



Update on Status of *Bactrocera invadens* in Limpopo Province, South Africa

Eradication of *B. invadens* in Tshipise, Weipe and Groblersbrug

The invasive exotic fruit fly: *Bactrocera invadens*, a pest of serious phytosanitary concern to the Southern African region, was detected in surveillance traps in the Tshipise, Weipe and Groblersbrug areas between March and May 2011. Information on the status of *B. invadens* in these areas was provided in Cutting Edge No. 119 & 122, Fresh Notes No. 40 & 44 and in the Subtrop newsletters (22 July 2011 & 26 August 2011).

In Tshipise, Weipe and Groblersbrug, eradication was initiated between June and July 2011 and included the application of weekly protein bait sprays and the deployment of Male Annihilation Technique (MAT) blocks (fibreboard blocks impregnated with methyl eugenol and malathion, targeting males) for a period of at least 8 weeks in each area. Monitoring for *B. invadens* continued in all areas for at least 4 weeks after the removal of MAT blocks to determine eradication success. In all three areas, there were no detections of *B. invadens* for more than 12 weeks, or three life cycles, after the last fruit fly was detected. In Tshipise, Weipe and Groblersbrug, the status of the pest has now been confirmed as "Eradicated" and notified as such on the International Plant Protection Convention (IPPC) website.

B. invadens in Levubu and Nwanedi areas

In the Nwanedi area (on Tshipise - Pafuri road), one *B. invadens* specimen was detected in a Methyl Eugenol (ME) trap on 22 June 2011. On 17 August 2011, a *B. invadens* specimen was also detected in an ME trap in the Levubu area. Following finds of *B. invadens* in Nwanedi and Levubu, the area around the positive trap (5 km radius) in each area was quarantined and a delimiting survey was initiated in both areas in accordance with the South African *B. invadens* Action Plan. A risk assessment was conducted and phytosanitary actions were implemented to control the movement of fruit from each area under delimitation. A second interception of *B. invadens* during the delimiting survey in each of the areas, on 6 September 2011 and on 29 September 2011 in Nwanedi and Levubu respectively triggered the need for eradication. Eradication was initiated on 5 October 2011 in Levubu and 25 October 2011 in Nwanedi.

Eradication in both areas includes the application of weekly protein bait sprays and the deployment of MAT blocks in the quarantine area. In accordance with South Africa's international obligations, the South African Department of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries (DAFF) has posted notifications of these developments on the IPPC website.

The continued interception of separate point incursions by *B. invadens*, emphasises the need for ongoing and intensified vigilance to support early detection of such incursions. As indicated in numerous prior communications, it is of great potential value for **all commercial producers of *B. invadens* host material (a wide range of fruit and vegetable crops) throughout South Africa to continue with or, if not doing so already, commence with surveillance monitoring of *B. invadens* on each of their farms. This will ensure that a registered production unit (PU) and PU code (PUC) can prove area freedom from *B. invadens* in order to avoid interruptions in trade.** Surveillance monitoring of *B. invadens* per PUC has now become a requirement to register for citrus export to special markets and will be rolled out as a phytosanitary registration requirement for export of deciduous and subtropical fruit to special markets in the coming season. All citrus growers registered for export to these markets are reminded that they have given DAFF an undertaking to have commenced such surveillance by the end of January 2012 at the latest. Monitoring data will provide evidence of pest freedom in the event of the fly becoming established in some areas of South Africa. Moreover, chances of a successful eradication are higher if the pest is detected early. Growers should immediately make known any catches of suspected *B. invadens* to the relevant surveillance co-ordinators (citrus - Aruna Manrakhan, aruna@cri.co.za, 013-7598000; deciduous fruit including grapes - Leslie Brown, Leslie@fruitgro.co.za, 0828531471; subtropical fruits - Wilna Stones, Wilna@subtrop.co.za, 015-3073676; all other fruit and vegetable crops - Department of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries : Jan Hendrik Venter, JanHendrikV@daff.gov.za, 012-3196384). Growers should not fear the consequences of quarantine in the event of a detection and the implementation of eradication procedures, since it is still possible to move (under permit) host material from such quarantined sites in compliance with established additional risk mitigation procedures.

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Opdatering van die status van *Bactrocera invadens* in die Limpopo Provinsie, Suid-Afrika

Uitroeing van *B. invadens* in Tshipise, Weipe en Groblersbrug

Die uitheemse indringer vrugtevlieg: *Bactrocera invadens*, 'n ernstige plaag van fitosanitêre belang vir die Suid-Afrikaanse streek, is in waarnemingslokvalle in die Tshipise, Weipe en Groblersbrug areas tussen Maart en Mei 2011 gevind. Inligting oor die status van *B. invadens* in hierdie gebiede is in Snykant Nr. 119 & 122, Fresh Notes Nr. 40 & 44 en in die Subtropiese nuusbriewe (22 Julie 2011 & 26 Augustus 2011) bekend gemaak.

In Tshipise, Weipe en Groblersbrug is met uitwissing tussen Junie en Julie 2011 begin en is weeklikse toedienings van proteïn-lokaas bespuitings ingesluit asook die ontplooiing van die Manlike Uitwissingstegniek (MAT) blokke (veselbordblokke geïmpregneer met metiel-eugenol en malathion wat op mannetjies gerig is) vir 'n periode van ten minste 8 weke in elke area. Hierna is daar voortgegaan om vir *B. invadens* in al die areas vir ten minste 4 weke, na die verwydering van die MAT-blokke, te monitor om die sukses van die uitwissing te bepaal. In al drie areas was daar geen verdere opsporing van *B. invadens* vir ten minste 12 weke (of drie lewensiklusse) na die laaste vrugtevliegopsporing nie. In Tshipise, Weipe en Groblersbrug is die status van die plaag nou as "Uitgewis" ("Eradicated") bevestig en is 'n kennisgewing op die 'International Plant Protection Convention (IPPC)' se webwerf geplaas.

B. invadens in die Levubu en Nwanedi areas

In die Nwanedi area (op die Tshipise – Pafuri pad) is een *B. invadens* eksemplaar in 'n metiel-eugenol (ME) lokval op 22 Junie 2011 gevind. Op 17 Augustus 2011 is nog 'n *B. invadens* eksemplaar in 'n ME lokval in die Levubu area gevind. Na hierdie vangste van *B. invadens* in die Nwanedi en Levubu gebiede, is 'n area (5 km radius) rondom elke positiewe vangs onder kwarantyn geplaas en is daar met 'n afbakeningsopname in beide areas, in ooreenstemming met die Suid-Afrikaanse *B. invadens* Aksieplan, begin. 'n Risiko-waardebepaling is uitgevoer en fitosanitêre aksies is geïmplementeer om die beweging van vrugte vanuit elke afgebakende area te beheer. 'n Tweede onderskepping van *B. invadens* is gedurende die afbakeningsproses op 6 September 2011 en op 29 September in Nwanedi en Levubu onderskeidelik gevind wat veroorsaak

het dat uitwissing noodsaaklik geword het. Daar is met uitwissing op 5 Oktober 2011 in Levubu en 25 Oktober 2011 in Nwanedi begin. Die uitwissingsproses in beide areas het die toediening van weeklikse proteïn-lokaas bespuitings en die ontplooiing van MAT-blokke in die kwarantyn areas ingesluit. In ooreenstemming met Suid-Afrika se internasionale verpligtinge, het die Suid-Afrikaanse Departement van Landbou, Bosbou en Visserye (DAFF) kennisgewings hieroor op die IPPC-webwerf geplaas.

Hierdie voortdurende onderskeppings van afsonderlike invalle van *B. invadens* beklemtoon die behoefte aan volgehoue en intensiewe waaksaamheid om vroeë opsporing van sulke binnekomste te versterk. Soos in verskeie vorige kommunikasies aangedui is, is dit van groot potensiele waarde vir **alle kommersiële produsente van gashere van *B. invadens* ('n wye verskeidenheid vrugte en groente gewasse), regdeur Suid-Afrika om aan te hou, of as dit nie alreeds gedoen word nie, te begin met waarnemings-monitering van *B. invadens* op alle plaas eiendomme. Dit sal die eienaars van geregistreerde produksie-eenhede (PU) en PU kode (PUC) in staat stel om te kan bewys dat hul plase vry is van hierdie pes om te verhoed dat handelsmoontlikhede beperk word.** Die waarnemings-monitering van *B. invadens* per PUC is nou 'n vereiste vir fitosanitêre registrasie vir sitrusuitvoere na spesiale markte en gaan ook verpligtend raak as 'n vereiste vir registrasie vir uitvoer van sagtevrugte en subtropiese vrugte na spesiale markte in die komende seisoen. Alle sitrus produsente wat geregistreer het om na hierdie markte uit te voer word daaraan herinner dat hulle aan DAFF die versekering gegee het dat hul met waarneming op die laatste sal begin teen einde Januarie 2012. Moniteringsdata sal bewyse van pes-vrye status verskaf sou die plaag in sekere areas van Suid-Afrika vestig. Daarbenewens is die kans op suksesvolle uitwissing beter as die plaag vroeg opgespoor word. Produsente moet dadelik inligting van enige moontlike vangste van *B. invadens* bekend maak aan die relevante waarnemingskoördineerders (sitrus – Aruna Manrakhan, aruna@cri.co.za, 013-7598000; sagtevrugte insluitend druiwe – Leslie Brown, leslie@dfptresearch.cp.za, 0828531471; subtropiese vrugte – Wilna Stones, Wilna@subtrop.co.za, 015-3073676; alle ander vrugte en groente – Departement van Landbou, Bosbou en Visserye: Jan Hendrik Venter, JanHendrikV@daff.gov.za, 012-3196384). Produsente moet in die geval van 'n opsporing nie die gevolge van kwarantyn en die implementering van uitwissingsprosedures vrees nie, want dit is



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nog steeds moontlik om gasheermateriaal (onderhewig aan 'n permit) vanuit hierdie kwarantynareas in ooreenstemming met die

vasgestelde addisionele risikobeheer prosedures te beweeg.

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