

2 June 2021

Original: English

(21-4559) Page: 1/3

Committee on Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures

NOTIFICATION

- 1. Notifying Member: <u>UNITED KINGDOM</u>
 - If applicable, name of local government involved:
- 2. Agency responsible: Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs
- 3. Products covered (provide tariff item number(s) as specified in national schedules deposited with the WTO; ICS numbers should be provided in addition, where applicable):
 - Fruit: 07 02 00, 07 07 00, 08 07 11, 08 07 19, 07 09 30, 07 09 93, 07 09 60, 07 09 99
 - Plants: 06 02 10, 06 02 20, 06 02 90, 06 03 19, 06 04 20, 07 09 20, 14 04 90
 - Wood: 14 04 90, 44 01 40, 44 01 12, 44 01 22, 44 03 12, 44 03 97, 44 03 99, 44 04 20, 44 06 12, 44 06 92, 44 07 95, 44 07 97, 44 07 99, 44 08 90, 44 16 00, 94 06 10
- 4. Regions or countries likely to be affected, to the extent relevant or practicable:
 - [X] All trading partners China, Japan, Kazakhstan, the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, the Republic of Korea, Mongolia and the Russian Federation are directly affected by measures on *Agrilus fleischeri*. Countries in the Americas are directly affected by measures on *Prodiplosis longifila*. The remaining measures affect any country exporting the relevant commodities to Great Britain (GB).
 - [] Specific regions or countries:
- 5. Title of the notified document: PH/026 Pest Measures. Language(s): English. Number of pages: 21

https://members.wto.org/crnattachments/2021/SPS/GBR/21 3791 00 e.pdf

Implementing Regulation (EU) 2019/2072 ("the Phytosanitary Conditions Regulation") pursuant to the European Union (Withdrawal) Act 2018 and European Union (Withdrawal Agreement Act 2020). It will introduce measures in England, Scotland and Wales (Great Britain) against the import of host plants and other relevant regulated goods for certain pests (*Prodiplosis longifila*, *Agrilus fleischeri*, *Thekopsora minima* and *Agrilus planipennis*). Imports of these high-risk plant goods will only be permitted under certain conditions e.g. the goods being grown in a pest free area, treated with heat. It will also introduce a prohibition on the import of *Polymnia sonchifolia* plants from entering Great Britain.

Pest Risk Analyses (PRAs), conducted by the European and Mediterranean Plant Protection Organisation (EPPO), have recommended *Prodiplosis longifila*, *Agrilus fleischeri*, and *Thekopsora minima* for regulation and suggested the approach that Great Britain are introducing to tackle these risks to biosecurity. Based on these PRAs, these pests were added in January 2021 as provisional quarantine pests (PQPs) in GB legislation (The Plant Health (Phytosanitary Conditions) (Amendment) (EU Exit) Regulations 2020). No objections were raised by WTO Members to the PQP listing of these pests. This PQP listing means there is already an obligation to ensure freedom from these pests, but with no specific requirements about how this must be achieved or a mechanism to monitor

compliance through declarations on the phytosanitary certificate. The measures being notified define the requirements, to provide clarity to National Plant Protection Organisations (NPPOs) and industry and set in place the process by which we can be assured that pest freedom will be achieved.

The EPPO PRA on *Agrilus planipennis* concluded that the likelihood of this pest establishing in the EPPO region, including Great Britain, was high and would cause serious damage to ash trees. The assessed risk of *Agrilus planipennis* and *Polymnia sonchifolia* imports has significantly changed following new developments; the distribution of *Agrilus planipennis* has expanded to St Petersburg and GB quarantine pests were intercepted on samples of *Polymnia sonchifolia*. The measures being notified will extend the existing measures for *Agrilus planipennis* and take precautionary action against the new threat *Polymnia sonchifolia*.

A failure to implement the legislation as soon as possible extends the period that Great Britain is exposed to the serious biosecurity threat presented by these pests. For these reasons, the measures will come into force six weeks after it has been laid following the closure of the 60 day comment period. This will limit the period in which specific requirements are not in place, and therefore provide biosecurity assurances for the United Kingdom.

- 7. Objective and rationale: [] food safety, [] animal health, [X] plant protection, [] protect humans from animal/plant pest or disease, [] protect territory from other damage from pests.
- 8. Is there a relevant international standard? If so, identify the standard:
 - [] Codex Alimentarius Commission (e.g. title or serial number of Codex standard or related text):
 - [] World Organization for Animal Health (OIE) (e.g. Terrestrial or Aquatic Animal Health Code, chapter number):
 - [X] International Plant Protection Convention (e.g. ISPM number):
 - ISPM 4 on the requirements for establishment of pest free areas
 - ISPM 10 on the requirements for the establishment of pest free places of production and pest free production sites
 - [] None

Does this proposed regulation conform to the relevant international standard? [X] Yes [] No

If no, describe, whenever possible, how and why it deviates from the international standard:

- 9. Other relevant documents and language(s) in which these are available:
- 10. Proposed date of adoption (dd/mm/yy): 21 October 2021Proposed date of publication (dd/mm/yy): 21 October 2021
- 11. Proposed date of entry into force: [] Six months from date of publication, and/or (dd/mm/yy): 2 December 2021
 - [] Trade facilitating measure
- 12. Final date for comments: [X] Sixty days from the date of circulation of the notification and/or (dd/mm/yy): 1 August 2021

Agency or authority designated to handle comments: [X] National Notification Authority, [] National Enquiry Point. Address, fax number and e-mail address (if available) of other body:

UK SPS Contact Point, Defra, Nobel House, London SW1P 3JR E-mail: UKSPS@defra.gov.uk

Text(s) available from: [] National Notification Authority, [X] National Enquiry Point. Address, fax number and e-mail address (if available) of other body: 13.

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