

## Express-PRA for *Petrobia harti*

## – Occurrence –

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**Initiation:** First occurrence on *Oxalis* sp., in a private garden in the Federal State North Rhine-Westphalia in Germany

The spider mite *Petrobia harti* (Ewing) (Acarida, Tetranychidae; synonym: *Tetranychina harti*; common name: Oxalis-spider mite) is already widespread in the EU and has a low damage potential. Thus, the preparation of a complete risk analysis was waived.

The Oxalis-spider mite infests primarily *Oxalis corniculata* (creeping oxalis). Other host plants of obviously minor importance are mentioned in the literature, too. The damage caused by the mite is assessed as low. Creeping oxalis, the main host plant can be a troublesome weed in gardens, parks and on paths, so that damage can only be reported in single cases when oxalis (e.g. the visually attractive variety *Oxalis corniculata* var. *atropurpurea*) is used as an ornamental plant.

*Petrobia harti* is present in India, Israel, Bulgaria, France, Greece, Italy, Portugal and Spain. Further presence in the EU cannot be ruled out.

Due to the widespread presence in the EU and in most cases, the low damage caused by the mite, *Petrobia harti* does not fulfil the criteria according to Articles 29 and 30(1) of Regulation (EU) 2016/2031.