



Official Pest Report BELGIUM

Situation of *Scirrhia pini* in Belgium

Date: 05/03/2008

Report number: BE - 1/1

Status of report: preliminary

Name of pest: *Scirrhia pini* Funk & A.K. Parker (syn. *Mycosphaerella pini* E. Rostrup)

Status of pest: Present: in forests in the provinces Antwerpen and Limburg

Host(s) or article(s) concerned: *Pinus nigra* subsp. *laricio*

Geographical distribution: Infections were found in 2 forests in the communes of Meeuwen-Gruitrode (province Limburg) and Ravels (province Antwerpen).

Nature of immediate or potential danger, or other reason for reporting: *Scirrhia pini* (syn. *Mycosphaerella pini*) is regulated as a harmful organism for the European Community for plants of *Pinus* L., intended for planting, other than seeds (Annex II, Part A, Section II of Directive 2000/29/EC). According to the EPPO Data Sheet this fungus presents only a low phytosanitary risk in other EPPO countries where it is present. *S. pini* is not listed as a quarantine pest for the EPPO region.

Short description or summary:

Findings of the anamorph *Dothistroma septospora* of *Scirrhia pini* were notified to the Belgian NPPO by the Instituut voor Natuur- en Bosonderzoek (INBO), scientific research centre of the Flemish Community. Symptoms of the fungus had been found in forests in the provinces Antwerpen and Limburg on trees of *Pinus nigra* subsp. *laricio*. Morphological analysis by INBO confirmed the presence of fruiting bodies and conidia of the anamorph *Dothistroma septospora*.

Following this notification, samples were sent to the Instituut voor Landbouw- en Visserijonderzoek (ILVO), national reference laboratory for Belgium. ILVO confirmed the contamination by morphological diagnosis and by molecular analysis on 30 November 2007.

The owners of the forests where symptoms were found have been informed and inspections of nurseries are focalised on the research of symptoms of *Scirrhia pini*.

References: EPPO Datasheet on *Mycosphaerella dearnessii* and *Mycosphaerella pini*
EPPO Diagnostic protocol for *Mycosphaerella pini* PM 7/47 (1)

Contact for more information:

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