

Notification of the presence of a harmful organism (1878) – update

Title:
Update of an outbreak of <i>Euwallacea fornicatus</i> sensu lato, <i>Neocosmospora euwallaceae</i> and <i>Neocosmospora lokii</i> in Germany (Brandenburg)
Executive summary:
In August 2022, three specimens of <i>Euwallacea fornicatus</i> sensu lato were found in a trap in a tropical greenhouse that is used for touristic purposes. The finding was made during the official survey in Brandenburg. The trap was placed in a <i>Ficus</i> tree. No symptoms on plants were found in the direct vicinity of the trap during first inspections. Further investigation will be conducted to assess the extent of the outbreak and determine the source of the infestation. Currently it is presumed that the pest may have been introduced into the greenhouse with infested plants. Preliminary measures have been taken to avoid that the pest is spread further. <u>Update October 2022:</u> Three specimens of <i>Hypothenemus</i> (Scolytinae) were found, one of them in a plant and two were caught in traps. The additional Scolytinae were detected in the same tropical greenhouse during eradication measures against <i>Euwallacea fornicatus</i> sensu lato. The traps were placed at different locations in the greenhouse. No symptoms were found in the direct vicinity of the traps. One specimen was found on a <i>Barringtonia acutangula</i> plant, which showed symptoms like an exit hole, exudate and dieback of the upper plant parts. The plant was destroyed after sampling. <i>Hypothenemus</i> was identified on 13th October 2022. In 2021 and 2022, plants were exclusively delivered from an operator in another Member State. The concerned <i>Barringtonia acutangula</i> originates from a consignment delivered in 2021. The concerned Member State was informed. The phytosanitary measures taken are the same as against <i>Euwallacea</i>. <u>Update July 2023:</u> <i>Neocosmospora euwallaceae</i> has been identified on <i>Magnolia champaca</i>. The fungus is associated with <i>Euwallacea fornicatus</i> and has been detected for the first time at this location. In addition, <i>Hypothenemus</i> has been further identified as <i>H. eruditus</i> and a risk analysis has been carried out where this pest was not classified as quarantine pest because the pest is established in several EU Member States and therefore not considered non-European. In addition, the potential damage is considered low. Additional infested plants were found: <i>Ficus natalensis</i> subsp. <i>lepieurii</i>, <i>Clerodendrum quadriloculare</i> and <i>Ficus microcarpa</i>. All infested plants are destroyed. Meanwhile 10 traps were placed within the building. Trap catches are at a low level and hotspots could not be identified. 3 traps are placed outside of the building in the buffer zone of 100 m. <u>Update February 2025:</u> On 29th January 2025, <i>Neocosmospora ambrosia</i> was identified by the National Reference Laboratory (NRL). <i>Euwallacea fornicatus</i> sensu lato was found on <i>Ficus lyrata</i> and

Chrysophyllum cainito. *C. cainito* is not listed as host plant in the EPPO Global database. *Hypothenemus eruditus* was removed from the notification. Trap catches have been updated and the survey regime was adapted. At the beginning of each quarter, pheromones are set in the traps and the traps are inspected one week later. If a specimen of *Euwallacea* is found the trap will only be inspected again at the beginning of the next quarter. A sample of plants at this location are visually inspected. Surveys in the buffer zone are maintained as before.

Update February 2026:

- *Graphium euwallaceae* was identified on *Barringtonia acutangula* by the NRL on 9th May 2025, which is the first finding of the species in the EU.
- The identification of *Neocosmospora ambrosia* was revised on 27 November 2025. Instead, *Neocosmospora lokii* was identified, also for the first time in the EU.
- Although the reduced number of inspections has led to a decrease in the total number of beetles caught, the average number of beetles per inspection has remained unchanged (6 specimens).
- Trap catches have been updated.
- *Euwallacea fornicatus* sensu lato was found on *Ficus benjamina* and *Ficus lyrata*.

Pest status in Germany

Present, under eradication, only in some parts of Germany, only in greenhouses

Adoption of official phytosanitary measures

Official phytosanitary measures will be taken.

Inspections and a survey will be carried out in the greenhouse. All plant material and debris are not allowed to leave the greenhouse unpacked. It is shredded, packed and safely transported directly to a waste incineration plant. Currently, the only plant material that may be removed is that which normally occurs during minor maintenance activities.

Update October 2022: The shredded, packed and marked plant debris are regularly brought to a waste incineration plant. This measure has been in force since 23 August 2022 and concerns all Scolytinae that have been found in the tropical greenhouse.

Update July 2023:

- A buffer zone of 100 m around the building was demarcated.
- Repellents must be used as deterrents at all entrances and exits throughout the year.
- All infested plants are destroyed.
- Host plants of *E. fornicatus* sensu lato and *Neocosmospora euwallaceae* must not be planted in the greenhouse and the surrounding buffer zone.

Update February 2025: In addition, *Neocosmospora ambrosia* was detected and the same eradication measures are continued as for the other pests. It is prohibited to plant host plants in the whole demarcated area and in a 100 m zone around a composting site in the vicinity that was used before the detection of *Euwallacea*.

Update February 2026: In addition, *Graphium euwallaceae* and *Neocosmospora lokii* were detected and the same measures are continued as for the other pests.