Institut für nationale und internationale Angelegenheiten der Pflanzengesundheit
Institute for National and International Plant Health

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27-03-2025

Notification of the presence of a harmful organism (1083) – closing note

1 General information	
1.1 Title	Closing note on a finding of *Peronospora aquilegiicola* in Germany (Lower-Saxony)
1.2 Executive summary	In Spring 2020, a private garden owner submitted a plant sample of diseased *Aquilegia* sp. to the plant protection service of Lower Saxony. The private person has observed heavy symptoms of downy mildew on *Aquilegia* sp. in 2019 that recurred in 2020. The species was identified via morphological and molecular methods. About 400 plants were affected on an area of 200 square meters. The plants showed varying degrees of symptoms from chlorotic necrosis and slight twisted growth to the death of whole plants. A preliminary PRA was performed, which concluded that *P. aquilegiicola* might fulfil the criteria of a quarantine pest. Officially measures were taken to eradicate the pest. As the plants were not planted in the garden by the owner but have settled wild, therefore the source of the outbreak is unknown. **<u>Update February 2025:</u> The pest risk assessment has been revised. *Peronospora aquilegiicola* is not classified as potential quarantine pest any more. One of the reasons is the potential quick spread of the pest and that official phytosanitary measures are not considered effective enough. However, the potential damage of *P. aquilegiicola* for *Aquilegia* is high and the pest is not widespread yet. If an infestation is detected very early eradication may be successful at local level. It is therefore recommended to destroy infested plants as part of the general plant protection. The responsible plant protection service stopped the official eradication measures. Beforehand, eradication measures were applied and no further infestation could be detected at this location.**

2 <u>Information concerning the single authority and responsible persons</u>	
2.1 Notification from	Julius Kühn-Institut (JKI), Institute for National and International Plant Health, Germany
3 Location	
3.1 Location	In Lower-Saxony
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 in 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.	Absent: no pest record
4.4 Pest status in Germany after the official confirmation of the presence of the harmful organism.	**Present: only in some parts of the Member State concerned**
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 infestation was observed by a private person in 2019 and again in 2020. Due to the recurrence of the disease, a sample was submitted by the private person.
5.2 Date of finding:	05-05-2020
5.3 Sampling for laboratory analysis.	Date of sampling: 05-05-2020
5.4 Name and address of the Laboratory	Landwirtschaftskammer Niedersachsen – Pflanzenschutzamt Wunstorfer Landstraße 9 30453 Hannover Germany
5.5 Diagnostic method	Microscopically examination of conidia and morphological classification as *Peronospora* sp. *P. aquilegiicola* is currently the only known downy mildew on *Aguilegia* sp. The identity of the pathogen was confirmed on 4th June 2020 by molecular methods.

5.6 Date of official confirmation of the harmful organism's identity.	05-05-2020
6 Infested area, and the severity and source of the outbreak in that area	
6.1 Size and delimitation of the infested area.	200 m²
6.2 Characteristics of the infested area and its vicinity.	Open air: private garden Plant already planted, not to be reproduced or moved.
6.3 Host plants in the infested area and its vicinity	*Aquilegia*
6.4 Infested plant(s), plant product(s) and other object(s).	*Aquilegia* (400 pce) (Wild Aquilegia not planted or sown by the owner of the garden)
6.5 Severity of the outbreak.	The plants showed varying degrees of symptoms from chlorotic necrosis and slight twisted growth to the death of the whole plant.
6.6 Source of the outbreak	Unknown, the plants were not planted by the garden owner.
7 Official phytosanitary measures	
7.1 Adoption of official phytosanitary measures.	Official phytosanitary measures have been taken. No demarcated area was established. - destruction of all *Aquilegia* plants in the garden - removing of young plants - no planting of host plants within the next five years - disposal of infested material by burning of deep burial. - young plants will be removed continuously.
7.2 Date of adoption of the official phytosanitary measures.	12-05-2020
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.	No
8 Pest risk analysis/assessment	Prelimanary pest risk assessment exists (Express-PRA). **Update February 2025: The pest risk assessment has been revised. *Peronospora aquilegiicola* is not classified as potential quarantine pest any more. One of the reasons is the potential quick spread of the pest**

	and that official phytosanitary measures are not considered effective enough.