Institut für nationale und internationale Angelegenheiten der Pflanzengesundheit

Institute for National and International Plant Health

JKI, Messeweg 11/12, 38104 Braunschweig, Germany

Julius Kühn-Institut
Bundesforschungsinstitut für Kulturpflanzen
Federal Research Centre for Cultivated Plants

www.julius-kuehn.de

06-05-2026

Notification of the presence of a harmful organism (3320) – Closing note

1 General information	
1.1 Title	Eradication of an outbreak of *Scirtothrips dorsalis* in Germany (Bavaria)
1.2 Executive summary	On 12th May 2025, a person in Bavaria who trades in bonsai plants received a delivery of 20 bonsai plants of various species from the Netherlands. *Scirtothrips dorsalis* was detected during a post-import inspection in the Netherlands at the end of July on *Podocarpus macrophyllus* bonsai plants. As part of follow-up investigations, the German authorities were informed that bonsai plants of various species suspected of being infested had been delivered to Germany from the infested greenhouse compartment. On 25th September, the Bavarian Plant Protection Service was informed that the plants purchased by the person in Bavaria originate from this greenhouse compartment. One specimen of *Podocarpus macrophyllus* with plant passport was included in this consignment. On 13th October, the 5 remaining plants were officially inspected for infestation with *Scirtothrips dorsalis*. 15 plants of the consignment were already sold. However, no infestation with the specified pest was found during this inspection. Sticky traps were attached to the plants and checked on 27th October. Several thrips were discovered. On 27th November, the thrips found on the traps were clearly identified as *Scirtothrips dorsalis* using morphological and molecular examination methods. The affected greenhouse contains approximately 200 bonsai plants of various species and additional 200 plants for overwintering. The greenhouse of 0.13 ha is currently kept at approximately 5 °C. All plants in the greenhouse were declared probably infested and a ban on the movement of all plants was imposed. Treatments with pesticides and hygiene measures have been ordered. In

	addition, the occurrence of the pathogen is being surveyed using sticky traps. **From January 2026 until middle of March, only 1 more thrips was caught on a yellow sticky trap in the greenhouse. No more thrips could be detected for six weeks after the last treatment with pesticides. Therefore, the ordered measures were lifted on 28th April 2026 and the outbreak is considered eradicated at this location. The cryptic species could not be determined due to the lack of trap catches in the subsequent period.**
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	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.	**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: intercepted only
4.4 Pest status in Germany after the official confirmation of the presence of the harmful organism.	absent, eradicated
5 Finding, sampling, testing and confirmation of the harmful organism	
5.1 How the presence or appearance of the harmful organism was found.	Trace back and forward inspection related to the specific presence of the pest concerned. Possibly infested bonsai plants were delivered to Germany from the Netherlands. Yellow and blue sticky traps were installed in the greenhouse when the plant protection service was informed about the delivery of the

	suspicious plants. After 14 days numerous individual thrips stuck on the blue and yellow traps.
5.2 Date of finding:	27-10-2025
5.3 Sampling for laboratory analysis.	Date of sampling: 27-10-2025 Sticky traps with suspicious specimens were sent to the laboratory.
5.4 Name and address of the Laboratory	Bayrische Landesanstalt für Landwirtschaft (LfL) – Institut für Pflanzenschutz Lange Point 10 85354 Freising
5.5 Diagnostic method	Morphological diagnosis of specimens in microscopical slides was supplemented by PCR and CO1 sequencing. Both methods identified the specimens as *Scirtothrips dorsalis*.
5.6 Date of official confirmation of the harmful organism's identity.	21-11-2025
6 Infested area, and the severity and source of the outbreak in that area	
6.1 Size and delimitation of the infested area.	0.13 ha
6.2 Characteristics of the infested area and its vicinity.	Physically closed conditions: greenhouse Plant to be (re)planted or reproduced
6.3 Host plants in the infested area and its vicinity	*Podocarpus macrophyllus*
6.4 Infested plant(s), plant product(s) and other object(s).	Object: trap Until now the pest could not be detected on the plants. Only 1 *Podocarpus* is present in the greenhouse. The other plants are deciduous trees, palms, conifers, azaleas, bougainvilleas, citrus plants and a lot of other species. One greenhouse without spatial subdivisions. The greenhouse is located in the middle of the town (public area).
6.5 Severity of the outbreak.	The greenhouse is not used for plant production, rather for overwintering plants. It is currently kept at a temperature of 5 °C. Plants do not show any symptoms and no *Scirtothrips* were found on the plants yet.
6.6 Source of the outbreak	We assume that the source of infestation is the delivery of infested plants.

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. Eradication measures include applications of plant production products as well as regular inspections of the plants. Blue and yellow sticky traps are used to survey the presence of the pest.
7.2 Date of adoption of the official phytosanitary measures.	09-12-2025
7.3 Identification of the area covered by the official phytosanitary measures.	The infested zone is the greenhouse of 0.13 ha. No buffer zone was established.
7.4 Objective of the official phytosanitary measures.	Eradication
7.5 Measures affecting the movement of goods.	Measures do not affect import into or movement within the Union of goods
7.6 Specific surveys.	Yes, regular inspections of the plants in the greenhouse and blue and yellow sticky traps are used to survey the presence of the pest. The location has been included in the national survey as a risk location.
8 Pest risk analysis/assessment	Pest risk assessment is not required. Harmful organism is listed in Annex II B of Regulation (EU) 2019/2072.