

Notification of the presence of a harmful organism (1496) – closing note

1 General information	
1.1 Title	Eradication of an outbreak of <i>Tomato brown rugose fruit virus</i> (ToBRFV) in Germany (Rhineland-Palatinate)
1.2 Executive summary	<p>In 2021, the Belgian authorities informed the Julius Kühn-Institute (JKI) about a positive test result for ToBRFV. The producer of tomato fruits had sent a sample to the private laboratory in Belgium. The responsible plant protection service in Rhineland-Palatinate inspected the relevant greenhouse and took samples. The official laboratory of Rhineland-Palatinate confirmed the identification of ToBRFV. The plants and fruits showed clear symptoms.</p> <p>Official eradication measures have been taken, including prohibition of movement of fruits, destruction of plants and disinfection measures. Trace-back investigation were carried out.</p> <p>Since the implementation of the eradication measures in 2021, no infestation with ToBRFV has been detected in extensive surveys. The infestation is therefore considered eradicated. Furthermore, ToBRFV has been regulated as a Regulated Non-Quarantine Pest (RNQP) since January 2025.</p>
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
3 Location	
3.1 Location	In Rhineland-Palatinate
4 Reason of the notification and the pest status	
4.1 First finding in Germany or in the area	Confirmed appearance of the pest in part of the territory of Germany, in which its presence was previously unknown.

4.2 Pest status of the area where the harmful organism has been found present, after the official confirmation.	Absent: pest found present but eradicated
4.3 Pest status in Germany before the official confirmation of the presence, or suspected presence, of the harmful organism.	Present: under eradication
4.4 Pest status in Germany after the official confirmation of the presence of the harmful organism.	Present: not widely distributed and under official control
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. The producer found suspicious symptoms and sent a sample to a private laboratory in Belgium. The laboratory informed the Belgian authorities, who informed the JKI.
5.2 Date of finding:	24-06-2021
5.3 Sampling for laboratory analysis.	Date of sampling: 15-07-2021 Samples were taken from plants with symptoms.
5.4 Name and address of the Laboratory	Dienstleistungszentrum Ländlicher Raum (DLR) Breitenweg 71 67435 Neustadt Germany
5.5 Diagnostic method	According to peer reviewed protocols. PM 7/146
5.6 Date of official confirmation of the harmful organism's identity.	20-07-2021
6 Infested area, and the severity and source of the outbreak in that area	
6.1 Size and delimitation of the infested area.	35 000 m ²
6.2 Characteristics of the infested area and its vicinity.	Physically closed conditions: greenhouse Plant already planted, not to be reproduced or moved (fruit production).
6.3 Host plants in the infested area and its vicinity	<i>Solanum lycopersicum</i>
6.4 Infested plant(s), plant product(s) and other object(s).	<i>Solanum lycopersicum</i> (130 494 pce)

6.5 Severity of the outbreak.	All plants and the fruits showed symptoms in the first visual inspection.
7 Official phytosanitary measures	
7.1 Adoption of official phytosanitary measures.	Official phytosanitary measures have been taken. No demarcated area was established, because there were no other host plants in the surrounding of the greenhouse and the outbreak could be eradicated by the immediate measures. ToBRFV is not transmitted by a vector. It was prohibited to move the plants and fruits. The plants were destroyed and the greenhouse was disinfected.
7.2 Date of adoption of the official phytosanitary measures.	21-07-2021
7.3 Identification of the area covered by the official phytosanitary measures.	35 000 m ²
7.4 Objective of the official phytosanitary measures.	Eradication
7.5 Measures affecting the movement of goods.	Measures affect import into or movement within the Union of goods. Destruction of plants and prohibition to move the infested fruits.
7.6 Specific surveys.	Yes
8 Pest risk analysis/assessment	<p>Pest risk assessment is not required.</p> <p>Since 2025, ToBRFV is not classified as quarantine pest anymore but is regulated as RNQP.</p>