

**Institut für nationale und internationale
Angelegenheiten der Pflanzengesundheit**

Institute for National and International Plant Health

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Federal Research Centre for Cultivated Plants

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Notification of the presence of a harmful organism (2775) – update

1 General information	
1.1 Title	Update on a finding of <i>Popillia japonica</i> in Germany (Bavaria)
1.2 Executive summary	<p>In August 2024, one beetle of <i>Popillia japonica</i> was caught in a pheromone trap in Bavaria, less than 1000 m away from the border to Austria. The trap has been installed during the national survey program in Germany. Further traps are being set in a radius of 1 km and the NPPO of Austria was informed to enable close cooperation. The trap was located close to a motorway that leads to the south including known demarcated areas in Switzerland and Italy.</p> <p>Therefore, it is presumed that the beetle was introduced as a hitchhiker. No indication of an established population could be found so far.</p> <p><u>Update August 2024:</u> 13 days after the first finding another male beetle was caught in a trap located about 4.5 km northwest from the first one. The trap has also been installed during the national survey program in Germany. Further traps are being set in a radius of 1 km. It is presumed that the beetle was introduced as a hitchhiker. No indication of an established population could be found so far.</p> <p><u>1st Update July 2025:</u> First two and a few days later three more male beetles were caught in the same pheromone trap near Lindau as the first beetle last year. According to the regional plant protection service, no indication of an established population could be found so far.</p> <p><u>2nd Update July 2025:</u> 1 more <i>Popillia japonica</i> beetle was caught in the trap near Lindau. So there are now a total of 6 beetles in this trap this year. Intensive surveys are carried out but no signs of an established population could be found so far.</p>

	<p>Update September 2025: 4 more beetles were captured in the trap near Lindau. So, there are now a total of 10 beetles in this trap this year. 3 more beetles were captured in a radius of nearly 5 km: 1 more beetle was found in a trap located next to the motorway entrance in a distance of about 1 km and 2 more beetles were captured in two traps located at a campsite, which is about 4 km away. Thus, a total of 13 beetles were captured in 2025. Inspections for larvae have not yet led to findings of <i>P. japonica</i> at 20 locations around the trap where 10 beetles were captured. Only larvae of <i>Otiorhynchus</i> spp. were found. Additionally, a sniffer dog will be used later in autumn to search for larvae around the trap and in the neighbouring environment. The cooperation with the NPPO in Austria is continued because of findings on both sides of the border.</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 Bavaria
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: other
4.3 Pest status in Germany before the official confirmation of the presence, or suspected presence, of the harmful organism.	Other: status under determination
4.4 Pest status in Germany after the official confirmation of the presence of the harmful organism.	Present: only in some parts of Germany, at low prevalence, under eradication

5 Finding, sampling, testing and confirmation of the harmful organism	
5.1 How the presence or appearance of the harmful organism was found.	<p>Pest related official survey.</p> <p>The pheromone trap was checked every 14 days. On the 6th of August 2024, one dead beetle was found in the trap. The trap is located close to an apple orchard. No visible symptoms of <i>Popillia japonica</i> could be detected during the survey in the surrounding area. The trap was located close to the highway A96, which leads in its prolongation to the south directly through the demarcated areas for <i>Popillia japonica</i> of Switzerland (Tessin) and Italy (Lombardia). Furthermore, the highway A1 leads directly from Zürich in Switzerland (demarcated area in Kloten) to the A96 in Germany. Therefore, it is presumed that the beetle is most likely a hitchhiker.</p> <p><u>Update August 2024:</u> The second pheromone trap was also checked every 14 days. On 19th of August 2024, one dead beetle (male) was found in the trap. The trap is located close to an <i>Aronia</i> orchard. No visible symptoms of <i>Popillia japonica</i> could be detected during the survey in the surrounding area.</p> <p><u>1st Update July 2025:</u> First 2 male beetles and a few days later another 3 male beetles were caught in the same pheromone trap near Lindau as the first beetle last year. It is presumed that the beetles are most likely hitchhikers.</p> <p><u>Update September 2025:</u> Update September 2025: 4 more beetles were captured in the trap near Lindau. So, there are now a total of 10 beetles in this trap this year. 3 more beetles were captured in a radius of nearly 5 km: 1 more beetle was found in a trap located next to the motorway entrance in a distance of about 1 km and 2 more beetles were captured in two traps located at a campsite, which is about 4 km away. Inspections for larvae have not yet led to findings of <i>P. japonica</i> at 20 locations around the trap where 10 beetles were captured. Only larvae of <i>Otiorhynchus</i> spp. were found. Additionally, a sniffer dog will be used later in autumn to search for larvae around the trap and in the neighbouring environment.</p>
5.2 Date of finding:	06-08-2024
5.3 Sampling for laboratory analysis.	<p>Date of sampling: 06-08-2024</p> <p><u>Update August 2024:</u> On 19th of August 2024, one dead beetle (male) was found in a second trap 4.5 km apart.</p>

5.4 Name and address of the Laboratory	Bayrische Landesanstalt für Landwirtschaft (LfL) – Institut für Pflanzenschutz Lange Point 10 85354 Freising Germany
5.5 Diagnostic method	According to peer reviewed protocols PM 7/77 (1) - Documentation and reporting on a diagnosis Morphological identification with a binocular microscope.
5.6 Date of official confirmation of the harmful organism's identity.	09-08-2024
6 Infested area, and the severity and source of the outbreak in that area	
6.1 Characteristics of the infested area and its vicinity.	Open air – production area: orchard/vineyard
6.2 Infested plant(s), plant product(s) and other object(s).	Object: trap (2 pce) <u>Update August 2024:</u> 1 beetle was caught in a trap next to an apple orchard. Another beetle was caught in a trap next to an <i>Aronia</i> orchard. <u>Update September 2025:</u> 7 more beetles were captured. In total, 13 beetles were caught in 2025.
6.3 Severity of the outbreak.	<u>Update August 2024:</u> One beetle was found in a trap. 13 days later a second beetle was found in a pheromone trap about 4.5 km apart. No symptoms of <i>Popillia japonica</i> could be found in the area around the two traps. <u>1st Update July 2025:</u> First 2 and a few days later another 3 beetles were caught in the same pheromone trap near Lindau as the first beetle in 2024 last year. <u>2nd update July 2025:</u> In 2025, a total of 6 beetles were caught in the same trap so far. <u>Update September 2025:</u> 7 more beetles were captured in this area but no larvae or infested plants were found so far.
6.4 Source of the outbreak	The beetles are both most likely hitchhikers from the demarcated areas in Switzerland and Italy. The highway A96 is nearby, which leads to these areas. <u>Update September 2025:</u> The first doubts arise as to whether these captured beetles are still hitchhikers but an established population could not be found yet.

7 Official phytosanitary measures	
7.1 Adoption of official phytosanitary measures.	<p>Official phytosanitary measures have been taken. No demarcated area was established.</p> <p>Visual examinations around the trap will be intensified. For this purpose, 5 additional traps will be set up in Germany and 5 traps in Austria by our Austrian colleagues in a radius of 1 km around the trap.</p> <p><u>Update August 2024:</u> In the case of the second trap, 8 to 10 additional traps will be set up in a radius of 1 km around the trap in Germany.</p> <p><u>Update September 2025:</u> Trapping is continued. Inspections by excavations were carried out on 16th September searching for larvae. Additionally, a sniffer dog will be used later in autumn to search for larvae around the trap and in the neighbouring environment.</p>
7.2 Date of adoption of the official phytosanitary measures.	13-08-2024
7.3 Measures affecting the movement of goods.	Measures do not affect import into or movement within the Union of goods
7.4 Specific surveys.	Yes, intensive surveys are carried out in a radius of 1 km around the two traps. For this purpose, additional traps will be set up in Germany and Austria.
8 Pest risk analysis/assessment	Pest risk analysis is not required (harmful organism is listed in Annex II B of Implementing Regulation (EU) 2019/2072.