Institut für nationale und internationale Angelegenheiten der Pflanzengesundheit
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15-04-2026

Notification of the presence of a harmful organism (3429) – update

1	**General information**	
1.1	Title	Confirmed presence of *Sirococcus tsugae* in Germany (North-Rhine Westphalia)
1.2	Executive summary	In March 2026, *Sirococcus tsugae* was detected on *Cedrus atlantica* trees in an arboretum in a forest in North Rhine-Westphalia. The 30 to 50 year old plants showed symptoms like yellow-brown needles, fallen needles and dieback of shoots. On 20th of March, the pest was officially identified using PCR. The origin of the pest is unclear. Appropriate measures are currently being evaluated and a decision on whether official phytosanitary measures will be taken is pending.
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 North Rhine-Westphalia
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.	Present: only in specific parts of the area concerned
4.3	Pest status in Germany before the official confirmation of the presence, or suspected presence, of the harmful organism.	Absent: pest eradicated

4.4 Pest status in Germany after the official confirmation of the presence of the harmful organism.	Present: only in some parts of Germany
5 Finding, sampling, testing and confirmation of the harmful organism	
5.1 How the presence or appearance of the harmful organism was found.	Official inspection for purposes other than phytosanitary ones
5.2 Date of finding:	05-02-2025
5.3 Sampling for laboratory analysis.	Date of sampling: 05-02-2025
5.4 Name and address of the Laboratory	Landwirtschaftskammer Nordrhein-Westfalen Pflanzenschutzdienst Gartenstraße 11 50765 Köln-Auweiler Germany
5.5 Diagnostic method	According to peer reviewed protocols PCR using ITS Primer (EPPO PM 7/129, App. 3 (2), 10-2020)
5.6 Date of official confirmation of the harmful organism's identity.	20-03-2025
6 Infested area, and the severity and source of the outbreak in that area	
6.1 Size and delimitation of the infested area.	3900 m²
6.2 Characteristics of the infested area and its vicinity.	Open air - production area: forest Plant already planted, not to be reproduced or moved
6.3 Host plants in the infested area and its vicinity	*Cedrus atlantica*
6.4 Infested plant(s), plant product(s) and other object(s).	*Cedrus atlantica* (3900 m²)
7 Official phytosanitary measures	
7.1 Adoption of official phytosanitary measures.	Decision on whether official phytosanitary measures will be taken is pending
7.2 Specific surveys.	No
8 Pest risk analysis/assessment	Preliminary pest risk assessment exists (Link).