Exotic Pest Information Collection and Analysis (EPICA): Safeguarding Through Biosurveillance and Early Warning

Introduction

The mission of the United States Department of Agriculture's (USDA) Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) Plant Protection and Quarantine (PPQ) is to safeguard U.S. agriculture and natural resources from the risks associated with the entry, establishment, or spread of exotic pests. For a proactive and effective safeguarding approach, PPQ needs early warning regarding plant pests that are not yet established in the United States.

To address this need, Exotic Pest Information Collection and Analysis (EPICA) conducts plant pest biosurveillance by continuously collecting, analyzing, distributing, and archiving relevant open-source information for USDA-APHIS-PPQ programs. EPICA monitors mostly English-language sources worldwide for relevant pest information.

EPICA offers:

- Dedicated, full-time staff
- Subject matter expertise
- Foreign language capability
- Close collaborations with USDA-APHIS-PPQ programs

Information Collection & Analysis

EPICA's process for collecting and analyzing information includes the following steps:

- **Collect information from various sources**, including scientific journals, web sites, news services, and listservs
- **Filter information** for potentially relevant pest news
- **Evaluate filtered information** regarding relevance to PPQ, timeliness, and source reliability
- **Complement pest news with background research**
- **Summarize information** in a PPQ-relevant context
- **Distribute information weekly**
- **Archive information** in the Global Pest and Disease Database (GPDD)

EPICA searches more than 90 scientific journals and uses nearly 250 queries to search the internet for relevant pest news.

EPICA Notifications

EPICA distributes relevant pest news articles to USDA-APHIS-PPQ programs through weekly e-mail notifications. EPICA notifications are timely, PPQ-focused, short, clear, and formatted for readability.

Warning: The following information has not been confirmed with the appropriate national plant protection organization(s). It is provided solely for the purposes of early warning and should be used with caution. Please do not distribute this information indiscriminately.

We value your feedback! Please reply to this message with any comments or suggestions you may have.

EPICA

Exotic Pest Information Collection and Analysis

Thursday, May 21, 2009 Notification

First report of the root-knot nematode *Meloidogyne enterolobii* (Tylenchida: Meloidogynidae) in Vietnam

Source: Plant Disease
Source Publication Date: 5/1/09
Category: New Location

Psidium guajava (guava) plants exhibiting leaf browning, defoliation, stunting, root galls, and death were observed in Vietnam. Molecular analysis indicated that the causal agent was *Meloidogyne enterolobii* (Tylenchida: Meloidogynidae), also called *M. mayaguensis*. This represents the first report of *M. enterolobii* in Vietnam.

In addition to guava, *M. enterolobii* infects a wide range of hosts, including *Capsicum annuum* (pepper), *Coffea* spp. (coffee), *Nicotiana tabacum* (tobacco), *Solanum lycopersicum* (tomato), and *Solanum melongena* (eggplant). It has been reported from China, Africa, Switzerland, South and Central America, the Caribbean, and the United States. In the United States, it is only known to occur in Florida and is listed as reportable in the PEST ID database (queried 5/20/09).

References:

1. Ivanhoi, H., N. T. N. Truc, D. V. Ban, and K. Johnose. 2009. First report of root-knot nematode *Meloidogyne enterolobii* on guava in Vietnam. Plant Disease 93(5):575. Last accessed May 21, 2009, from http://apsjournals.apsnet.org/doi/abs/10.1094/PDIS-93-5-0575C.
2. EPPO. 2008. *Meloidogyne enterolobii*: A root-knot nematode. European and Mediterranean Plant Protection Organization (EPPO). Last accessed May 21, 2009, from http://www.eppo.org/QUARANTINE/Alert_List/nematodes/meloidogyne_enterolobii.htm.

First report of Huanglongbing (citrus greening), caused by *'Candidatus* Liberibacter asiaticus", in the Dominican Republic and Belize

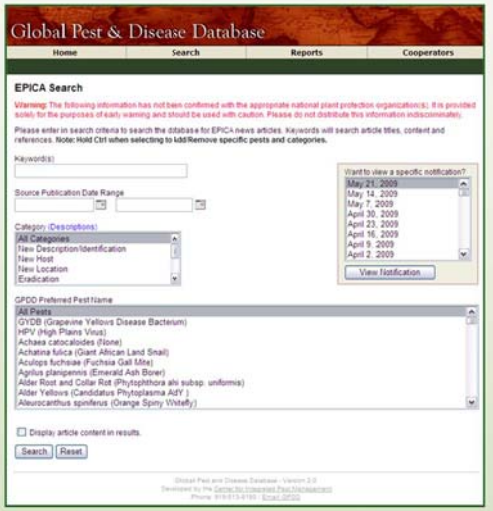
Source: Plant Disease; Caribbean Net News
Source Publication Date: 5/15/09
Category: New Location

In August of 2008, *Citrus aurantiifolia* (lime) trees exhibiting symptoms of Huanglongbing (citrus greening) were observed in the Dominican Republic. The presence of *Candidatus* Liberibacter asiaticus', the causal agent of Huanglongbing, was confirmed by molecular analysis. This represents the first report of *Ca. L. asiaticus* in the Dominican Republic. In addition, a survey conducted

EPICA notification

EPICA Archive

All EPICA news articles are accessible through the Global Pest and Disease Database (GPDD). The GPDD (www.gpdd.info) contains information on over 2,000 pests of U.S. quarantine concern. EPICA articles are searchable by date, category, pest, and keyword.



Global Pest & Disease Database

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EPICA Search

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Please enter in search criteria to search the database for EPICA news articles. Keywords will search article titles, content and references. Note: Hold Ctrl when selecting to add/Remove specific pests and categories.

Keyword(s)

Source Publication Date Range

Category (Descriptions)
All Categories
New Description/Identification
New Host
New Location
Eradication

Want to view a specific notification?
May 21, 2009
May 14, 2009
May 7, 2009
April 30, 2009
April 23, 2009
April 16, 2009
April 9, 2009
April 2, 2009
View Notification

GPDD Preferred Pest Name
All Pests
GYDB (Grapevine Yellows Disease Bacterium)
HPV (High Plains Virus)
Achaea catocaloides (None)
Achatina fulica (Giant African Land Snail)
Aculops fuchsiae (Fuchsia Gall Mite)
Agrilus planipennis (Emerald Ash Borer)
Alder Root and Collar Rot (Phytophthora alni subsp. uniformis)
Alder Yellows (Candidatus Phytoplasma AlY)
Aleurocanthus spiniferus (Orange Spiny Whitefly)

Display article content in results.

Search | Reset

EPICA archive search page in GPDD

The EPICA project is a cooperative effort of the Center for Integrated Pest Management at North Carolina State University and the United States Department of Agriculture's Center for Plant Health Science and Technology.

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