



2016 April PEST Report - THE NETHERLANDS

1.1 Suspicion of *Contarinia pseudotsugae* and *Contarinia cuniculator* in forest trees of *Pseudotsuga menziesii* in five provinces.

1.2 Executive summary

Contarinia pseudotsugae (Douglas-fir needle midge) has been detected in two provinces (Limburg and Noord-Brabant) and *Contarinia cuniculator* has been detected in five provinces (Utrecht, Overijssel, Limburg, Noord-Brabant and Gelderland). The first suspicion of *C. cf pseudotsugae* was reported in December 2015 in three provinces. Based on gall and larval characteristics the presence of two *Contarinia* species is now suspected, instead of one. Findings were triggered by the yearly national specific survey of forest stands *inter alia* for the fungi *Mycophaerella* and *Gibberella* and Pine Wood Nematode.

The origin of the finding is unknown. Before the finding in the Netherlands, this midge was only known to occur in North America. 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.

Identity of the pest (scientific name) *Contarinia pseudotsugae* Condrashoff and *Contarinia cuniculator* Condrashoff

Categorization of the pest none

Location: Provinces Utrecht, Overijssel, Limburg, Noord-Brabant and Gelderland

Reason of the notification: Update report.

How the pest was found (1) pest related official survey

Information on the infested area, severity and source of the outbreak – Relatively mild wilting symptoms were observed on lower branches.

Official phytosanitary measures - No measures have been taken based on the wider distribution.

4. Reason of the notification and pest status

4.1 Select: (1) First presence of the harmful organism

Select: Update report

4.4 Current Pest status

(3) Present: in specific parts of the area where host plants are grown

4.3 Previous Pest status

Select: (8) Absent: no pest records

1.3 Legal provisions – select (or include in cover letter)

Full notification

3. Location of presence of harmful organism

3.1 Provinces Utrecht, Overijssel, Limburg, Noord-Brabant and Gelderland

5. Information relating to the finding.

(1) pest related official survey for other harmful organisms on *Pseudotsuga menziesii*.

5.2 Date of finding.

Inspections were carried out on 27 November 2015.

(5.3) submission of information concerning the sampling procedure for laboratory analysis, including date, method, and sample size. Attachment of pictures is possible.

On 26 November mycologists of the National Reference Centre, while analyzing samples, found gall midge larvae in Douglas needles and subsequently informed the *Diptera* specialist.

(5.4) the name and the address of the laboratory

NPPO – The Netherlands

National Reference Centre

Contact person:

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The Netherlands

5.5 Diagnostic method.

Based on gall and larval characteristics two members of the species-complex appear to be present in The Netherlands.

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

27 November 2015. Further identification by the National Reference Centre took place on 2 March 2016. Last year samples have been in cold storage and we are waiting for adults to emerge for further study/confirmation.

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

Relatively mild symptoms were observed on multiple trees (at least 10 per location) at eight locations in natural forest stands totalling thousands of trees of Douglas fir.

6.2. Characteristics of the infested area and its vicinity. Indication of one or more of the following options:

(2) Open air – other

(2.3) conservation area

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

Only *Pseudotsuga menziesii* is affected.

6.4. Infested plant(s), plant product(s) and other object(s).

Pseudotsuga menziesii

6.5. Vectors present in the area.

Not relevant.

6.6. Severity of the outbreak.

Mild symptoms were observed on lower branches of several trees at eight different locations. It is presumed that the pest has been present for several years.

6.7. Source of the outbreak.

The origin of the finding is unknown. Thus far this midge is only known to occur in Northern America, Belgium and the Netherlands.

7. Official phytosanitary measures

7.1. Adoption of official phytosanitary measures.

(5) No official phytosanitary measures due to wider distribution the pest has been present for a prolonged period and eradication is no longer possible.

8. Pest risk analysis/assessment.

(3) Preliminary pest risk analysis exists.

The relevant quick scan is available on the website of the NPPO:

<https://english.nvwa.nl/documents/document/pest-risk-analysis/quick-scans>

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

References:

NPPO The Netherlands