



October 2018 PEST Report - THE NETHERLANDS

National Plant Protection Organization
POBox 9102
6700 HC Wageningen
The Netherlands

First outbreak of *Tetranychus mexicanus* (spider mite) on ornamental plants of *Beaucarnea recurvata* in a professional greenhouse (Municipality Drimmelen)

1.2 Executive summary

This report concerns the first official finding of *Tetranychus mexicanus* in the Netherlands on 11 October 2018. The origin of the finding is probably Central America. The organism is not listed as a harmful organism in EU directive 2000/29/EC and is not listed on the EPPO lists. The pest was found as part of the official post-import surveillance programme. Approximately 25 plants of *Beaucarnea recurvata* were severely affected. Bleaching of the green leaves of the *Beaucarnea recurvata* pot plants was caused by emptying cells by the spider mite.

The plants are located at a retail company together in a greenhouse with other tropical plants, which were not affected. Approximately 770 *Beaucarnea recurvata* plants were present. Official measures, including chemical treatment of the affected lot, will be taken to eradicate the pest. These measures are based on a preliminary risk analysis.

Identity of the pest *Tetranychus mexicanus* (McGregor 1950), Acari, Prostigmata, Tetranychidae (spider mites)

Categorization of the pest Not listed

Location: place: Made. Municipality: Drimmelen.

Reason of the notification: First report.

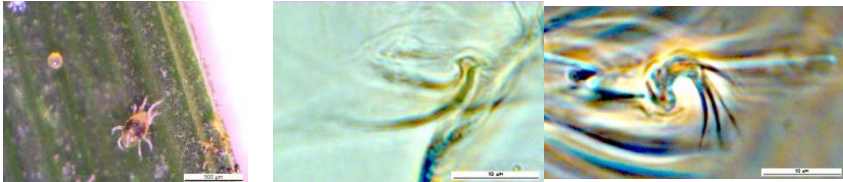
How the pest was found

(3) phytosanitary inspections of any type.

Information on the infested area, severity and source of the outbreak – summary

Official phytosanitary measures - summary

1.3 Type of notification	(2) full notification (second notification within 30 days)
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	M.B. de Hoop. +31651584878 Email: m.b.dehoop@nvwa.nl
3. Location of presence of harmful organism	place: Made. Municipality: Drimmelen.
3.2 Map of the location. [NVIC: Edwin de Vries of Arco van der Spek]	
4. Reason of the notification and pest status	(1) First presence of the harmful organism.

4.3 Previous Pest status	(8) Absent: no pest records.
4.4 Current Pest status	(15) Transient: actionable, under eradication.
5. Information relating to the finding.	(5) official inspection for purposes other than phytosanitary ones.
5.2 Date of finding.	8 October 2018
5.3 Sampling for laboratory analysis	On October 8, several infested leaves with damage symptoms and mite colonies were enclosed in a sealed bag by an inspector.
5.4 Laboratory	Mr Anton T.C. van der Sommen. Tel: +31 65 124 7175 Email: a.t.c.vandersommen@nvwa.nl National Reference Centre - NPPO of the Netherlands
5.5 Diagnostic method.	<p>On October 10, females as well as males were prepared in microscopic slides and studied with a magnification up to 1000x.</p> <p>Keys and descriptions of the mites were used from:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Mc Gregor EA 1950. Mites of the family Tetranychidae. The American Midland Naturalist 44(2): 257-420. [described as <i>Septanychus mexicanus</i>] - Pritchard AE & Baker EW 1955. A revision of the spider mite family Tetranychidae. Memoirs Series, San Francisco, Pacific Coast Entomological Society, 2, 472 p. Seeman OD & Beard JJ 2011. Identification of exotic pest and Australian native and naturalised species of <i>Tetranychus</i> (Acari: Tetranychidae). Zootaxa, 2961: 1-72.  <p>Figs. 1-3. Female with egg on leaf. Male aedeagus and empodial claw of female tarsus I. (© NVWA)</p>
5.6 Date of official confirmation of the harmful organism's	11 October 2018

identity	
6. Information related to the area, severity of the finding and source of the finding	Approximately 25 plants were visually infested.
6.2. Characteristics of the infested area and its vicinity.	(3) Physically closed conditions (3.1) greenhouse; plants for planting.
6.3. Host plants in the infested area and its vicinity.	Within the greenhouse: 770 plants of <i>Beaucarnea recurvata</i> and other ornamental plants of Yucca, and Zamioculcas.
6.4. Infested plant(s), plant product(s) and other object(s).	<i>Beaucarnea recurvata</i>
6.5. Vectors present in the area.	Not relevant.
6.6. Severity of the outbreak.	Approximately 25 plants of <i>Beaucarnea recurvata</i> were severely affected out of 770 plants. Bleaching of the green leaves of the <i>Beaucarnea recurvata</i> pot plants was caused by emptying cells by the spider mite.



Figure 4: Bleaching of the green leaves of *Beaucarnea recurvata* plants.

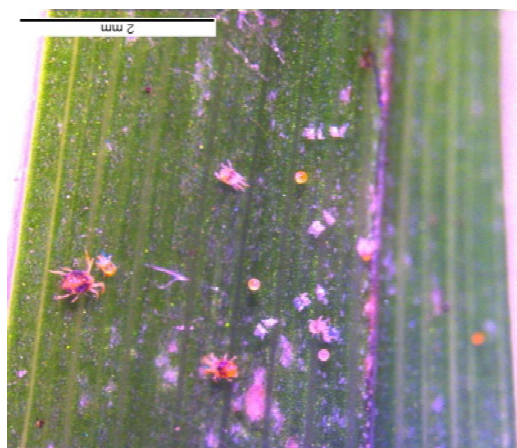


Figure 5: *T. mexicanus* adults on leaves of *Beaucarnea recurvata*

6.7. Source of the

Tracing is ongoing. The origin is probably linked to imports

outbreak.	from Central America. The affected plants were part of a lot of 250 plants procured from an importer one year ago.
7. Official phytosanitary measures	
7.1. Adoption of official phytosanitary measures.	(3) Official phytosanitary measures will be taken.
7.2. Date of adoption of the official phytosanitary measures. In case of temporary measures, indication of their expected duration.	19 October 2018
7.4. Objective of the official phytosanitary measures.	(1) eradication
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.	Trace-back surveillance is ongoing.
	(3) Preliminary pest risk analysis exists;
9. Links to relevant websites, other sources of information.	https://english.nvwa.nl/topics/pest-reporting/contents/pest-reports