

International Plant Protection Convention (IPPC) country pest report by the National Plant Protection Organization (NPPO) of South Africa: First detection of *Tuta absoluta* in South Africa

Date of the report	30/08/2016
Pest identity	<i>Tuta absoluta</i> (Tomato leafminer)
Status of pest	Unknown
Host or articles concerned	Host plants such as <i>Solanum lycopersicum</i> (Tomatoes), <i>Solanum melongena</i> (Eggplant) and <i>Solanum tuberosum</i> (Potato), may be affected if <i>Tuta absoluta</i> should establish in the areas where it was detected.
Other hosts	Possibility of several other species within the Solanaceae family which includes other <i>Solanum</i> sp. and <i>Datura</i> sp.
Geographic distribution	Several Lepidoptera specimens were detected in yellow delta traps baited with a male sex pheromone. <i>Tuta absoluta</i> was positively identified by a taxonomist from five traps placed on the eastern border of the Mpumalanga province with Mozambique. No crop or other host damage was reported.
Nature of immediate or potential danger	Mainly tomato production in the areas where the pest found.
Summary	Traps were set alongside the border with Mozambique in the Mpumalanga province. <i>Tuta absoluta</i> was detected in five of those traps.