



September 2016 PEST Report - THE NETHERLANDS

1.1 UPDATE pest report June 2016

Identity confirmed: *Hemitarsonemus ganeo* (fern mite) instead of *Hemitarsonemus tepidariorum* (pest report March)

Wider distribution on ferns outdoors (*Polypodium vulgare*, *Dryopteris carthusiana*, *Dryopteris filix-mas*, and *Athyrium filix-femina*).

Single detection on plants for planting of *Platycerium alcicorne* (fern plants) in a production greenhouse.

1.2 Executive summary

The identity of *Hemitarsonemus ganeo* could be confirmed on plants for planting of *Platycerium alcicorne* (fern plants) in a production greenhouse, which was detected in November 2015 (see pest report March 2016). Early September the mite has also been detected outdoors on ferns (*Polypodium vulgare*, *Dryopteris carthusiana*, *Dryopteris filix-mas*, and *Athyrium filix-femina*) in public green and natural forests at great distance from the first finding (approximately 100 km). No apparent damage was observed on the outdoor ferns, as opposed to the indoor ferns of *Platycerium alcicorne*. It is presumed that the mite has been present for a prolonged period in the Netherlands.

The mite may have escaped detection in the Netherlands due to the limited number of experts on *Tarsonemidae*. The identity was initially incorrectly determined as *Hemitarsonemus tepidariorum*.

The fern mite *H. ganeo* has been earlier reported outdoors in Poland (Magowski, 2012), and is closely related to *Hemitarsonemus tepidariorum* which has been recorded in the USA, UK and Costa Rica before, but its pest status worldwide is highly uncertain. Both species can cause damage on various fern species. No official eradication measures are considered at present, in view of outdoor presence both in the Netherlands and in Poland. Follow-up measures consist of communication to stakeholders.

For the March and June 2016 pest report, see:

<https://english.nvwa.nl/documents/document/pest-reporting/pest-reports>

Identity of the pest *Hemitarsonemus ganeo* Magowski, 2012

Categorization of the pest none

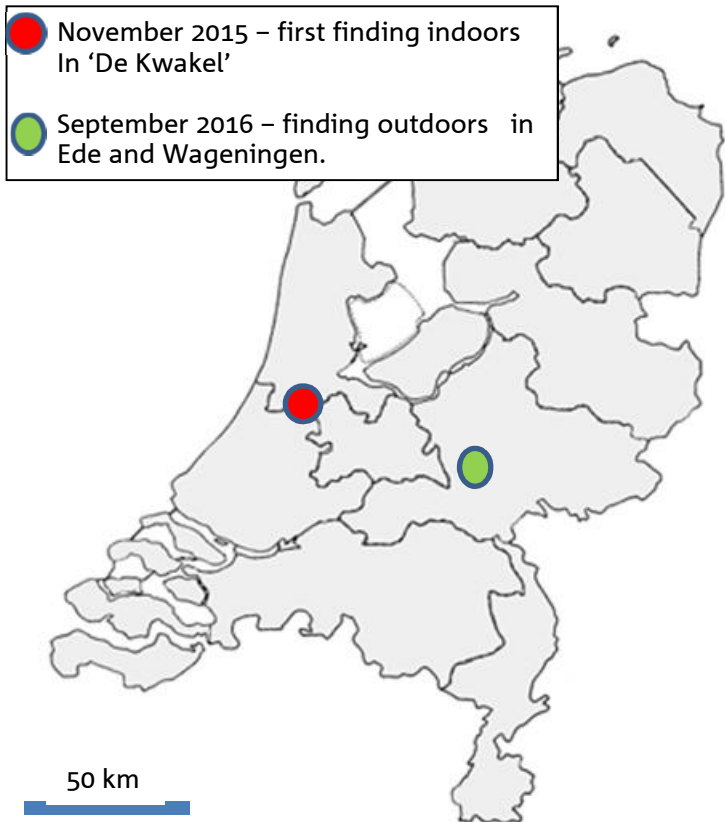
Location: Municipality Uithoorn, village 'De Kwakel'. Municipality Ede, Municipality Wageningen.

Reason of the notification: Updated situation

How the pest was found (6) information submitted by professional operators, laboratories or other persons

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

Several trays of young fern plants were heavily affected, including leaf deformities and stunting of plants.

Official phytosanitary measures Communication to stakeholders.	
1.3 Type of notification	(4) Close-out notification
2.1 Single Authority	Notification from the National Plant Protection Organization of the Netherlands – Netherlands Consumer and Product Safety Authority
2.2 Official contact	M.B. de Hoop. +31651584878 Email: m.b.dehoop@nvwa.nl
3. Location of presence of harmful organism	November 2015: Municipality Uithoorn, village 'De Kwakel'. New Location: Municipality Ede and Municipality Wageningen
3.2 Map of the location.	 <p> ● November 2015 – first finding indoors In 'De Kwakel' ● September 2016 – finding outdoors in Ede and Wageningen. </p> <p>50 km</p>
4. Reason of the notification and pest status	Updated situation
4.3 Previous Pest status	(14) Other: Transient – non actionable.
4.4 Current Pest status	(1) Present: in all parts of the Member State concerned.

5. Information relating to the finding.	(1) inspections by inspectors in public green. (6) information submitted by professional operator.
5.2 Date of finding.	On 27 November 2015 the finding was reported by the operator. At the beginning of September 2016 findings in public and private green were detected by inspectors.
5.3 Sampling for laboratory analysis	On 1 December a sample consisting of two heavily infested leaves was provided to the National Reference Centre. Several mites, with all stages of development for both sexes could be isolated and these were positively identified by microscopic analysis.
5.4 Laboratory	Mr Anton T.C. van der Sommen. Tel: +31 65 124 7175 Email: a.t.c.vandersommen@nvwa.nl National Reference Centre - NPPO of the Netherlands
5.5 Diagnostic method.	Morphological. On August 11, 2016 the identification of <i>H. ganeo</i> was confirmed by Dr. Wojciech Ł. Magowski (Department of Animal Taxonomy and Ecology, A. Mickiewicz Univ., Poznań, Poland).
5.6 Date of official confirmation of the harmful organism's identity	The identity verification by the national reference centre was confirmed on September 9, 2016.
6. Information related to the area, severity of the finding and source of the finding	Heavily infested plants for planting of <i>Platyserium</i> plants at one grower. Affected plants have been destroyed by the grower.
6.2. Characteristics of the infested area and its vicinity.	(1.4) forest (2.2) public sites (3) Physically closed conditions (3.1) greenhouse; plants for planting.
6.3. Host plants in the infested area and its vicinity.	Indoors: <i>Platyserium alcicorne</i> Outdoors (public green & forest): <i>Polypodium vulgare</i> , <i>Dryopteris carthusiana</i> , <i>Dryopteris filix-mas</i> , <i>Athyrium filix-femina</i>
6.4. Infested plant(s), plant product(s) and other object(s).	Indoors: <i>Platyserium alcicorne</i> Outdoors (public green & forest): <i>Polypodium vulgare</i> , <i>Dryopteris carthusiana</i> , <i>Dryopteris filix-mas</i> , <i>Athyrium filix-femina</i>
6.5. Vectors present in the area.	Not relevant.

6.6. Severity of the outbreak.	Indoors November 2015: Several trays of young fern plants were heavily affected, including leaf deformities and stunting of plants. Outdoors September 2016: No apparant damage to plants.
6.7. Source of the outbreak.	Unknown
7. Official phytosanitary measures	
7.1. Adoption of official phytosanitary measures.	No official eradication measures are taken in view of outdoor presence in the Netherlands and Poland. At the place of production the grower has destroyed affected plants.
7.2. Date of adoption of the official phytosanitary measures. In case of temporary measures, indication of their expected duration.	
7.4. Objective of the official phytosanitary measures.	
7.5. Measures affecting the movement of goods. Indication of one of the following options	
7.6. Specific surveys.	Follow-up measures consist of communication to stakeholders.
8. Pest risk analysis/assessment	(2) Preliminary pest risk analysis has been completed. See: https://english.nvwa.nl/documents/document/pest-risk-analysis/quick-scans
9. Links to relevant websites, other sources of information.	For the June and March 2016 pest report, see: https://english.nvwa.nl/documents/document/pest-reporting/pest-reports Magowski Wł (2012) Two new species and a new subgenus of tarsonemid mites (Acari: Heterostigmatina: Tarsonemidae) from ferns in Poland. Zoological Studies 51(4): 512-525. http://zoolstud.sinica.edu.tw/Journals/51.4/512.pdf [accessed 4-1-2016]