

02 July 2019

Dear Sir/Madam,

Rapid Pest Risk Analysis (PRA) on *Crisicoccus pini*

I am writing to seek your views on a UK Pest Risk Analysis for *Crisicoccus pini*. A link to the rapid PRA can be found at the website given below:

<https://planthealthportal.defra.gov.uk/pests-and-diseases/pest-risk-analyses/>

We would welcome your views and comments on the PRA and the proposals for future action.

In submitting any comments you may wish to focus on the summary, key uncertainties and conclusion sections of the risk assessments and to consider the following:

- Are any factual corrections required?
- Your view on the appropriateness of the suggested proposals for future actions?
- Can you provide any additional information (or links to other sources of information) that may help address uncertainty identified in the assessment/management measures?
- Are there any risks that have not been adequately considered?
- Have you reviewed the risk assessment and consider that you have nothing further to add?

This review applies to the UK and is being conducted by the Department for Environment Food and Rural Affairs, with the agreement of the Scottish Government, Welsh Government and Northern Ireland Government. The objective of this consultation is to gather views from all interested sectors on the UK position to progress. We will take all comments made into account in developing the UK position.

Background

Crisicoccus pini is a scale insect native to eastern Asia that was found in Europe for the first time in 2015. The introduction to Italy saw extensive damage in a localised area, causing significant concern at the local level. *Crisicoccus pini* infects *Pinus* species, and in heavy infestations causes host mortality and significant tree decline. *Pinus* species are very important to the UK economy and environment, and because of the damage seen during a recent outbreak in Italy a Rapid Pest Risk Analysis for *Crisicoccus pini* was deemed appropriate.

Recommendations for action

The UK Plant Health Risk Group (PHRG) review is presenting the following option for future action against

- Statutory action against findings on infested plants and plant products to prevent entry of this pest into the UK and in response to any introduction of the pest that may occur.

All responses should be sent to plantpestsrisks@defra.gov.uk

Responses should be received by **2nd September 2019.**

Information provided in response to this consultation, including personal information, may be made available to the public on request, in accordance with the requirements of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA) and the Environmental Information Regulations 2004 (EIRs)

If you do not wish your response, including your name, contact details and any other personal information, to be publically available, please say so clearly in writing when you send your response to the consultation. Please note that if your computer automatically includes a confidentiality disclaimer, this will not count as a confidentiality request. Please explain why you need to keep details confidential. We will take your reasons into account if someone asks for the information under freedom of information legislation. However, we cannot guarantee that we will always be able to keep those details confidential.

Yours faithfully

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