



August 2014 PEST Report - THE NETHERLANDS

National Plant Protection Organization
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Finding of *Ralstonia solanacearum*, race 1 in ornamental *Curcuma* plants at two growers

Introduction

As part of the annual national survey of the Netherlands, *Ralstonia solanacearum* was confirmed on August 18 2014 in *Curcuma* plants at two growers of plants destined for the final consumer. Most likely the interception concerns race 1 of *R. solanacearum* (under investigation). Few plants (5 to 10 of the entire greenhouse) exhibited symptoms. The origin of the finding is unknown. Both growers regularly make use of plant material imported from Thailand. A similar finding was recorded in 2001. In preceding years (1997) the NPPO of the Netherlands regularly intercepted *Ralstonia solanacearum*, race 1 on rhizomes of *Curcuma* originating from Thailand.

The organism is listed as a harmful organism in the EU directive 2000/29/EC and is listed on the EPPO A2 list.

Measures have been taken aimed at eradication.

Reason for reporting new finding.

Identity of the pest (scientific name) *Ralstonia solanacearum* (probably race 1; under investigation)

Categorization of the pest EU Annex IIAI, EPPO A2

Location: not relevant

Current Pest status

Transient, found on *Curcuma* plants for planting, under eradication.

Previous Pest status

Absent, pest eradicated, confirmed by survey, intercepted only (*Anthurium*) based on long term annual surveys, 256 survey observations in 2013

Pest significance

Date of finding

Samples were taken on July 30, 2014 and the identity of the bacterium was confirmed on August 18, 2014.

Detection and identification

- how the pest was found: annual official survey
- how the pest was detected and identified: visual symptoms observed on plants at both growers. Detection and identification was carried out in accordance with annex II of EU Council Directive 98/57/EC, as amended. The initial suspicion based on the symptoms was confirmed by IF and PCR and the identity was confirmed by a pathogenicity test.

Impact

Few plants (5 to 10 of the entire greenhouse) exhibited mild symptoms. There is no risk for

contamination of tomato or potato cultivation, inter alia due to absence of tomato greenhouses in the vicinity. Irrigation water within each company is recirculated.

Host plants or articles concerned (if appropriate):

Curcuma plants for planting destined for the final consumer.

Type of plant or mode of cultivation: commercial crops / nurseries / indoors.

Origin of the pest

The origin of the finding is unknown. Both growers regularly make use of plant material imported from Thailand. A similar finding was recorded in 2001. In preceding years (1997) the NPPO of the Netherlands regularly intercepted *Ralstonia solanacearum*, race 1 on rhizomes of *Curcuma* originating from Thailand.

Phytosanitary measures

Measures at both growers are aimed at eradication. Measures include removal and destruction of plants with symptoms, treatment of irrigation water at the premises, restricted access and movement of machinery, goods, plant material and persons. Under official control, cut flowers and plants for planting may be destined for the final consumer.

A survey at three other growers of *Curcuma* plants for planting has been completed not resulting in any further findings.

References:

NPPO The Netherlands