NAME OF THE ORGANISM: Bemisia tabaci (BEMITA)

GENERAL INFORMATION ON THE PEST

Name as submitted in the project specification (if different to the preferred name):
 
  
Pest category:
 
Insecta **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):
 
Austria (2011); Belgium (2013); Bulgaria (2003); Croatia (2008); Cyprus (2011); Czech Republic (1994); France (2010); France/Corse (1998); Germany (1993); Greece (2013); Greece/Kriti (1994); Hungary (1993); Italy (1994); Italy/Sicilia (2008); Italy/Sardegna (1994); Malta (2012); Netherlands (2015); Poland (1992); Portugal (2008); Portugal/Madeira (2008); Spain (2015); Spain/Islas Canárias (2012); Spain/Islas Baleares (2011); Sweden (1998); United Kingdom (2010); United Kingdom/England (2009)  
Conclusion:
 
candidate  
Justification (if necessary):
 
Only non-European populations of Bemisia tabaci are listed in annex IA1 of Council directive 2000/29/EC. Data of the presence of this pest on the EU territory are available in EPPO Global Database (<https://gd.eppo.int/>). Experts commented that 'non-European populations' is usually only considered in relation to the origin of the plants/consignment on which the pest is found.

HOST PLANT N°1: Begonia x hiemalis (BEGEH) for the Ornamental sector.

Origin of the listing:
 
Commission Directive 93/49/EEC  
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?**
 
No 
Conclusion:
 
Evaluation continues **4 - Are the listed plants for planting the main\* pathway for the "pest/host/intended use" combination? (\*: significant compared to others):**
 
No 
Conclusion:
 
Not candidate  
 
Justification:
 
Begonias are perennials and are propagated from cuttings. The host range of B. tabaci covers more than 1 000 species (Mound & Halsey, 1978; De Barro, 1995; Chu et al., 2006; Evans, 2007; Li et al. 2011; EFSA, 2013). There are some inconsistencies in various publications on the suitability of different Begonia species as being B. tabaci host plants. Bemisia tabaci is not listed on Begonia x hiemalis (EPPO Global Database; EFSA, 2013) though Begonia ravenii and B. semperflorens are listed as hosts (EFSA, 2013). In the unconfirmed host plants of EFSA (2013), compiled from DAF-GWA (2008) and Evans (2007), Begonia sp. is not included, although it is in the DAF-GWA (2008) table. Fransen (1994) reported 3 to 7 annual findings of B. tabaci on Begonia in the greenhouses in the Netherlands and concluded that this is perfect host plant for the pest. The infestation rate (nymphs and pupae density) of host plants of B. tabaci was categorized in four grades in China (Li et al., 2011). Begonia ravenii and Begonia semperflorens were classified in the 1st infestation grade (average number of B. tabaci nymphs and pupae ≤ 10/10 cm² leaf area). Dalmon et al. (2008) sampled B. tabaci greenhouse populations in southern France from begonia (Begonia x elatior= Begonia x hiemalis). Ornamental trade (mainly Poinsettia and Begonia spp.) is the main pathway of introduction and spread of Bemisia tabaci Mediterraneann species (MED, formerly referred to as biotype Q) to ornamental and vegetable greenhouses and to open fields in Brazil (Moraes et al., 2017). Six interceptions of B. tabaci on Begonia plant for plantings from the EU Member States have been reported in the EUROPHYT database from 1993 to 2011. Genus Begonia is included in De Barro (1995) ornamental host plant list. Experts concluded that plants for planting of Begonia x hiemalis are not a significant pathway, even though it may incidentally be a pathway for 'hitch-hikers'. **CONCLUSION ON THE STATUS:**
 
Disqualified: Not recommended for RNQP status - not a significant pathway for this host. **8 - Tolerance level:**  
Is there a need to change the Tolerance level:
 
No  
Proposed Tolerance levels:
 
Delisting. **9 - Risk management measures:**  
Is there a need to change the Risk management measure:
 
No  
Proposed Risk management measure:
 
Delisting. **REFERENCES:**

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* Mound LA & Halsey SH (1978) Whitefly of the World. A Systematic Catalogue of the Aleyrodidae (Homoptera) with Host Plant and Natural Enemy Data. British Museum (Natural History) and Chichester, Wiley, London, UK, 340 pp;