Institut für nationale und internationale Angelegenheiten der Pflanzengesundheit

Institute for National and International Plant Health

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Notification of the presence of a harmful organism – update

1 **General information**	
1.1 Title	Update of an outbreak of *Saperda candida* in Germany (Schleswig-Holstein)
1.2 Executive summary	In July 2008, *Saperda candida* was found on the island of Fehmarn in Schleswig-Holstein. Infested trees were along a road in a region of agricultural cultivation and in a few private gardens. This was the first finding of the pest in Germany and Europe. All infested and suspicious plants were destroyed. A safety zone of a radius of 2 km was established where an intensive survey was carried out several times per year. In 2009, only 3 dead and 1 living beetle could be found in the infested area. In 2010, a *Sorbus* tree with exit holes was found next to a road. It was destroyed and burned. Further dead beetles were found. In 2011, further suspicious plants were found: a *Crataegus* hedge in a private garden and 3 probably infested *Crataegus*. Since 2008 until 2019, host plants were treated with Fastac Forst (Alpha-Cypermethrin) as a prophylactic measure. In the following years, the number of infested trees decreased continuously and in 2014, no infested tree was found. In 2015, 2 suspicious *Crataegus* plants were found in a hedge of a private garden and close to a camping site and 2 infested plants with larvae were detected. The source of the outbreak is not known. Official eradication measures are carried out and the area is surveyed since 2008. In 2020, one larva was found and therefore, the survey is continued. In July 2021, an infested *Sorbus* tree was found within the infested area. It was located next to a road. In November 2021, exit holes and 4 larvae were found in several *Crataegus* plants in a hedge about 1000 m south of the first outbreak site. This finding resulted in an expansion of the infested and the buffer zone. After the

	larvae were identified as *Saperda candida*, the infested hedge was felled and destroyed. During felling and another inspection in April, further larvae were found in the hedges‘ remaining stumps – in total about 70 larvae. The trunks have been cut and destroyed. During the survey in 2022 (done at least fortnightly from June to November) exit holes and larvae were found at 7 locations within the demarcated area. 7 infested zones were established where three of the zones overlap with infested zones mentioned in the past. All infested trees have been felled and disposed of at a waste incineration plant on 14th July. Additional larvae were found in December 2022. The larvae from all infested locations were tested and identified as *Saperda candida*. Eradication measures were carried out in all infested zones in February and March 2023. These measures included preventive destruction of all host plants in a radius of 200 m around the infested plants. In 2023, the official survey was continued. **<u>Update 2023:</u> During the survey in April further exit holes were found in a *Crataegus* hedge about 700 m south-west from infested zone 4. This finding resulted in an enlargement of the demarcated area. However, no larvae were found so far and therefore no laboratory result is available yet. Nontheless, an infested zone 8 has been established and eradication measures will be taken as soon as possible.** **Between the infested zone 4 and infested zone 2, one larva was found in an exposed root of a *Crataegus*. On 12th May, the larva was identified as *S. candida*. An infested zone 9 was demarcated. Eradication measures will be taken.** **The survey in the demarcated area is continued.**
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, outbreaks@julius-kuehn.de
3 **Location**	
3.1 Location	Fehmarn in Schleswig-Holstein

4 **Reason of the notification and the pest status**	
4.1 First finding in Germany or in the area	First confirmed presence of the pest in the territory of Germany.
4.2 Pest status of the area where the harmful organism has been found present, after the official confirmation.	Present: under eradication
4.3 Pest status in Germany before the official confirmation of the presence, or suspected presence, of the harmful organism.	Absent: no pest records
4.4 Pest status in Germany after the official confirmation of the presence of the harmful organism.	Present: under eradication, only at one location
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 operators, laboratories or other persons. During the first appearance of *Saperda candida* red frass appeared on the ground of the infested plants (e.g. *Crataegus*, *Sorbus*, *Malus*) and exit holes of 8-10 mm width were found in the lower part of the infested plants. In the following survey, these symptoms lead to the findings of further infections. The survey was carried out by visual inspections of host plants in the demarcated area. In 2022, the survey was done nearly every week at least fortnightly from June to November. **<u>Update October 2023:</u> In 2023, the survey was done from January almost every week and will be continued during the year.**
5.2 Date of finding:	17-07-2008
5.3 Sampling for laboratory analysis.	21-07-2008 **<u>Update October 2023:</u> One larva was detected in the infested zone 9 and identified as *Saperda candida*.**
5.4 Name and address of the Laboratory	Landwirtschaftskammer Schleswig-Holstein – Pflanzenbau, Pflanzenschutz, Umwelt Diagnose-Labor Westring 383 24118 Kiel Germany Julius Kühn-Institut – Institut für nationale und internationale Angelegenheiten der Pflanzengesundheit Messeweg 11-12

	38104 Braunschweig Germany
5.5 Diagnostic method	Other, morphological identification In 2020/2021: EPPO Diagnostic Standard PM 7/129 (2) DNA barcoding as an identification tool for a number of regulated pests Since May 2022: PCR for arthropods including DNA barcoding and Sanger sequencing
5.6 Date of official confirmation of the harmful organism's identity.	31-07-2008
6 Infested area, and the severity and source of the outbreak in that area	
6.1 Size of the infested surface	279 ha
6.2 Characteristics of the infested area and its vicinity.	Open air – private gardens, public sites and fields Plant already planted, not to be reproduced or moved
6.3 Host plants in the infested area and its vicinity	*Crataegus*, *Sorbus*, *Malus*, *Prunus*, *Pyrus*, *Cotoneaster*, *Pyracantha*, *Cydonia*
6.4 Infested plant(s), plant product(s) and other object(s).	*Crataegus, Borkhausenia intermedia* (Syn. *Sorbus intermedia*) In 2022: - 14thJune and 17th August*:* 2 *Borkhausenia intermedia (*13 larvae) - 22nd June: 2 *Borkhausenia intermedia* (30 larvae) - 22nd June: 1 *Borkhausenia intermedia* (exit hole) - 17th August: 1 *Borkhausenia intermedia* (11 larvae) - 25th and 1st September: *Crataegus* hedge (25 larvae) - 1st September: 1 *Crataegus* (1 larvae) - 13th October: 2 *Crataegus* (2 larvae) - 3rd November: *Crataegus* hedge (2 larvae and several exit holes) **In 2023:** - **18th April: 4 *Crataegus* (exit holes)** - **12th May: 1 *Crataegus* (1 larva)**
6.5 Severity of the outbreak.	The outbreak is restricted and located on an island. However, in 2022 the demarcated area was extended due to new findings outside the infested area.

	Update October 2023: in 2023, the demarcated area was enlarged because of the finding of exit holes in the infested zone 8.
6.6 Source of the outbreak	The source of infestation could not be finally clarified. It is presumed that the pest could have been introduced with infested *Malus* trees from North America.
7 **Official phytosanitary measures**	
7.1 Adoption of official phytosanitary measures.	Official phytosanitary measures have been taken. Those measures are taken inside the demarcated area. From 2008 to 2020 tree felling and disposal by incineration and also some sections of a *Crataegus* hedge (a total of 126 infested trees were destroyed). In the year 2008 to 2019 treatment of suspicious host plants with Fastac Forst. In July 2021, an infested *Sorbus* tree was found within the infested area. It was located next to a road. The tree was felled and destroyed. In 2021, exit holes were also found in further *Crataegus* plants in a hedge in the vicinity of the concerned area. This finding was made approximately 1000 m south of the first outbreak site. Firstly, 4 larvae were detected and identified on 11th January 2022 as *Saperda candida*. There is a site nearby were rubbish has been dumped. It cannot be excluded that wood waste or shrub cuttings have also been disposed of there. The infestation was found in the *Crataegus* hedge during the cut down of the hedge from 31st January to 4th February 2022. On 26th March, the cut material was destroyed by burning at the location. The roots and some trunks had been left and on 12th April, they were inspected again. Further larvae were found in these remaining stumps. Host plants in the vicinity of this area should be treated with Fastac Forst but this did not happen because of a discussion of environmental problems. In July 2022, 4 trees were cut down and incinerated in the local waste station. From the end of February 2023 until the beginning of March 2023, the host plants in all infested zones were felled and destroyed by cutting in little pieces. These pieces were dried and burnt. The rootstocks were dug out and burnt. **<u>Update October 2023:</u> A general decree was published on 14th January 2023 and awareness-raising activities**

	were carried out (press release, information event for citizens). In February, eradication measures were carried out by felling, chipping, drying and burning of infested plants inside the demarcated area. All host plants in a radius of 200 m were also destroyed as a precautionary measure. **The official phytosanitary measures in the new infested zones 8 and 9 are implemented as soon as possible.**
7.2 Identification of the area covered by the official phytosanitary measures.	**4383 ha** **<u>Update October 2023:</u> Eradication measures are taken in the buffer zone, which is located in a radius of 2 km around the individual infested zones. In the infested zones, the host plants have been removed or are being removed in the near future. A survey is carried out in the buffer zone.**
7.3 Objective of the official phytosanitary measures.	Eradication
7.4 Measures affecting the movement of goods.	Measures do not affect import into or movement within the Union of goods.
7.5 Specific surveys.	Yes, the demarcated area is surveyed regularly since 2008.
8 **Pest risk analysis/assessment**	Pest risk analysis is not required (harmful organism is listed in Annex II A of Implementing Regulation (EU) 2019/2072).