



February 2018 PEST Report - THE NETHERLANDS

First finding of *Xylosandrus crassiusculus* (EPPO Alert list) in kairomone traps surrounding three import locations of Wood packaging Material (Municipalities Venlo, Nuth and Moerdijk)

During the 2017 annual national survey on wood boring insects (especially targeting *Monochamus*), the presence of *Xylosandrus crassiusculus* (Coleoptera: Scolytidae - EPPO Alert List) was found for the first time in the Netherlands. Four specimens were trapped in June-July (3x) and August (1x) 2017 in cross-vane traps (including scolytid kairomones) located in 3 locations where commodities with wood packaging material (WPM) are imported from various sources, inside and outside the EU. The insect identity has been confirmed by morphological as well as molecular means.

No measures have been taken, as based on a preliminary risk analysis carried out in 2010. The insect is already present in Italy, France and Spain and possible impact in the Netherlands is assessed as limited. A delimiting survey will be carried out in the Netherlands prior to the growing season (March-April 2018) in the surroundings of recent findings to determine whether the insect has been capable of infesting nearby trees.

WPM is a pathway for *Xylosandrus crassiusculus* to enter new areas: live specimens of *Xylosandrus crassiusculus* have been intercepted from WPM before in the Netherlands: in 2014 (WPM from Vietnam), February 2016 and January 2017 (WPM from China) and now first findings have been made of this insect by means of kairomone traps at sites where WPM is imported.

The pest status of *Xylosandrus crassiusculus* in the Netherlands can be described as follows: Transient: non-actionable, under surveillance. The organism is not listed as a harmful organism in the EU directive 2000/29/EC and is not listed on the EPPO A1 or A2 list.