

Notification of the presence of a harmful organism

1 General information	
1.1 Title	Finding and eradication of <i>Curtobacterium flaccumfaciens</i> pv. <i>poinsettiae</i> (CORBPO) in Germany (Lower-Saxony)
1.2 Executive summary	<i>Curtobacterium flaccumfaciens</i> pv. <i>poinsettiae</i> was found on rooted cuttings of <i>Euphorbia pulcherrima</i> in a greenhouse of a nursery in Lower-Saxony. A plant sample was sent by the nursery to the plant protection service. The bacterium was identified by isolation and DNA sequencing. It is presumed that the pathogen has been introduced with cuttings from Uganda. Eradication measures have been completed successfully and the pathogen is considered eradicated.
2 <u>Information concerning the single authority and responsible persons.</u>	
2.1 Notification from	Julius Kühn-Institut (JKI), Institute for National and International Plant Health, Germany
2.2 Official contact:	Katrin Kaminski, Tel: +49(0)531 299 3378, outbreaks@julius-kuehn.de
3 Location	
3.1 Location	In Lower Saxony
4 Reason of the notification and the pest status	
4.1 First finding in Germany or in the area	Confirmed appearance of the harmful organism in part of the territory of Germany, in which its presence was previously unknown. The pathogen was already found in 2014 in North Rhine-Westphalia.

4.2 Pest status of the area where the harmful organism has been found present, after the official confirmation.	Absent, eradicated
4.3 Pest status in Germany before the official confirmation of the presence, or suspected presence, of the harmful organism.	Transient, under eradication (not confirmed by survey)
4.4 Pest status in Germany after the official confirmation of the presence of the harmful organism.	Absent, eradicated
5 Finding, sampling, testing and confirmation of the harmful organism.	
5.1 How the presence or appearance of the harmful organism was found.	Information submitted by professional operator: The affected nursery has sent a sample to the plant protection service
5.2 Date of finding:	On 12 August 2016, first information about the suspected infestation was sent by the nursery.
5.3 Sampling for laboratory analysis.	On 16 August 2016, the nursery sent a plant sample to the plant protection service.
5.4 Name and address of the Laboratory.	Laboratory of the plant protection service: Landwirtschaftskammer North Rhine-Westphalia
5.5 Diagnostic method.	Isolation of the bacterium followed by DNA sequencing
5.6 Date of official confirmation of the harmful organism's identity.	6 September 2016
6 Infested area, and the severity and source of the outbreak in that area.	
6.1 Size and delimitation of the infested area.	Approximately 3,950 rooted cuttings
6.2 Characteristics of the infested area and its vicinity.	Physically closed conditions – greenhouse Plants for planting
6.3 Host plants in the infested area	<i>Euphorbia pulcherrima</i> (several separated

and its vicinity.	greenhouses)
6.4 Infested plant(s), plant product(s) and other object(s).	<i>Euphorbia pulcherrima</i> 'Christmas Feelings Glitter'
6.5 Vectors present in the area.	-
6.6 Severity of the outbreak.	At the time of the official inspection no plants of the affected lot were available any more in the nursery.
6.7 Source of the outbreak.	It is presumed that the harmful organism was introduced with infested cuttings from Uganda.
7 Official phytosanitary measures.	
7.1 Adoption of official phytosanitary measures.	<p>1) Official measures will be taken: Trace forward investigations have been started because the affected lot was already delivered at the time of the official inspection. These investigations include also cuttings of the varieties 'Christmas Feelings Wonder' and 'Christmas Feelings Red' that might be infested too.</p> <p>Extensive disinfection measures are taken in the nursery to avoid spread of the pathogen. The trace forward investigations showed that possibly infested plants were also delivered in seven other nurseries in Lower Saxony. The pathogen was detected or suspiciously found in four of these nurseries. Official phytosanitary measures were taken in all these nurseries. The infested plants have been destroyed and as a precautionary measure plants that were suspected to be infested were set under quarantine. The suspected plants were officially inspected intensively but no further infestation was found and consequently the official phytosanitary measures have been terminated successfully.</p>
7.2 Objective of the official phytosanitary measures.	eradication
8 Pest risk analysis/assessment	
Preliminary pest risk analysis exists (Express-PRA dated September 2014, in	

German and English):

The phytosanitary risk is considered medium for Germany and the EU Member States. The certainty of the assessment is low.

Curtobacterium flaccumfaciens pv. *poinsettiae* was found for the first time in Germany in 2014 in North Rhine-Westphalia. It is presumed that the pathogen cannot establish outdoors in Germany because the climate conditions are not suitable for the host plant *Euphorbia pulcherrima*. The potential damage in protected cultivation of *E. pulcherrima* is probably high if the pathogen is introduced with infested young plants. Based on the risk analysis it has to be assumed that the pathogen could cause considerable damage in host plants. Phytosanitary measures for the control and the prevention of the introduction of the bacterium should be met. Infested plants should be destroyed and extensive disinfection measures should be taken of the area, tools and machinery.

**9 Links to relevant websites,
other sources of information.**

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