

## **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 *Burkholderia caryophylli* Burkholder<sup>1</sup>**

### **Current regulatory status**

*B. caryophylli*, previously known as *Pseudomonas caryophylli* (Burkholder)] is listed under Annex IIAII of Directive 2000/29/EC for plants of *Dianthus* L. intended for planting, other than seeds.

For import and movement within the EU, plants of *Dianthus* L. intended for planting, other than seeds, need an official statement in the phytosanitary certificate or the plant passport, that the plants have been derived in direct line from mother plants which have been found free from the organism by officially approved tests, carried out at least once within the two previous years. No symptoms of the pest may have been observed on the plants.

### **Identity of the pest**

*B. caryophylli* is a single taxonomic entity that can be adequately distinguished from other entities of the same genus. EPPO has provided a standard protocol for the diagnosis of the pest. Also latent infections can be identified by common test methods. Several identification methods are available.

### **Distribution of the pest**

According to EPPO, *B. caryophylli* is reported as present in Italy with a restricted distribution, while absent and no longer present in a number of other Member States. In the EU there has been no outbreak of the pest in the last 25 years.

### **Potential for establishment and spread in the PRA area**

*Dianthus caryophyllus* is the main host plant. Other *Dianthus* spp. are known to be infected by artificial inoculation. *Limonium sinuatum*, *Eustoma grandiflorum* and *Gypsophila paniculata* are minor and incidental hosts. Because carnations and the minor hosts are grown in many areas of the EU under protected cultivation and outdoors there is a potential of establishment and spread in the PRA. The pest can most effectively spread by infected cuttings. The spread of the pathogen in soil is not effective. Furthermore *B. caryophylli* has been found associated with sphagnum peat bogs in Russia, but the pathogenicity of those bacteria has not been confirmed and peat used in carnation production originates mainly in the EU. EFSA considers the peat pathway as of very minor importance.

### **Potential for consequences in the PRA area**

The environmental conditions in the EU are not very suitable for disease development in open field conditions. Under protected cultivation, there is a considerable risk of damages mainly in carnation cut flower production. The volume of imported propagating material from third countries for cut flower production is high. EFSA considers the application of sanitation procedures, the obligations

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<sup>1</sup> Scientific basis for the recommendation: EFSA PLH Panel (EFSA Panel on Plant Health), Scientific Opinion on the risk to plant health posed by *Burkholderia caryophylli* for the EU territory with the identification and evaluation of risk reduction options. EFSA Journal 2011(1): 3071. [91pp], 26 pp. doi:10.2903/j.efsa.2012.3071 <http://www.efsa.europa.eu/en/efsajournal/pub/3071>

of phytosanitary measures acc. to Dir. 2000/29/EC and the use of voluntary certification rules as causes for the elimination of the disease in the EU.

### **Recommendation**

Apart from a restricted distribution in Italy there has been no documented outbreak of the pest in the EU since 25 years. From other parts of the world, it is known that it can cause considerable damage. The main pathway is plants for planting. The EU is an important producer of host plants (e.g. cut flowers of carnation) and therefore strict measures are justified. At the same time, cultivation practices and phytosanitary measures in place seem to be effective to prevent the occurrence of the pest. The protection of outdoor plants is of minor importance because the conditions are not favorable.

Therefore, the Working Group considers listing this organism as a Regulated Non-Quarantine Pest.