-104	20/05/2016
Plant	*Tuta absoluta*	Insect	*Solanum lycopersicum* (tomato)	Outbreak of *Tuta absoluta* in Nigeria. As this species has now moved to sub-Saharan Africa then there is potential risk from imported beans (and possibly peas). Beans are recorded as a host from Europe.	PP 16-111	25/05/2016
Plant	*Rhagoletis cerasi* (European cherry fruit fly)	Insect	*Prunus avium* (cherry), *Lonicera* spp. (honeysuckle- wild host)	In July of 2015, the European cherry fruit fly, *Rhagoletis cerasi*, was detected in a park in Ontario, Canada. In June of 2016, the Canadian Food Inspection Agency (CFIA) confirmed the detection in association with invasive *Lonicera* spp. (honeysuckle). The CFIA is conducting delimiting	PP 16-152	15/07/2016

Risk to plant or animal	Species/ Causative agent	Organism type	Host	Alert details	Tracking #	Date of contribution to ERS
				surveys.		
Plant	*Potato virus Y* (PVY)	~~Bacterium~~Virus	*Solanum tuberosum* (potato)	Emerging and damaging strains of *Potato virus Y* in USA	PP 16-156	20/07/2016
Plant	'*Candidatus* Phytoplasma cynodontis'	Phytoplasma ~~Virus~~	*Dodonaea viscosa* subsp. *angustifolia* (sand olive), *Acacia salicina* (cooba), *Arundo donax* (giant reed)	First report of the Bermuda grass white leaf phytoplasma, '*Candidatus* Phytoplasma cynodontis', in Saudi Arabia and new host records (*Dodonaea viscosa* subsp. *angustifolia* (sand olive), *Acacia salicina* (cooba), *Arundo donax* (giant reed)).	PP 16-169	29/07/2016
Plant	*Xanthomonas perforans*	Bacterium	*Solanum lycopersicum* (tomato)	Presence of *Xanthomonas perforans* confirmed in Louisiana, USA. Bacterial spot of tomato was observed during autumn 2013 and spring 2014 in 3 parishes (Livingston, East Baton Rouge, and Tangipohoa). Disease incidence was 100% and foliar disease severity ranged from 20 to 80%.	PP 16-174	4/08/2016
Animal	*Leishmania* sp. (vectored by sandflies, possibly ticks as secondary vectors)	Protozoa (insect vector)	Animals, human	Recent cases of *Leishmania* in dogs in New Zealand	AA 16-022	9/09/2016

Alerts currently undergoing further assessment by risk analyst

Risk analyst are currently determining if information in the alert poses an increase risk in biosecurity to New Zealand.

Risk to plant or animal	Species/ Causative agent	Organism type	Host	Alert details	Tracking #	Date of contribution to ERS
Plant	*'Candidatus* Phytoplasma asteris'	Phytoplasma	*Daucus carotae* (carrot)	First report of *'Candidatus* Phytoplasma asteris' in commercial carrots in the United Kingdom	PP 14-229	20/10/2014
Plant	*Hop stunt viroid*	Viroid	*Hibiscus rosa-sinensis* (Chinese hibiscus)	First report of *Hop stunt viroid* in *Hibiscus rosa-sinensis* in Italy	PP 14-242	27/11/2014
Plant	*'Candidatus* Phytoplasma palmae'	Phytoplasma	*Cocos nucifera* (coconut)	Suspected Kerala wilt in coconut palm, Kerala (India).	PP 15-193	1/09/2015

Risk to plant or animal	Species/ Causative agent	Organism type	Host	Alert details	Tracking #	Date of contribution to ERS
Plant	*Meloidogyne incognita*, *M. hapla, Geocenamus microdorus, G. brevidens, Ditylenchus* spp., *Aphelenchoides* spp., *Tylenchus* spp., *Dorylaimus* spp., *Mononchus* spp., *Helicotylenchus* spp., *Tylenchorhynchus* spp., *Pratylenchus* sp., *Paratylenchus* sp., *Rotylenchulus* sp., *Heterodera* sp., *Aphelenchus* spp, *Filenchus filiformis, Coslenchus costatus, Boleodorus thylactus Bitylenchus dubius, Quinisulcius capitatus, Merlinius brevidens, Scutylenchus lenorus, Psilenchus hilarulus de Man, Rotylenchus buxophilus , Helicotylenchus dihystera, H. canadiensis Waseem, Pratylenchus penetrans, Pratylenchoides bacilisemenus, P. camachoi Barcina, Castillo and Pais, Ditylenchus myceliophagus, Safianema ancliosposoma* and *M. incognita*	Nematode	*Actinidia* spp. (kiwifruit)	Several species of nematodes are causing economic damage among kiwifruit orchards by causing root-knot galls of all parts of kiwifruit root system. They are polyphagus and adapted different ecological conditions.	PP 16-144	14/07/2016
Plant	*Xanthomonas gardneri*	Fungus	*Solanum lycopersicum* (tomato)	First report of bacterial spot of tomato caused by *Xanthomonas gardneri* in Malaysia.	PP 16-173	4/08/2016
Plant	*Actinidia chlorotic ringspot-associated virus* (AcCRaV)	virus	*Actinidia* spp. (kiwifruit)	A new-to-science virus, *Actinidia chlorotic ringspot-associated virus* (AcCRaV) found in four different species of kiwifruit vines in five different provinces of central and western China. Field surveys support the association of the novel virus with symptoms of leaf chlorotic ringspots in *Actinidia*. Tomato zonate spot virus also detected in some samples, the first record from *Actinidia*.	PP 16-192	12/08/2016
Plant	*Colletotrichum* spp.	Fungus	*Capsicum annuum* (capsicum)	New chilli (*Capsicum annum)* pathogen, *Colletrotrichum* spp., discovered in Australia	PP 16-196	15/08/2016
Plant	'*Candidatus* Liberibacter solanacearum' Haplotype B	Bacterium	*Solanum* spp.	Update and potentially new information for '*Candidatus* Liberibacter solanacearum' Haplotype B	PP 16-202	23/08/2016
Plant	*Colletotrichum cairnsense*	Fungus	*Capsicum annuum* (pepper)	New anthracnose fungus, *Colletotrichum cairnsense*, described from Australia	PP 16-209	2/09/2016
Plant	*Xanthomonas vasicola* pv. *vasculorum*	Bacterium	*Zea mays* (maize)	Bacterial leaf streak, maize – USA: First report	PP 16-210	7/09/2016

Alerts assessed and closed with no further action

The alert does not currently signal an increased risk to New Zealand biosecurity (e.g. measures are already in place to manage risk)

Risk to plant or animal	Species/ Causative agent	Organism type	Host	Alert details	Tracking #	Date of contribution to ERS
Plant	'*Candidatus* Phytoplasma solani'	Phytoplasma	*Tagetes erecta* (Aztec marigold)	First report of '*Candidatus* Phytoplasma solani' on Aztec marigold (*Tagetes erecta*). Reported from Turkey.	PP 16-119	10/06/2016
Plant	*Spissistilus festinus*	Insect	*Vitis* spp. (grape)	Researchers at the University of California have identified the 3-cornered alfalfa treehopper (*Spissistilus festinus*) as the 1st known vector for red blotch-associated virus of grapevines in greenhouse experiments.	PP 16-124	13/06/2016
Plant	*Puccinia striiformis* f. sp. *tritici*	Fungus	*Triticum* spp.	New strains of wheat stripe rust *(Puccinia striiformis* f. sp. *tritici*) causing damage in USA	PP 16-125	14/06/2016
Plant	*Helcystogramma triannulella*	Insect	*Ipomoea batatas* (sweet potato)	First report of the leaf folder, *Helcystogramma triannulella,* on *Ipomoea batatas* (sweet potato) in Turkey	PP 16-126	17/06/2016
Plant	*Puccinia recondita* (synonym *P. triticina*)	Fungus	*Triticum* spp. (wheat)	Brown rust is spreading in wheat crops in south eastern England due to warm humid weather	PP 16-128	22/06/2016
Plant	n/a	n/a	n/a	Mud from Boryeong city in South Chungcheong Province, Korea, will be imported into New Zealand in the form of powder for the first mud festival	PP 16-129	23/06/2016
Plant	*Eupteryx gracilirama*, *E. janeki*, *E. albonigra*, *E. hela*, *E. irminae*, and *E. stachydearum*	Insect	*Rubus* spp. (blackberry) and *Artemisia* spp. (sagebrush)	New leafhopper species, *Eupteryx gracilirama*, described from China on *Rubus* spp. and *Salvia* spp., and first report of five *Eupteryx* species in China	PP 16-130	24/06/2016
Plant	'*Candidatus* Liberibacter asiaticus'	Bacterium	*Citrus* spp.	New cases of citrus greening disease or Huanglongbing ('*Candidatus* Liberibacter asiaticus') detected in the Misiones province of Argentina.	PP 16-132	27/06/2016
Plant	*Grapevine redglobe virus* (GRGV)	Virus	*Vitis* spp. (grape)	First report of *Grapevine redglobe virus* in France (2015).	PP 16-135	1/07/2016
Plant	*Tomato leaf curl New Delhi virus* (ToLCNDV)	Virus	Many hosts, including *Solanum lycopersicum* (tomato), *S. tuberosum* (potato), *S. melongena* (eggplant), *Capsicum annuum* (pepper), *Cucumis sativus* (cucumber), *Daucus carota* (carrot).	First report of the begomovirus *Tomato leaf curl New Delhi virus* (ToLCNDV) in Iran	PP 16-136	1/07/2016
Plant	*Phyllocoptes cacolyptae*	Arachnid	*Eucalyptus pulverulenta* 'Baby Blue' (florist's silver dollar), *E. cinerea* (silver dollar tree), and *E. ovata* (swamp gum)	A new mite species, *Phyllocoptes cacolyptae* from Italy, infesting and damaging leaves, buds, and shoots of several eucalypt species.	PP 16-137	1/07/2016

Risk to plant or animal	Species/ Causative agent	Organism type	Host	Alert details	Tracking #	Date of contribution to ERS
Plant	*Tephritis mutabilis*	Insect	*Leontodon hispidus* (bristly hawkbit)	First report of the fruit fly *Tephritis mutabilis* in Russia.	PP 16-138	1/07/2016
Plant	*Xylella fastidiosa*	Bacterium	Many hosts, including olive (*Olea europaea*) (main host of subsp. in Italy), *Polygala myrtifolia* (main host of subsp. in France).	New outbreaks of the *Xylella fastidiosa* bacteria in France and Italy, resulting in updated EU list of demarcated areas, noting different subspecies and hosts in Italy and France and identifying other hosts in the Mediterranean.	PP 16-139	1/07/2016
Plant	*Puccinia striiformis* f. sp. *tritici* (non-European Kranich race)	Fungus	*Triticum* spp. (wheat)	First report of the Kranich race of yellow wheat rust in the UK. The strain was identified from an isolate collected in 2014 and tested in the field in 2015.	PP 16-140	12/07/2016
Plant	*Popillia japonica*	Insect	Nectarines, hops, soybean, corn, kernels, kiwifruit and tomato.	Japanese beetle, *Popillia japonica,* discovered near Malpensa Airport, Italy. This is the second detection of this beetle in Europe. The first was also in Italy, in the same area, in 2014.	PP 16-141	12/07/2016
Plant	*Banana bunchy top virus* (BBTV)	Virus	*Musa* spp. (banana)	First confirmed report of the babuvirus, *Banana bunchy top virus* (BBTV), on *Musa* spp. (banana) plants in South Africa	PP 16-142	13/07/2016
Plant	*Bursaphelenchus saudi* (nematode)	Nematode	*Pinus* spp. Wood packaging material	New nematode, *Bursaphelenchus saudi*, described from wood packaging material imported to China from Saudi Arabia.	PP 16-143	13/07/2016
Plant	*Hemiberlesia rapax, Pseudaulacaspis pentagona, Ceroplastes sinensis, Coccus hesperidum*	Insect	*Actinidia* spp. (kiwifruit)	Several species of scale insects were found on kiwifruit in Rize, Turkey	PP 16-145	14/07/2016
Plant	*Ricania simulans, Ricania* spp. and *Metcalfa pruinosa*	Insect	*Actinidia* spp. (kiwifruit)	Several species of planthoppers (*Ricania simulans*, *Ricania* spp. and *Metcalfa pruinosa*) were found on kiwifruit plantations of Ordu and Rize, and in orchards in the Eastern Black Sea region of Turkey	PP 16-146	14/07/2016
Plant	*Edwardsiana salicicola*	Insect	*Actinidia* spp. (kiwifruit)	First report of the leafhopper, *Edwardsiana salicicola* was found affecting kiwifruit production areas of Ordu province in Eastern Black Sea region	PP 16-147	14/07/2016
Plant	*Xyleborus dispar, Xyleborus xylographus, Xylosandrus germanus* and *Lymantor coryli*	Insect	*Actinidia* spp. (kiwifruit)	Bark Beetles, *Xyleborus dispar*, *Xyleborus xylographus*, *Xylosandrus germanus* and *Lymantor coryli*, were found affecting kiwifruit in the Eastern Black Sea region, Turkey.	PP 16-149	14/07/2016
Plant	*Diaphorina citri* (Asian citrus psyllid)	Insect	*Citrus limon* (lemon)	Spread of Asian citrus psyllid (*Diaphorina citri*), a vector of Huanglongbing, from southern California to further north in the state.	PP 16-154	18/07/2016
Plant	*Lycorma delicatula* (Spotted lanternfly)	Insect	Mulitple hosts	Expansion of quarantine zone in Pennsylvania, USA, of spotted lanternfly (*Lycorma delicatula*).	PP 16-155	19/07/2016

Risk to plant or animal	Species/ Causative agent	Organism type	Host	Alert details	Tracking #	Date of contribution to ERS
Plant	*Paratylenchus shenzhenensis*	Nematode	*Anthurium andraeanum* (flamingo lily)	The recently-described pin nematode *Paratylenchus shenzhenensis* (Tylenchulidae) was isolated from roots and soil samples of commercial *Anthurium andraeanum* (flamingo lily) plants in China exhibiting leaf yellowing, root rot, and plant stunting and decline.	PP 16-157	22/07/2016
Plant	*Botryosphaeria corticola* (oak bot canker)	Fungus	*Quercus rubra* (red oak)	First report of *Botryosphaeria corticola* (bot canker of oak) in Maine, USA. Also pathogenic on grapevines.	PP 16-158	22/07/2016
Plant	*Hinomyces pruni*	Fungus	*Prunus mandshurica* (Manchurian apricot)	First report of the fungus *Hinomyces pruni* in Korea, causing zonate leaf spot on *Prunus mandshurica* (Manchurian apricot).	PP 16-159	22/07/2016
Plant	n/a	n/a	*Ocimum basilicum* (basil)	Biosecurity risks associated with fresh, hydroponically grown basil and herbs imported from Niue	PP 16-161	27/07/2016
Plant	*Agrilus planipennis* (emerald ash borer)	Insect	*Fraxinus* spp. (Ash)	Emerald ash borer (EAB), *Agrilus planipennis*, confirmed in Thunder Bay, Ontario - finding is outside the Regulated Area	PP 16-162	28/07/2016
Plant	*Xanthomonas* spp.	Bacterium	*Citrus* spp.	APHIS establishes a quarantine zone for Citrus Canker (*Xanthomonas* spp.) in portions of Cameron County, Texas.	PP 16-163	28/07/2016
Plant	*Cucumber Green Mottle Mosaic Virus* (CGMMV)	Virus	*Cucumis sativus* (cucumber)	*Cucumber Green Mottle Mosaic Virus* (CGMMV) was detected in July 2016: first report for Western Australia	PP 16-164	28/07/2016
Plant	Unknown	Unknown disease	*Carica papaya* (papaya) *and Cucurbitaceae* (cucurbits)	A number of diseases have been reported on both papaya and citrus in Bolivia. While there are some fungal and bacterial pathogens that have a wide host range, it is more likely that more than one crop disease is affecting the area. However, insect pests could be involved as well. Reliable diagnosis on both hosts will be essential for disease management.	PP 16-165	28/07/2016
Plant	*Xylella fastidiosa*	Bacterium	*Nerium oleander* (oleander)	First report of *Xylella fastidiosa* in Germany.	PP 16-166	28/07/2016
Plant	*Grammostola rosea* (Chilean rose tarantula)	Arachnid	*Musa* sp. (banana)	Live tarantula found in fresh fruit aisle in Sweden.	PP 16-167	28/07/2016
Plant	*Maize chlorotic mottle virus* and *Sugarcane mosaic virus.*	Virus	*Zea mays* (corn)	Lethal necrosis disease (MLN) of maize now in Ecuador (and South America). This disease is caused by *Maize chlorotic mottle virus* and *Sugarcane mosaic virus.*	PP 16-170	4/08/2016
Plant	*Potato mop-top virus* (*Pomovirus*, PMTV)	Virus	Solanum tuberosum (potato)	*Potato mop-top virus* (*Pomovirus*, PMTV) has been reported for the first time from Chile.	PP 16-171	4/08/2016
Plant	Ug99 strain of *Puccinia graminis* f.sp. *tritici* (black stem rust)	Fungus	*Triticum* spp. (wheat)	Since the initial detection of the Ug99 strain of *Puccinia graminis* f.sp. *tritici* (black stem rust) in Uganda in 1998, 10 variants of the Ug99 race group have been detected in the following 12 countries: Uganda, Kenya, Ethiopia, Sudan, Tanzania, Eritrea, Rwanda, South Africa, Zimbabwe, Mozambique, Yemen, and Iran.	PP 16-172	4/08/2016

Risk to plant or animal	Species/ Causative agent	Organism type	Host	Alert details	Tracking #	Date of contribution to ERS
Plant	*Cherry rasp leaf virus* (*Cheravirus*, CRLV)	Virus	Elderberry trees (*Sambucus nigra* subsp. *caerulea)*	*Cherry rasp leaf virus* (*Cheravirus*, CRLV) was detected in elderberry trees (*Sambucus nigra* subsp*. caerulea*) in Washington, USA, showing chlorotic ring patterns, leaf blotch, and leaf deformations.	PP 16-175	4/08/2016
Plant	*Plum pox virus* (PPV)	Virus	*Prunus* spp. (plum)	Four outbreaks of *Plum pox virus* were detected on plum trees in Lithuania, in the regions of Kaunas, Vilnius and Marijampolė.	PP 16-176	4/08/2016
Plant	*Drosophila suzukii*	Insect	Multiple fruit species	First report of *Drosophila suzukii* in Uruguay	PP 16-177	4/08/2016
Plant	*Drosophila suzukii*	Insect	Multiple fruit species	First report of *Drosophila suzukii* in Iran	PP 16-178	4/08/2016
Plant	*Hypocryphalus scabricollis*	Insect	*Ficus carica* (edible fig)	First report of the bark beetle *Hypocryphalus scabricollis* (Coleoptera: Curculionidae) in Italy	PP 16-181	8/08/2016
Plant	*Little cherry virus 2*	Virus	*Prunus cerasus* (sour cherry)	*Little cherry virus 2* detected in 6 sour cherry trees (*Prunus cerasus*) in Croatia; first report of this virus from this country.	PP 16-182	8/08/2016
Plant	*Heterodera glycines* (soybean cyst nematode)	Nematode	*Glycine max* (soybean)	*Heterodera glycines* (soybean cyst nematode) reducing soybean yield by up to 33% in parts of Russia. Recorded once previously from Russia, but otherwise only know in Europe from Italy and UK.	PP 16-183	8/08/2016
Plant	*Ralstonia solanacearum*	Bacterium	*Ficus carica* (edible fig)	Fig trees (*Ficus carica*) showing wilting symptoms were observed in Minhou county (Fujian province) in China. Studies showed that the causal agent was *Ralstonia solanacearum* (EPPO A2 List). According to the authors, this is the first time that *R. solanacearum* is found in fig trees in China. Potentially first record on fig trees anywhere.	PP 16-184	8/08/2016
Plant	*Paratylenchus guangzhouensis*	Nematode	*Bambusa multiplex* (hedge bamboo)? (Not a clear host association - in soil around plants.)	A new nematode species, *Paratylenchus guangzhouensis* n. sp. has recently been described. It was collected from soil associated with *Bambusa multiplex* in a forest park in Guangzhou, Guangdong Province, China.	PP 16-185	8/08/2016
Plant	*Phytophthora nagaii* and *P. fragariaefolia*	Oomycete	*Rosa* spp. (rose) and *Fragaria x ananassa* (strawberry) respectively	Two newly-described *Phytophthora* spp. - *P. nagaii* and *P. fragariaefolia* - recovered from roses and strawberries respectively in Japan.	PP 16-186	8/08/2016
Plant	*Ralstonia solanacearum* race 3	Bacterium	*Solanum melongena* (aubergine)	Detection of *Ralstonia solanacearum* race 3 (EPPO A2 List) in a glasshouse producing fruit of *Solanum melongena* (aubergine) in the Netherlands. First detection on this host in this country. Under eradication.	PP 16-187	8/08/2016
Plant	*Pseudomonas syringae* pv. *aesculi*	Bacterium	*Aesculus hippocastaneum* (horse chestnut)	The first report of *Pseudomonas syringae* pv. *aesculi*, from Finland, associated with dying horse chestnut trees (*Aesculus hippocastaneum*) in Helsinki (Tokoinranta park in summer 2015 and Sibeliuspuisto park in summer 2016).	PP 16-188	8/08/2016

Risk to plant or animal	Species/ Causative agent	Organism type	Host	Alert details	Tracking #	Date of contribution to ERS
Plant	*Xylella fastidiosa*	Bacterium	*Coffea* spp. (coffee)	First report of *Xylella fastidiosa* in Switzerland. Four imported nursery plants (coffee) affected; perhaps more of an 'interception' than an 'incursion'. Under eradication.	PP 16-190	11/08/2016
Plant	*Platyobria biemani*	Insect	*Eucalyptus camaldulensis* (river red gum)	Five adults of the psyllid *Platyobria biemani* (Hemiptera: Aphalaridae) were collected from *Eucalyptus camaldulensis* (river red gum) trees in a bird park in Israel. This is the first report of *P. biemani* in Israel.	PP 16-193	12/08/2016
Plant	*Merlinius acuminatus*, *Geocenamus dobroticus*, *Paratylenchus vandenbrandei*, *Criconemoides morgensis*	Nematode	*Berberis vulgaris* (barberry)	During a 2012-2014 survey in Iran, the plant parasitic nematodes *Merlinius acuminatus*, *Geocenamus dobroticus* (Dolichodoridae), *Paratylenchus vandenbrandei* (Tylenchulidae), and *Criconemoides morgensis* (Criconematidae) were isolated from soil around the roots of cultivated *Berberis vulgaris* (barberry) plants. This is the first report of these nematodes in Iran.	PP 16-194	12/08/2016
Plant	*Thekopsora minima* (blueberry rust)	Fungus	Blueberry (*Vaccinium* spp.)	Tasmania confirms second outbreak blueberry rust (*Thekopsora minima*)	PP 16-197	15/08/2016
Plant	*Heterobasidion annosum*	Fungus	Conifers	Couch grass can potentially spread *Heterbasidion annosum*	PP 16-198	16/08/2016
Plant	*Cyrtozemia dispar*	Insect	*Arachis hypogaea* (peanut)	First report of *Arachis hypogaea* (peanut) as a host of the leaf weevil *Cyrtozemia dispar* (Coleoptera: Curculionidae)	PP 16-200	19/08/2016
Animal	*Tetracapsuloides bryosalmonae* (also called PKD or Proliferative Kidney Disease)	Myxozoan parasite	Salmoninae	A 183-mile stretch of Yellowstone River has been closed after thousands of dead fish have been killed. Preliminary results obtained by Idaho Fish and Game's Fish Health Laboratory in Eagle show that the parasite *Tetracapsuloides bryosalmonae* (also called PKD or Proliferative Kidney Disease) may be behind the deaths.	AA 16-019	22/08/2016
Plant	*Bemisia tabaci* Biotype – Q	Insect	*Solanum lycopersicum* (tomato). Also capsicums, citrus, beans, squash and melons as well as other vegetables.	New evidence of insecticide resistant whitefly in the USA (*Bemisia tabaci* Biotype – Q) and a change in its distribution.	PP 16-201	23/08/2016
Plant	*Thaumastocoris peregrinus* (bronze bug)	Insect	*Eucalyptus camaldulensis* (river red gum) and *E. globulus* (Tasmanian blue gum)	(Hemiptera: Thaumastocoridae), was found infesting *Eucalyptus camaldulensis* (river red gum) and *E. globulus* (Tasmanian blue gum) trees in Mexico. First report of the bronze bug *Thaumastocoris peregrinus* in Mexico and in North America.	PP 16-203	29/08/2016
Plant	*Myrmica rubra*	Insect	Invertebrates (prey), humans (health issue if stung)	European fire ants (*Myrmica rubra*) spreading in British Columbia, Canada	PP 16-211	7/09/2016
Animal	Crimean-Congo haemorrhagic fever (CCHF) tick-borne virus (Nairovirus) of the Bunyaviridae family	Virus	animals (ticks), human	One dead, one in isolation after two cases of Crimean-Congo hemorrhagic fever confirmed in Madrid	AA 16-020	7/09/2016

Alerts awaiting assessment

The alert is awaiting initial assessment by the initial risk assessor and/or the Risk Analysis Manager

Risk to plant or animal	Species/ Causative agent	Organism type	Host	Alert details	Tracking #	Date of contribution to ERS
Plant	*Scirtothrips dorsalis*	Insect	At least some species in the species complex are highly polyphagous	New research shows this 'species' to be a species complex, with some members being more invasive and more polyphagous and one apparently more cold-tolerant. This information may have an impact on how this thrips is managed on different commodities from different countries.	PP 16-191	11/08/2016
Plant	*Lasiothyris luminosa*	Insect	*Vitis* spp. (grape)	*Lasiothyris luminosa* (Lepidoptera: Tortricidae) larvae causing extensive feeding damage to the flowers and fruits of cultivated *Vitis* spp. (grape) in Brazil. This is the first report of *L. luminosa* as a crop pest.	PP 16-204	29/08/2016
Plant	*Epitrix papa*	Insect	*Solanum tuberosum* (potato)	COMMISSION IMPLEMENTING DECISION (EU) 2016/1359 of 8 August 2016 amending Implementing Decision 2012/270/EU as regards emergency measures to prevent the introduction into and the spread within the Union of *Epitrix* spp. Amendment regards the leaf beetle previously identified as *E. similaris* (and causing harm in Spain and Portugal) was wrongly identified and should be identified as *E. papa* n. sp. Further confirmed that *E. similaris* has never been found present in EU territory.	PP 16-205	29/08/2016
Plant	*Mycosphaerella rabiei*	Fungus	*Cicer arietinum* (chickpeas)	A sudden loss of resistance to Ascochyta blight (caused by *Mycosphaerella rabiei*) in chickpea crops in South Australia is raising concerns.	PP 16-206	29/08/2016
Plant	'*Candidatus* Liberibacter asiaticus'	Bacterium	*Citrus* spp.	Huanglongbing (HLB, '*Candidatus* Lilberibacter asiaticus') detected in Mexacali, Mexico	PP 16-207	1/09/2016
Plant	*Tuta absoluta*	Insect	*Solanum lycopersicum* (tomato)	First report of *Tuta absoluta* in Nepal	PP 16-208	2/09/2016