Netherlands Food and Consumer
Product Safety Authority
Ministry of Agriculture,
Nature and Food Quality

National Plant Protection Organization
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The Netherlands

November 2023 PEST Report - THE NETHERLANDS

1.1 UPDATE Finding of *Ralstonia pseudosolanacearum* in surface water in the Netherlands (provinces Friesland, Utrecht and Overijssel)

Change to pest status:

Present in several locations, only in specific waterways and under official control.

1.2 Executive summary

This report concerns an update on the official finding of *Ralstonia pseudosolancearum* (phylotype I) in the Netherlands in surface water, as part of the regular survey for *Ralstonia* sp. in surface water, which was detected for the first time in surface water in 2020. New findings of *Ralstonia pseudosolanacearum* were recorded in one new province without earlier findings, notably the province of Friesland. Again findings were also recorded in two other areas (provinces Utrecht and Overijssel) in the vicinity of findings reported in July this year. The new findings are at great distance of the earlier findings and do not appear to be connected. The origin of the findings remain unclear.

As part of the 2023 water survey in total 13 water samples tested positive for *Ralstonia pseudosolanacearum*, as well as one sample of *Solanum dulcamara*. Eight findings of water samples were located within the current prohibition areas for irrigation of potatoes. By comparison the majority of findings in surface water concerns *Ralstonia solanacearum* in the Netherlands, notably 160 out of 1,987 water samples. For Solanum dulcamara 51 samples were taken of which one was positive for *R. pseudosolanacearum* and one for *R. solanacearum*.The irrigation prohibition area for potato cultivation has been adjusted accordingly.

The source of the new contaminations of *Ralstonia pseudosolanacearum* is unclear.
The organism is listed as quarantine pest as part of EU regulation 2016/2031.

Identity of the pest: (scientific name) *Ralstonia pseudosolancearum* (phylotype I).
Categorization of the pest: (Quarantine pest, EU Annex II A of implementing Regulation (EU) 2019/2072).
Location**:** Municipalities of Garyp (Friesland), Stichtse Vecht (Utrecht) and Hellendoorn (Overijssel).
Reason of the notification: Updated report.
How the pest was found: annual survey of surface water.
Information on the infested area, severity and source of the outbreak – summary
As part of the 2023 water survey in total 13 water samples tested positive for *Ralstonia pseudosolanacearum*, as well as one sample of *Solanum dulcamara*. Eight findings were located within the current prohibition areas for irrigation of potatoes.

Official phytosanitary measures - summary
No official phytosanitary measures will be taken for eradication in surface water. The bacterium can survive winter conditions in surface water, presumably in *S. dulcamara* in

the Netherlands. Surveillance for *R. pseudosolancearum* has become a permanent part of the surface water survey in the Netherlands as the collected water samples will be determined at species level. In any case there is an integral prohibition for the use of surface water for seed potatoes in the Netherlands and a prohibition for using surface water for cultivation of all types of potatoes in areas where EU regulated *Ralstonia* species are known to occur in specific surface water areas.	
1.3 Type of notification	(3) Updated notification
2.1 Single Authority	Notification from the National Plant Protection Organization of the Netherlands – Netherlands Food and Consumer Product Safety Authority
2.2 Official contact	
3. Location of presence of harmful organism	3.1 Provinces: Friesland, Utrecht and Overijssel
3.2 Map of the location.	
4. Reason of the notification and pest status	4.1 (1) First presence of the harmful organism in surface water. Update report
4.3 Previous Pest status	(14) Transient: actionable, under surveillance.
4.4 Current Pest status	Present in several locations, only in specific waterways and under official control.
5. Information relating to the finding.	5.1 How the harmful organism was found. Annual survey of surface water.
5.2 Date of finding.	Initial finding: 1 March 2021
5.3 Sampling for laboratory analysis	Water samples were collected by filling tubes with surface water in duplo at selected sampling points.
5.4 Laboratory	NIVIP -National Reference Laboratory - NPPO of the Netherlands
5.5 Diagnostic method.	According to peer reviewed protocol. EU-Directive 2006/63/EC and EPPO diagnostic standard PM7/21, phylotype determination of *Ralstonia solanacearum* phylotype.
5.6 Date of official confirmation of the harmful organism's identity	1 March 2021

6. Information related to the area, severity of the finding and source of the finding	6.1. Open water way
6.2. Characteristics of the infested area and its vicinity.	Indication of one or more of the following options: (2) Open air – other (2.5) other, Surface water
6.3. Host plants in the infested area and its vicinity.	*Solanum dulcamara* grows at the waterside of most waterways in the Netherlands.
6.4. Infested plant(s), plant product(s) and other object(s).	In 2023, one plant of *S. dulcamara* was found infected.
6.5. Vectors present in the area.	Not applicable
6.6. Severity of the outbreak.	As part of the 2023 water survey in total 13 water samples tested positive for *Ralstonia pseudosolanacearum*, as well as one sample of *Solanum dulcamara*. Eight findings were located within the current prohibition areas for irrigation of potatoes.
6.7. Source of the outbreak.	Source of the outbreak is unknown.
7. Official phytosanitary measures	
7.1. Adoption of official phytosanitary measures.	No official phytosanitary measures will be taken for eradication in surface water. The bacterium can survive winter conditions in surface water, presumably in *S. dulcamara* in the Netherlands. Surveillance for *R. pseudosolancearum* has become a permanent part of the surface water survey in the Netherlands as the collected water samples will be determined at species level. In any case there is an integral prohibition for the use of surface water for seed potatoes in the Netherlands and a prohibition for using surface water for cultivation of all types of potatoes in areas where EU regulated Ralstonia species are known to occur in specific surface water areas.
7.2. Date of adoption of the official phytosanitary	

measures. In case of temporary measures, indication of their expected duration.	
7.3. Identification of the area covered by official phytosanitary measures — indicate the method used to identify the area covered by official phytosanitary measures. Provide the results of the surveys that have been carried out.	A map with the areas in which it is prohibited to the use surface water for irrigation can be found on the (Dutch) NVWA website Gebieden met verbod op gebruik oppervlaktewater | Plantenziekten en plagen | NVWA
7.4. Objective of the official phytosanitary measures.	Containment for restricting occurrence to waterways.
7.5. Measures affecting the movement of goods. Indication of one of the following options	(2) measures do not affect import into or movement within the Union of goods.
7.6. Specific surveys.	Annual surveillance of surface water for detection of *R. pseudosolanacearum*.
8.Pest risk analysis/assessment	(1) Pest risk analysis is not required (harmful organism is listed in Annex II of Regulation 2019/2072, or is subject to measures adopted pursuant to Article 30 of Regulation 2016/2031).
9.Links to relevant websites, other sources of information.	https://english.nvwa.nl/topics/pest-reporting/contents/pest-reports