Institut für nationale und internationale Angelegenheiten der Pflanzengesundheit
Institute for National and International Plant Health

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www.julius-kuehn.de

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Notification of the presence of a harmful organism

1 General information	
1.1 Title	First finding and eradication of *Curtobacterium flaccumfaciens* pv*. poinsettiae* (CORBPO) in Germany (North Rhine-Westphalia)
1.2 Executive summary	*Curtobacterium flaccumfaciens* pv*. poinsettiae* was found already in 2014 on plants of *Euphorbia pulcherrima* in a greenhouse of a nursery in North Rhine-Westphalia. The plants showed abnormal symptoms and the nursery contacted the advisory service of the Agricultural Chamber. Samples were taken and the official laboratory confirmed the finding of *Curtobacterium flaccumfaciens* pv*. poinsettiae.* The source of the infestation was traced back to a nursery in North Rhine-Westphalia that produces young plants and presumably the pathogen was introduced from outside Europe. Eradication measures have been completed successfully and the pathogen is considered eradicated.
2 Information concerning the single authority and responsible persons.	
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 North Rhine-Westphalia
4 Reason of the notification and the pest status	
4.1 First finding in Germany or in the area	First confirmed presence of the harmful organism in the territory of Germany.

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.	Absent
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 nurseryman identified small leaf spots on *Euphorbia pulcherrima* plants and contacted the advisory service of the Chamber of Agriculture.
5.2 Date of finding:	On 21 August 2014, samples were taken.
5.3 Sampling for laboratory analysis.	21 August 2014
5.4 Name and address of the Laboratory.	Laboratory of the plant protection service: Landwirtschaftskammer North Rhine-Westphalia, Siebengebirgsstraße 200, 53229 Bonn
5.5 Diagnostic method.	
5.6 Date of official confirmation of the harmful organism's identity.	9 September 2014
6 Infested area, and the severity and source of the outbreak in that area.	
6.1 Size and delimitation of the infested area.	1) Approximately 10,000 m² greenhouse area (only scattered infested plants)
6.2 Characteristics of the infested area and its vicinity.	3.1) Physically closed conditions – greenhouse Plants for planting
6.3 Host plants in the infested area	*Euphorbia pulcherrima*

and its vicinity.	
6.4 Infested plant(s), plant product(s) and other object(s).	*Euphorbia pulcherrima* 'Scandic Early', 'Premium Red', 'Glace Early', 'Merlot', 'Cosmo'
6.5 Vectors present in the area.	-
6.6 Severity of the outbreak.	The infested plants firstly showed small leaf spots and later water soaked stripes, necrosis and cracks on the stems. The older plants showed reduced growth and the infested plants rooted only at one side.
6.7 Source of the outbreak.	It is presumed that the harmful organism was introduced with infested young plants. The young plants were produced in a nursery in North Rhine-Westphalia and presumably imported from outside Europe.
7 Official phytosanitary measures.	
7.1 Adoption of official phytosanitary measures.	Official phytosanitary measures in the form of chemical, biological or physical treatment have been taken will be taken: All infested plants have been destroyed and strict sanitary measures were taken including disinfection of tools, disposable protective clothing, disinfection of hands and shoes when entering the greenhouses. The nursery that produced the young plants destroyed all plants of the concerned varieties. The remaining plants were sampled and tested. A testing regime for *Curtobacterium flaccumfaciens* pv*. poinsettiae* has been introduced in the internal quality control of the nursery and in addition official sampling and testing is applied regularly. *C. flaccumfaciens* pv. *poinsettiae* has not been found since August 2015 and the pathogen is considered eradicated.
7.2 Date of adoption of the official phytosanitary measures.	10 September 2014
7.3 Identification of the area covered by the official phytosanitary measures.	-

7.4 Objective of the official phytosanitary measures.	eradication
7.5 Specific surveys.	Official survey in *Euphorbia pulcherrima* plants in 2015 in North Rhine-Westphalia
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 ause 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. http://pflanzengesundheit.julius-kuehn.de/index.php?menuid=98	
9 Links to relevant websites, other sources of information.	-