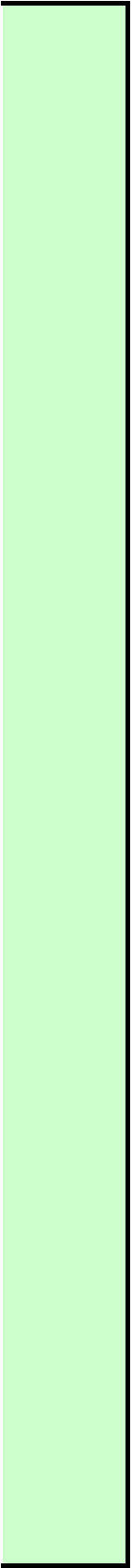


<b>Official Pest Report :</b>	First detection of <i>Acalitus vaccinii</i> In South Africa
<b>Date</b>	2016/05/03
<b>Report Number:</b>	1
<b>Status of the pest:</b>	Present in some production areas
<b>Pest Id:</b>	<i>Acalitus vaccinii</i> ( Keifer,1939)
<b>Host or Article concerned:</b>	Blue berry plants <i>Vaccinium virgatum</i> .
<b>Other hosts:</b>	No other hosts in South Africa
<b>Geographic distribution:</b>	The first pest report was provided by the Agricultural Research Council (ARC) on 9 December 2014 as a pest identification from blue berry plants originating from Amsterdam, in the Mpumalanga province. Additional surveys in 2015 confirmed the pest is present on one farm in the area. In follow up surveys, the pest was also found in Lydenburg and Dullstroom in the same province. It was not found in any other province.
<b>Nature of immediate or potential danger:</b>	Crop damage to affected farmers. Affected sites are placed under quarantine not to remove propagation material from the area.
<b>Summary:</b>	<i>Acalitus vaccinii</i> in a new pest in South Africa and have the potential to cause high crop damage. It was not detected in major blue berry production areas in South Africa such as the Western Cape.



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