



May 2015 PEST Report - THE NETHERLANDS

1.1 Update - *Thrips setosus* (Japanese flower thrips) established on plants for planting of *Hydrangea* - open conditions - professional growers

1.2 Executive summary

This update report is a follow-up of an earlier report of October 2014 concerning the first finding of this thrips in Europe. Following the first report a specific survey was completed at nine other growers of *Hydrangea*. The thrips was also detected at four other growers, including outdoor conditions and other non-cultivated plants (weeds). A preliminary risk analysis has been completed indicating that the pest can survive outdoor conditions in the Netherlands. Based on the great number of affected plants at individual growers, introduction must have taken place several years ago. Wider establishment in the Netherlands is presumed based on earlier sales of affected plants to the final consumer and the soil-borne nature of certain life stages of the pests. Therefore no further measures are taken against this pest.

The origin of the finding is unknown but may be linked to imports of cuttings from Japan. The organism is not listed as a harmful organism in the EU directive 2000/29/EC and is not listed on the EPPO A1 or A2 list. The organism is known to occur in Japan and South Korea (see <http://www.padil.gov.au/pests-and-diseases/pest/main/136443>). The organism acts as a vector for *Tomato spotted wilt virus*.

Identity of the pest *Thrips setosus*

Categorization of the pest none

Location: four municipalities

Reason of the notification: Updated situation

How the pest was found (5) official inspection for purposes other than phytosanitary ones

Information on the infested area, severity and source of the outbreak

At affected growers, a high incidence of *Thrips setosus* was noted whereby many plants were affected. Many adults and typical thrips suction damage (silvery spots, with dark punctures) on leaves were observed on *Hydrangea* plants both inside and outside the greenhouse. Also other weeds surrounding the crop were affected, notably *Lamium purpureum*, *Heracleum sphondylium*, *Urtica dioica*.

Official phytosanitary measures No further measures are taken.

4. Reason of the notification and pest status

4.1 (1) First presence of the harmful organism - Updated situation

4.4 Current Pest status

(12) Other - Present: in several parts of the area where host plants are grown.

4.3 Previous Pest status

(15) Transient: actionable, under surveillance.

Incidental finding on *Hydrangea* plants for planting, measures are pending further tracing investigations and a specific survey.

1.3 Legal provisions

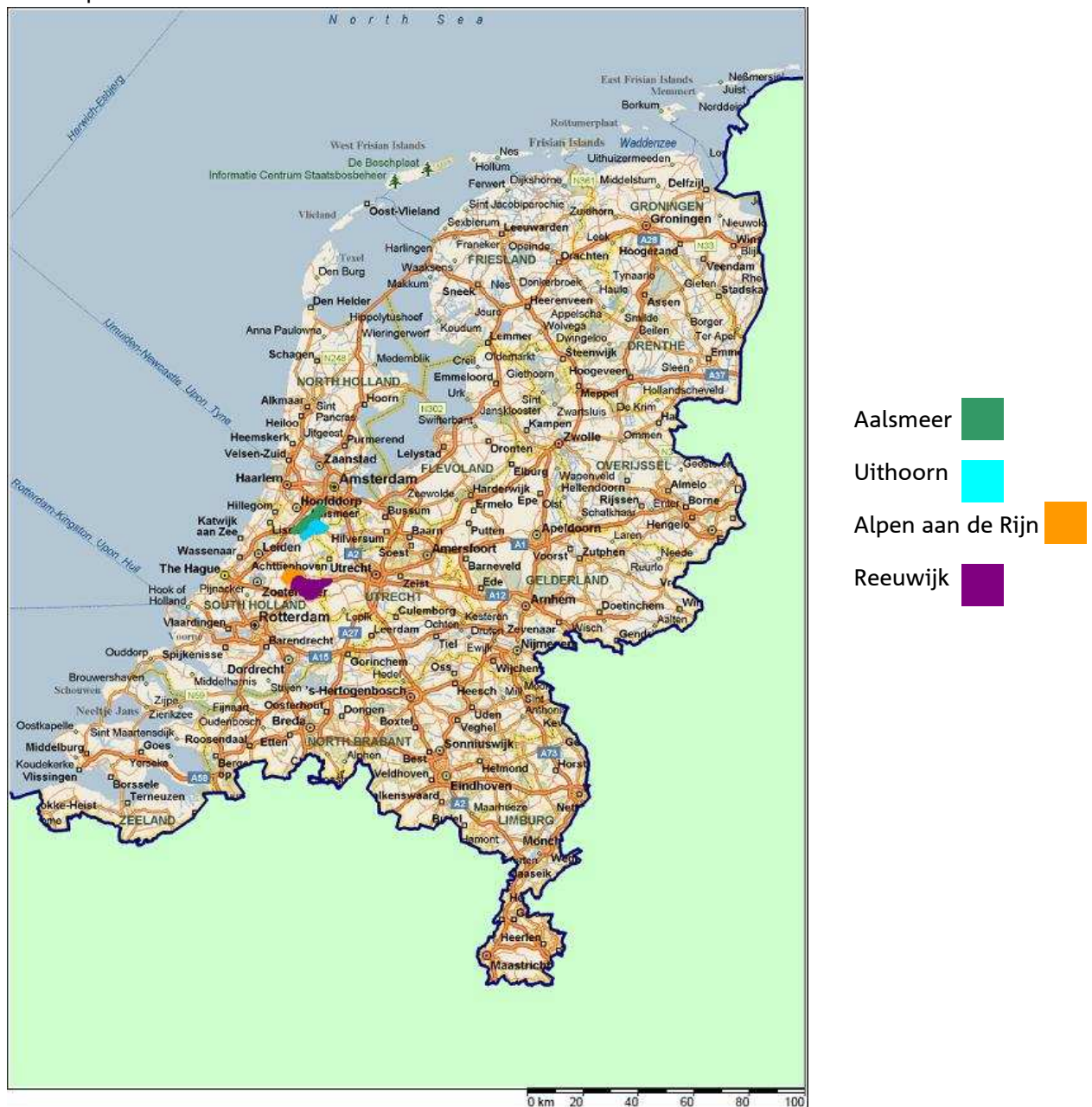
(3) update of the notification

(4) closing note indicating the termination of the taken measures and the reasoning for such termination.

3. Location of presence of harmful organism

3.1 four municipalities: Kudelstaart (municipality Aalsmeer), de Kwakel (Municipality Uithoorn), Boskoop (municipality Alphen aan den Rijn) and Reeuwijk (Bodegraven-Reeuwijk)

3.2 Map of the locations.



5. Information relating to the finding.

5.1 How the harmful organism was found. See pest report October 2014.

Reported by the grower as part of annual controls on quality.

(5) official inspection for purposes other than phytosanitary ones

5.2 Date of finding. The initial finding was on 3 October 2014 (see pest report October 2014).

5.3 Sampling procedure for laboratory analysis: See previous report.

5.4 The name and address of the laboratory

National Reference Centre (NPPO) of the Netherlands

P.O.Box 9102

6700 HC Wageningen,

The Netherlands.

Specialist: Mr Bert Vierbergen (email: g.vierbergen@nvwa.nl; tel: +31 88 223 2789)

5.5 Diagnostic method.

Material: several adults and thrips juveniles. Morphological identification of adults is carried out with R. zur Strassen, 2003. Die terebranten Thysanopteren Europas. Die Tierwelt Deutschlands 74: 1-277 (keyed out here). In J. M. Palmer, 1992. *Thrips* (Thysanoptera) from Pakistan to the Pacific: a review. Bull. Br. Mus. nat. Hist. (Ent.) 61:1-76 the key runs for males and females to *Thrips setosus*. Additionally a female reference microscopic slide of *T. setosus* in the NPPO insect collection was used for comparison. FERA (D. Collins, Sand Hutton, UK) confirmed the identification.

5.6 Date of official confirmation of the harmful organism's identity

3 October 2014 (see previous pest report)

6. Information related to the area, severity of the finding and source of the finding

6.1. Size and delimitation of the infested area.

At least 5 hectares (outdoor and indoor) associated with five companies at different locations.

6.2. Characteristics of the infested area and its vicinity.

(1) Open air – production area

(1.3) nursery – plants for planting

6.3. Host plants in the infested area and its vicinity.

Growers specialised in cultivating Hydrangea destined for the final consumer

6.4. Infested plant(s), plant product(s) and other object(s). Indication of the scientific name of the infested host plant(s).

Plants for planting (crops): Hydrangea

Plants for planting (wild): *Lamium purpureum*, *Heracleum sphondylium*, *Urtica dioica*

6.5. Vectors present in the area.

Not relevant.

6.6. Severity of the outbreak.

At affected growers, a high incidence of *Thrips setosus* was noted whereby many plants were affected. Many adults and typical thrips suction damage (silvery spots, with dark punctures) on leaves were observed on *Hydrangea* plants both inside and outside the greenhouse. Also other weeds surrounding the crop were affected, notably *Lamium purpureum*, *Heracleum sphondylium*, *Urtica dioica*.

6.7. Source of the outbreak.

The origin of the finding is unknown but could be linked to imports of cuttings from Japan.

7. Official phytosanitary measures

7.1. Adoption of official phytosanitary measures.

(5) No official phytosanitary measures.

Reason: A preliminary risk analysis has been completed indicating that the pest can survive outdoor conditions in the Netherlands. Based on the great number of affected plants at individual growers, introduction must have taken place several years ago. Wider establishment in the Netherlands is presumed based on earlier sales of affected plants to the final consumer and the soil-borne nature of certain life stages of the pests. Therefore no further measures are taken against this pest.

7.6. Specific surveys. In case surveys are carried out as part of official phytosanitary measures, indication of their methodology, duration and scope.

In total nine growers have been visited as part of an official specific survey. At four growers symptoms and adults of *T. setosus* were observed.

8. Pest risk analysis/assessment.

(3) Preliminary pest risk analysis exists.

See: <https://www.nvwa.nl/onderwerpen/english/dossier/pest-risk-analysis/quick-scans>

9. Links to relevant websites, other sources of information.

Pest report October 2014

See: <https://www.nvwa.nl/onderwerpen/english/dossier/pest-reporting/pest-reports>

References:

NPPO The Netherlands