Netherlands Food and Consumer
Product Safety Authority
Ministry of Economic Affairs

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National Plant Protection Organization
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Confirmation of eradication:
October 2013 - Finding of three larvae and three adults of *Thaumatotibia leucotreta* in one fruit production greenhouse of *Capsicum annuum*

Introduction
This report concerns confirmation of eradication of *Thaumatotibia leucotreta* (African fruit moth) at one fruit production greenhouse of *Capsicum annuum* detected at the end of October 2013 (see pest report October 2013). To investigate the possible origin of the finding and the possibility that the pest could have spread to other companies, in total 29 companies with relevant host plants have been systematically monitored in a surrounding area of two by three km, not resulting in any further findings. Eradication measures at the company where the finding was detected have been completed. Eradication has been confirmed based on completion of monitoring. The organism is not listed as a harmful organism in the EU directive 2000/29/EC. The organism is listed on the EPPO A2 list.
Reason for reporting First report.
Identity of the pest *Thaumatotibia leucotreta*
Categorization of the pest EPPO A2
Location: Honselersdijk

Pest status
Absent, eradicated.
One record of an incursion in one fruit production greenhouse of *Capsicum annuum*.

Pest significance (copied from pest report October 2013)
Detection and identification
The adults of the harmful organism were detected on October 25 and the identity was confirmed on 28 October 2013 by morphological analysis and verified by molecular analysis (PCR) on October 31. The larva was detected and morphologically identified on October 30, 2013.

Circumstances under which the pest was found
As part of export certification for third countries, pheromone traps for *Thaumatotibia leucotreta* were placed in relevant green houses of *Capsicum annuum*. In total three male adults were detected on two traps in one greenhouse. Following meticulous checks of the crop, one larva was detected in an unripe aborted fruit on the floor of the greenhouse. During inspection of fruits ready for sale two more larvae were detected on November 8.

Impact
Severity / extent of damage: Limited to no damage observed in the crop.
Host plants or articles concerned (if appropriate): fruits of *Capsicum annuum*
Type of plant or mode of cultivation: commercial crops - indoors

Origin of the pest
The origin of the pest is unknown but may be related to import of Capsicum fruits from countries where the pest is known to occur. Such fruits have been imported by other companies in the vicinity of this greenhouse. To investigate the possible origin of the finding, in total 29

companies with relevant host plants (in particular *Capsicum* and *Solanum melongena* fruit production, *Rosa* cut flower production and ornamental *Solanaceae* pot plants for the final consumer) have been systematically monitored in a surrounding area of two by three km, not resulting in any further findings. Monitoring included the use of pheromone traps and crop inspections.

Phytosanitary measures
Within the affected crop, measures have been taken aimed at eradication, including use of pheromone traps, the application of pesticides, and controlled disposal of waste. Following termination of the crop, growth medium and other waste has been disposed of under official control. Systematic checks of harvested fruits have been applied including destructive sampling. At the affected company similar measures have been applied in an adjacent production site of the same company, not resulting in any finds. Following start of the new crop, monitoring has been carried out at the affected company, including use of pheromone traps for a period of 50 days, not resulting in any further findings.
The measures were completed by the end of February 2014.

References:
NPPO The Netherlands