NAME OF THE ORGANISM: Spiroplasma citri (SPIRCI)

GENERAL INFORMATION ON THE PEST

Name as submitted in the project specification (if different to the preferred name):
 
  
Pest category:
 
Bacteria **1- Identity of the pest/Level of taxonomic listing:**  
Is the organism clearly a single taxonomic entity and can it be adequately distinguished from other entities of the same rank?
 
Yes  
Is the pest defined at the species level or lower?:
 
Yes  
Can listing of the pest at a taxonomic level higher than species be supported by scientific reasons or can species be identified within the taxonomic rank which are the (main) pests of concern?

* Not relevant: Ornamental sector

Is it justified that the pest is listed at a taxonomic rank below species level?
 
Not relevant  
Conclusion:

* Candidate: Ornamental sector

**2 – Status in the EU:**
   
Is this pest already a quarantine pest for the whole EU?
 
No  
Presence in the EU:
 
Yes  
List of countries (EPPO Global Database):
 
Cyprus (1996); France (2011); France/Corse (2011); Italy (2012); Italy/Sicilia (1991); Italy/Sardegna (1991); Spain (2015)  
Conclusion:
 
candidate  
Justification (if necessary):
 
Data of the presence of this pest on the EU territory are available in EPPO Global Database (<https://gd.eppo.int/>).

HOST PLANT N°1: Citrus (1CIDG) for the Ornamental sector.

Origin of the listing:
 
IIA2AWG  
Plants for planting:
 
Plants intended for planting, other than seeds **3 - Is the pest already listed in a PM4 standard on the concerned host plant?**
 
Yes 
Conclusion:
 
Qualified  
 
Justification (if necessary):
 
The interest in Citrus and related genera as ornamental plants has increased in recent years, and many varieties and hybrids are suitable for this purpose. The EPPO PM 4/12(1) Standard for Citrus includes all species of Citrus, Poncirus, Fortunella and their hybrids, so it is assumed Spiroplasma citri can be recommended for the RNQP status for ornamental use based on the EPPO PM 4 Standard, and so this analysis does not need to continue. **CONCLUSION ON THE STATUS:**
 
Recommended for listing as an RNQP - based on EPPO PM 4 Standard. **8 - Tolerance level:**  
Is there a need to change the Tolerance level:
 
No  
Proposed Tolerance levels:
 
Zero tolerance of symptomatic plants in the marketed material. **9 - Risk management measures:**  
Is there a need to change the Risk management measure:
 
Yes  
Proposed Risk management measure:
 
(A) Derived from mother plants which have been inspected and found free from Spiroplasma citri;  
AND  
(B) (a) Plants produced in areas known to be free from Spiroplasma citri;  
or  
(b) Site of production found free from Spiroplasma citri over the last complete growing season by visual inspection of the plants at the appropriate time during the last growing season;  
or  
(c) Not more than 2% of plants showing symptoms during an inspection at the appropriate time during the last growing season and those plants have been rogued out and destroyed immediately.  
Justification (if necessary):
 
Experts considered that risks of cross-contamination with plants produced for fruit production should be taken into consideration. Therefore same measures than for the fruit sector are proposed. **REFERENCES:**

* EFSA Panel on Plant Health (PLH) (2014) Scientific Opinion on pest categorisation of Spiroplasma citri. EFSA Journal 2014;12(12):3925, 29 pp. doi:10.2903/j.efsa.2014.3925 <http://www.efsa.europa.eu/en/efsajournal/doc/3925.pdf>;
* EPPO (2008) Certification scheme for strawberry. Bulletin OEPP/EPPO Bulletin 38, 430–437;
* EU COM (2016) Recommendation of the Working Group on the Annexes of the Council Directive 2000/29/EC – Section II – Listing of Harmful Organisms as regards the future listing of Spiroplasma citri Saglio et al.;