

INVITATION LETTER

Training Courses on New and Emerging Plant Health Risks

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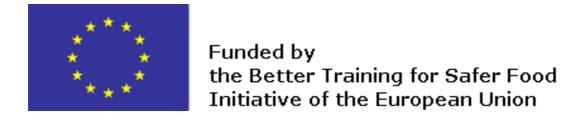




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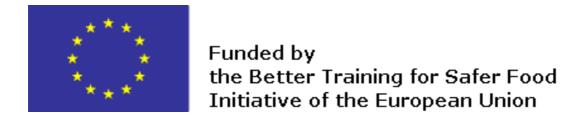




Introduction

Dear National Contact Point, As part of the Better Training for Safer Food initiative, the Executive Agency for Health and Consumers is organizing and implementing a 24 month training programme of activities on plant health risks mainly to be held for officials from EU Member States (MS), Candidate Countries (CC) and a limited number of non-EU countries under the 'Better Training for Safer Food' Initiative

The aim of the activity is to improve the knowledge of this complex area of work, provide for a common and unambiguous understanding of the current state of play concerning such activities, develop skills and disseminate best practices for identifying and responding to new and emerging risks to plant health, including relevant legislation and international standards, the role of competent authorities, EU Institutions (Commission, SCPH, EFSA), European and Mediterranean Plant Protection Organisation (EPPO) and the International Plant Protection Convention. The training is intended to help ensure a consistent and enhanced approach and response to identifying and responding to key risks to plant health across the EU



Overall educational project objective

The training courses aim to cover the key elements in the identification of new and emerging plant health risks using specific examples from forestry, agriculture and horticulture.

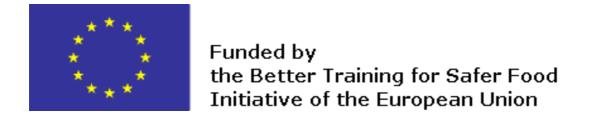
Overall project objective

The proposed training programme will cover all the topics listed in the call for tender. We will cover the key elements in the identification of new and emerging plant health risks using specific examples from forestry, agriculture and horticulture. This will include the international framework and EU legislation, and outline the likely key elements of the new Plant Health Regulation which is currently being developed. The role of the Commission, EFSA, EPPO and NPPOs in the assessment and mitigation of risk associated with new pest threats will also be explained. Monitoring checks and specific surveillance programmes will also be covered, along with surveillance strategies and methods because these activities are key to identifying new and emerging risks. We will present information on a range of the most important new pests and diseases currently threatening the Community. The programme will also include a review of relevant data sources such as EUROPHYT, TRACES, outbreak notifications and trade data, and their relative value as a tool to identify new risks. Pest risk assessment underpins informed policy decision making, so the principles of PRA will be outlined.

The programme for each event will include a minimum ½ day field visit to a venue of topical interest. The purpose of these visits is to look at the practicalities of undertaking surveillance, survey work, detection and eradication control measures in a field situation. This will include

- Observation of signs and symptoms of specific pests,
- Discussion of methods of detection of specific pests
- Review of outbreak and measures
- Practical discussion on how to carry out inspection
- Discussion of general surveillance and specific survey techniques and strategies

For each of the 3 training venues, the field visit programme will be focussed to take advantage of specific pest outbreaks or environments that can be used to demonstrate the above.



Munich (Germany) – field visit will include a visit to a recent large outbreak of Anoplophora glabripennis near Munich plus, if time allows, a visit to a nursery importing trees and shrubs to illustrate and discuss pest detection, general surveillance and specific survey work.

Lisbon (Portugal) – field visit to an outbreak site of Epitrix on potatoes plus, if time allows, a visit to a nursery importing trees and shrubs to illustrate and discuss pest detection, general surveillance and specific survey work.

Tallinn (Estonia) - field visit will include visits to a forestry site to discuss practical aspects of undertaking surveillance, pest detection and eradication and containment measures in an outbreak situation, and if time allows a visit to a nursery importing trees and shrubs to illustrate and discuss pest detection, general surveillance and specific survey work.

Delegates will be split into small groups, each lead by a tutor. The visits will be organised in cooperation with the host country's plant health service and a local expert or inspector will accompany the visits to provide site-specific information. The plant health services of all 3 proposed countries have been contacted to confirm their support for these visits.

In addition to the topics listed in the call for tender, we propose to include sessions on contingency planning and on the identification of high risk pathways and commodities. This will include discussion on plants for planting and the proposals for a more precautionary approach to new trades that are considered to be high risk. Consideration will also be given to what constitutes a new trade, and how these will be identified in practice.

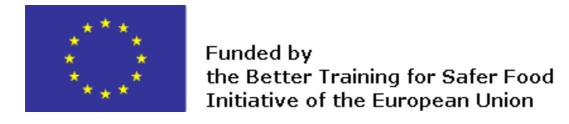


1. Selection criteria

The trainees have the required <u>technical</u> and <u>linguistic knowledge level</u>.

It should be clear from their background and professional skills that the participation in the training activity will be a key element for the improvement of their daily work.

The participants will be requested to commit themselves to <u>disseminate the knowledge</u> <u>received</u> 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 or, if possible, in international journals, preparing presentations based on the training materials for the obligatory national Competent authorities' professional trainings or other disseminating methods which could be appropriate to share the information received via the BTSF trainings. Participants should have <u>at least one years' experience in the field</u> or have participated in a similar course organized by BTSF.



2. Training sites

3 courses will be held in Tallinn (Estonia), 3 courses will be held in Lisbon (Portugal) and 2 courses will be held in Munich (Germany).

3.1 Tallinn

<u>In Tallinn</u> we have selected *Clarion Hotel Euroopa* for the accommodation, meals and conference venue.

Clarion Hotel Euroopa is situated in immediate proximity of the Port of Tallinn, 1km from the old town.

It is a top class business hotel that is characterized by its international.

It is closely associated with art, music, design and culinary art.

The conference room is suitable for conferences and seminars.

Participants will be assisted by GIZ VLS but also by the highly trained and experienced staff during the entire event.

The conference center offers a relaxing view to the sea and the old town.

Room is spacious and cozy.

It is equipped with modern video, sound and presentation technology and also free Wi-Fi.





3.2 Lisbon

<u>In Lisbon</u> we have selected *Novotel Lisbon* for the for the accommodation, meals and conference venue

The hotel is located in the city of Lisbon, just 10 minutes' walk from Lisbon historical city center. Totally renovated, it is ideal for business trips, offering 10 spacious meeting rooms, 7 with natural light. The Novotel Lisboa hotel also has a swimming pool, fitness center, restaurant, bar and garage.

All rooms are modern spacious equipped with: shower, WC, hairdryer, telephone, cable TV, mini bar, Wi-Fi connection.

The conference room selected is a first-class, fully air-conditioned event room, featuring modern conference technology and abundant natural lighting

All arrangements will follow quality requirements laid down in our proposal.

The conference room has a beamer, laptop (connected to Internet), flipchart, whiteboard, laser pointer and free WLAN for the participants.











3.3 Munich

In Munich we have selected the four star *NH Munchen Deutscher Kaiser* Hotel in the city centre as the location for accommodation, meals and trainings. The hotel is centrally located right next to the main train station the many touristic attractions of the city.

The hotel was renovated in 2008, now offering 173 fully-equipped stylish and modern rooms. The highest building in the area, the hotel offers a great view over Munich from most rooms. Breakfast is served on the third floor, and the roof of the original building is now a 600 m² terrace used by the restaurant during the summer, as well as for coffee breaks and cocktail receptions for up to 500 people. The NH Munchen Deutscher Kaiser hotel also offers four multipurpose meeting rooms.











3. Timing

Session Reference	Dates	Location	Dateline for applications
	Plant He	alth Risks	
Session 1	26-29 May 2014	Lisbon	24 Apr 2014
Session 2	29 Sep-02 Oct 2014	Tallinn	
Session 3	13-16 Oct 2014	Tallinn	
Session 4	15-18 Dec 2014	Lisbon	30 May 2014
Session 5	12-15 Jan 2015	Lisbon	30 May 2014
Session 6	09-12 Feb 2015	Munich	
Session 7	13-16 Apr 2015	Munich	
Session 8	22-25 June 2015	Lisbon	15 July 2014



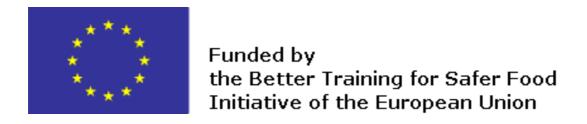
4. **Invitation of your Country**

The EAHC wishes to invite participants from your country to attend sessions as indicated in the table received in the **Annex – quota**.

However, <u>do not hesitate to send us additional applications</u>, which would be placed on a reserve list for each session. Should there be any availability, we would inform the National Contact Point at least three weeks before the training session.

As much as possible, do not hesitate to send us registration forms before the indicated deadline.

The earlier participants are registered, the easier it is then to carry out the organisation of the session



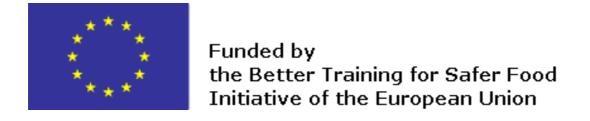
5. Learning objectives and agenda

The relentless expansion of trade in plants and plant products is leading to more numerous and diverse pathways for the introduction of non-native pests. In recent years many new pests have been introduced within the Community and the international movement of plants for planting, in particular, is now widely recognised as the most important source of introductions for non-native pests (e.g. Rhynchophorus ferrugineus and Anoplophora chinensis). The movement of wood, including wood packaging material and waste wood, is also recognised as important potential pathway especially for pests that live within the wood, such as long-horn beetles.

It is vital therefore that the Community is better prepared to identify potential future threats and to develop systems to better prevent entry and to deal more effectively with interceptions and outbreaks of new pests.

The new Plant Health Regulation that is currently being developed will both attempt to better identify new and emerging risks, so as to enable the adoption of controls to afford greater protection against entry, and in the event of introduction, to ensure a prompt and effective response via eradication and containment. Indeed, there will be a greater obligation on Member States to take eradication measures against new pests, including the establishment of demarcated areas. There will also be greater emphasis on general surveillance for new harmful organisms within the EU. This will help ensure the earlier identification of new pest threats so that measures to reduce risk to an acceptable level are taken more promptly. There will also be a greater focus on contingency planning to ensure Member States are better prepared in terms of dealing effectively with future pest outbreaks.

The new EU regime also recognises that a more precautionary approach towards plants for planting is needed. It will enable temporary measures to be taken on plants for planting from third countries where the trade is likely to pose previously unidentified risks and for which there is limited experience with trade. These measures may include the imposition of a postentry quarantine period or even a temporary prohibition to allow for a pest risk assessment



(PRA) to be undertaken on the new trade. A process for identifying new high risk trades will therefore need to be developed.

A wide range of different staff will need to develop new skills. This will include: officials from competent authorities within NPPOs involved in the planning and coordinating of control activities; field inspectors involved in control activities; scientists involved in risk assessment; and diagnosticians involved in pest identification.

The purpose of the training will be to increase knowledge and common understanding of the best practices to identify and mitigate against new and emerging pest threats. Also, to increase awareness of the likely changes that will be brought about by the introduction of the new Plant Health Regulation. A key element will be more effective early identification of new pest threats together with a much greater onus on Member States to deal more effectively with outbreaks, through a combination of improved surveillance to allow early detection, greater contingency planning and more effective phytosanitary measures. Each Member State therefore has an important role to play in ensuring that these objectives are achieved. A key element of the training will be to not only make delegates aware of best practice but emphasise how vital it is that a common approach is adopted throughout the Community



TRAINING COURSES

ON

NEW AND EMERGING PLANT HEALTH RISKS

DAY 1

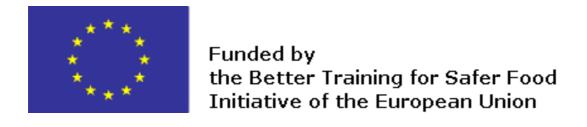
Time	Activity	Tutor
09:00	Welcome & Introduction: Introduction to programme, tutors, and	Don Walker UK
	domestic arrangements.	
09:15	Group exercise: Icebreaker / Small group exercise	Don Walker UK
	Brief introduction of participants	
	Break up in small groups and discussion of participant's	
	professional role and institution, current related issues and	
	expectations from this workshop.	
	Presentation and discussion of results	
09:40	Dissemination action planning	Don Walker UK
	a manhacise the importance of dissemination and discuss	
	emphasise the importance of dissemination and discuss	
	participant's plans for dissemination (also taking into account	



	responses in the pre-training questionnaires).	
	Identify key topics which each delegate consider most important	
	for dissemination (Delegates will then be given opportunity to	
	present feedback from discussions or group exercises on these	
	topics during the training).	
10:00	Coffee break	
	How to identify new and emerging plant health risks	
10:30	Session 1: Relevant data sources for identifying new and emerging	Edit Tóthné
	plant health risks (lecture)	Lippai HU
	• Europhyt	
	• TRACES	
	Outbreak notifications	
	trade data	
	How to identify new trades	
11:15	Session 2: Role of EPPO in identifying new threats (lecture)	Muriel Suffert FR
	 Preparation of the EPPO Alert List 	
	·	
	 High risk pathways – plants for planting, wood waste, packaging etc. 	
12:00		Muriel Suffert FR
12.00	Session S. Group Exercise	Warier Suiter CFK
	• Exchange of information on what data is used by NPPOs to identify	
	new and emerging plant health risks	
	What data is the most useful in practice?	
	What constitutes a 'new trade'	
13:00	Lunch	
14:00	Session 4: Role of surveillance in identifying new threats (lecture)	Edit Tóthné
		Lippai HU
	• Including: Internal co-ordination; Necessary resources, Science &	
	laboratory support; Statistical principles,	



	 Specific surveillance programmes – eg, wood packaging from China Developing a strategy for surveillance 	
	Discussion	
15:00	Coffee break	
15:30	 Session 5 - Group exercise on surveillance To develop a surveillance strategy based on a scenario provided Review and Discussion – key conclusions on best practice 	Ernst Pfeilstetter DE Neil Giltrap UK



DAY 2

Time	Activity	Tutors
08:45	Registration	
	Managing identified new and emerging plant health risks	
09:00	Session 6: Overview of global legislation (lecture).	Edit Tóthné
	The international framework	Lippai, HU
	Overarching EU legislation and overview of Emergency Decisions	Ernst Pfeilstetter DE
	International Standards for Phytosanitary Methods	
	Role of the Commission, Standing Committee, EFSA and NPPOs	
	in the assessment and mitigation of risk of new pest threats	
	EPPO standards	
	Discussion	
9:45	Session 7: New Emerging Pest Threats: Agrilus planipennis and	Muriel Suffert FR
	Agrilus anxius (lecture)	Neil Giltrap UK
	Current situation (global & within EU)	
	 Pest biology, signs of infestation; pest detection; means of spread; damage 	
	high risk targets for inspection, general surveillance and more specific survey work	
	Key findings from EPPO PRAs	
	Current EU measures to reduce risk of entry	
	Measures in case of findings and management of outbreaks	
10:30	Coffee break	
11.00	Session 8: Agrilus planipennis and Agrilus anxius (group	Neil Giltrap, UK



	exercise)	Muriel Suffert FR
	Review of likely effectiveness of current EU control systems to prevent introduction and in the case of an outbreak further spread of the pest	
	 To develop a surveillance strategy to assist the early detection of these pests 	
	To identify the main elements of an eradication and containment strategy based on an outbreak scenario provided	
12:30	Session 9: Case study - US and Canadian experiences of	Neil Giltrap, UK
	outbreak management and their attempts to eradicate and contain <i>Agrilus planipennis</i> (lecture)	Muriel Suffert FR
	Discussion	
13:00	Lunch	
14:00	Session 10: Role of PRA in assessing new pest threats or high risk commodities (lecture)	Muriel Suffert FR
	Pest risk management	
	Discussion	
15:00	Coffee break	
16:30	Session 11: New Emerging Pest Threat - Anoplophora	Ernst Pfeilstetter,
	glabripennis, Epitrix species (lecture)	DE
	Current situation (global & within EU)	Neil Giltrap UK
	 Pest biology, signs of infestation; pest detection; means of spread; damage 	
	High risk targets for inspection and survey work	
	Key findings from EPPO PRAs	
	Current EU measures to reduce risk of entry	
	Laboratory methods for identification	



	Possible measures in case of findings and management of	
	outbreaks	
17:00	Close of Day 2	



DAY 3

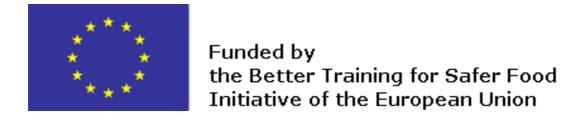
Time	Activity	Tutors
07:45	Registration	
08:00	Field visit	Don Walker UK
00.00	Tield visit	Don Walker OK
	Half day field visit to outbreak sites and other relevant sites to	All tutors
	Observe the symptoms of specific pests,	Local inspector
	 Methods of detection of specific pests 	
	Review of outbreak and measures taken	
	 Practical discussion on how to carry out inspection 	
	General surveillance and specific survey techniques and	
	strategies	
	Delegates will be split into small groups each lead by a tutor. The visits	
	will be organised in cooperation with the host country's plant health	
	service and a local expert or inspector will accompany the visits to	
	provide site-specific information. The plant health services of all 3	
	proposed countries have been contacted to confirm their support for	
	these visits.	
	Munich (Germany) – field visit will include visit to large <i>Anoplophora</i>	
	glabripennis outbreak near Munich that will examine in particular, the	
	issues associated with early pest detection, and undertaking	
	eradication measures (e.g. establishing a demarcated area) and survey	
	work in an urban area. If time allows there will also be a visit to a	
	nursery importing trees and shrubs to discuss pest detection and	
	general surveillance techniques on plants for planting.	



	Lisbon (Portugal) – field visit to an Epitrix outbreak site to see signs and symptoms of the pest. There will also be discussion about techniques for general surveillance and specific survey work and measures required to prevent further spread. If time allows there will also be a visit to a nursery importing trees and shrubs to discuss pest detection and general surveillance techniques.	
	Tallinn (Estonia) - field visit will include visits to a forestry site. Delegates will be split into small groups and given an outbreak scenario (i.e. recent finding of an emerging forestry pest). They will then consider the practical aspects of undertaking surveys, pest detection and undertaking eradication measures. If time allows, there will also be a visit to a nursery importing trees and shrubs to illustrate and discuss pest detection, general surveillance and specific survey work.	
13:00	Lunch at hotel	
14:30	Review of field visit and key observations plus questions and answers Conclusions and identify best practice	All Tutors
15:30	Coffee break	
16:00	Session 12: New Emerging Pest Threat for potatoes – Zebra Chip	Ernst Pfeilstetter,
	disease ('Candidatus. Liberibacter solanacearum' and its vector	DE
	Bactericera cockerelli (lecture)	Muriel Suffert FR
	Current situation (global & within EU)	
	Pest biology, signs of infestation; pest detection; means of spread;	
	damage	
	High risk targets for inspection and survey work	



	Key findings from EPPO PRAs
	Current EU measures to reduce risk of entry
	Laboratory methods for identification
	Possible measures in case of findings and management of
	outbreaks
	Discussion
17:00	Close of Day 3



DAY 4

Time	Activity	Tutors
08:45	Registration	
09:00	Session 13: 'Candidatus Liberibacter solanacearum' and its vector	Neil Giltrap UK
	Bactericera cockerelli (group exercise)	Ernst Pfeilstetter,
	Are we protected against this pest?	DE
	Review of current EU control systems to prevent introduction and	
	movement of pathogen and vector	
	To develop a surveillance strategy to assist the early detection of	
	these pests	
	Survey planning (timing, numbers of samples)	
	To identify the main elements of an eradication and containment	
	strategy based on an outbreak scenario provided	
10:30	Coffee break	
10:45	Session 14: Other New Emerging Pest Threats (lecture):	Neil Giltrap, UK
	Keiferia lycopersicella (tomato pinworm)	Ernst Pfeilstetter
	Apriona species (longhorn beetles)	DE
	Oemena hirta (lemon tree borer)	
	Saperda Candida (round-headed apple tree borer)	
	Other new emerging pests as appropriate	
	For all the chosen examples we will cover:	
	Current situation (global & within EU)	
	Pest biology, signs of infestation; pest detection; means of spread;	
	damage	



	Methods of detection	
	High risk targets for inspection and survey work	
	Key findings from EPPO PRAs	
	Current EU measures to reduce risk of entry	
	Measures in case of findings and management of outbreaks	
	Discussion	
12:00	Session 15: New plant health regime	Edit Tóthné Lippai
	How proposed amendments to the New Plant Health Regime will address new emerging high risk pests, commodities and pathways of entry (short lecture followed by general discussion)	HU Ernst Pfeilstetter DE
13:00	Lunch	
14:00	Session 16: Contingency planning (short lecture and group	Neil Giltrap UK
	exercise)	Muriel Suffert FR
	What factors need to be considered when developing a contingency plan?	
15:00	Coffee break	
15.30	Session 17: Final question and answer session and confirmation of	Don Walker UK
	action plan of delegates to disseminate learning and information to	plus all tutors
	colleagues following the course	