



Organisation and implementation of training activities to strengthen EU law enforcement in Sanitary and Phytosanitary (SPS) fields under the "Better Training for Safer Food" initiative

Notification to BTSF National Contact Points

Ref: Workshop on *Xylella fastidiosa* sharing experience on control, to be held in Alicante, Spain, from 2nd to 5th October 2018

Dear Madame / Dear Sir,

We are writing to inform you about a forthcoming training workshop on "*Xylella fastidiosa* detection and control" organized within the Better Training for Safer Food initiative of the European Commission.

The workshop is part of a wider programme of activities that will involve EU Member States and neighbouring non-EU countries through eighteen separate workshops and a series of sustained training and technical assistance missions (STMs). The aim of these training activities is to strengthen the understanding, implementation and enforcement of EU law in the fields of food and feed law, animal health and welfare rules and plant health.

The present workshop on *Xylella fastidiosa* detection and control is scheduled with a four-day duration, **from 2nd to 5th October 2018**, and it will be held in Alicante, Spain.

The venue of the workshop and the accommodation will be provided at the NH Alicante**** https://www.nh-hotels.com/hotel/nh-alicante?campid=8435708&ct=287135536&qclid=Cj0KCQjw2f7bBRDVARIsAAwYBBs_RJbrKFM2k9JFKdWdZdVgfWZnDIUyogxsklf4jegdaHLdIvZt-9UaAn2gEALw_wcB&dclid=CIKStu6khd0CFZq8dwodpLYKEA

The project will cover the entire cost of the workshop for participants, which includes:

- full board accommodation, including breakfast, lunch, dinner and coffee breaks;
- travel expenses including flight to/from Alicante (Spain) in economy class and transfer to/from the airport at the place of training.

The workshop will be held in English.

Objectives of the training course

Xylella fastidiosa is one of the most dangerous plant bacteria worldwide, causing a variety of diseases, with huge economic impact for agriculture, public gardens and the environment. It is a major risk, especially for Mediterranean countries. The first outbreak in the EU was notified by the Italian Authorities in 2013 in Apulia. Additional outbreaks and different *Xylella* subspecies have been subsequently found in France and Spain. An isolated case was also reported in Germany where it was finally eradicated.

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Sharing of good practices and lessons learnt among the Member States concerned and other Member States at risk is very important to increase preparedness and effectiveness in the control strategy.

Selection process

We kindly request you to nominate **the delegates as per table below:**

EU Countries	Allocated seats
Croatia	2
Cyprus	2
France	5
Germany	3
Greece	2
Italy	5
Malta	2
Portugal	2
Slovenia	2
Spain	5
Total	30

Participants should have the following requirements:

- ✓ Professional background in the national plant health authority;
- ✓ Involved in pest control and/or plant movement and import controls, with preferred experience on *Xylella fastidiosa*;
- ✓ Fluent in English.

In addition, we have been requested to make sure to emphasise following additional requirements for participants:

- ✓ Nominate the experts attending the BTSF. It would be nice if somebody from the neighbouring regions of Apulia (e.g. Basilicata, Calabria and Campania) and Alicante (e.g. Andalusia, Murcia, Castilla-La Mancha) would also attend in view of potential outbreaks;
- ✓ Nominate, among those experts, the ones who will give the presentations for the specific Member State (e.g. FR, IT, DE, ES) as foreseen in the programme.

Participants will be requested to commit themselves to disseminate the knowledge received via different dissemination methods, i.e. informing colleagues about the information received at the training, distributing (photocopying or sending via electronic way) the training materials among their colleagues, preparing informative articles in the professional national journals, preparing presentations based on the training materials for the staff of national Competent Authorities or other disseminating methods which could be appropriate to share the information received via the BTSF training. During the course participants will be provided with a training package to be used as supporting dissemination material.

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Selected participants should be informed that the program will include an anonymous assessment test to be carried out at the beginning and at the end of each workshop, with the aim of measuring the impact of the training on the understanding of the taught subjects by participants.

Furthermore, between two to three months after the respective training session, participants will receive a standard questionnaire designed specifically to address the use of the knowledge acquired during a training in the participants' daily work practice and the type and level of further dissemination done following the training sessions.

Participants are expected to agree to carry out the above tests and to reply to the questionnaire.

Please bear in mind that all applications forms should be submitted to 20159604eusps@btsftraining.com by **17th September 2018**. We cannot guarantee that applications received after this deadline will be accepted.

Kindly ensure that full details of selected participants are supplied in accordance with the Registration Form enclosed herewith. These details are needed to send the relevant e-ticket to participants and ensure that they are informed by air carriers in case of delays/changes in the flight schedule.

Should a visa be required, OPERA will provide participants with relevant invitations letters.

Project Management

The workshop will be implemented by the company OPERA, that has been awarded a service contract by the EU agency CHAFEA - Consumers, Health, Agriculture and Food Executive Agency that provides professional services in performing the tasks and activities entrusted to it by the European Commission, and works closely with the Health and Food Safety Directorate General.

For further details, you can revert to 20159604eusps@btsftraining.com or phone to + 39 06 96042652. Project Manager is Claudio BOMPARD.

Registration forms can be sent by e-mail to 20159604eusps@btsftraining.com.

Booking of flights and other logistical arrangements will be handled directly by OPERA staff.

Please feel free to contact us if you require clarification on any of the above information. I am looking forward to hearing from you or your colleagues.

Thank you in advance for your assistance and cooperation.

Best regards.

CLAUDIO BOMPARD
Project Manager

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