

**International Plant Protection Convention (IPPC) country report by the National Plant Protection Organization (NPPO) of South Africa: Pest status of *Tuta absoluta* (Tomato leafminer) in South Africa, September 2017**

<b>Pest Identity</b>	<i>Tuta absoluta</i> (Lepidoptera: Gelechiidae)
<b>Status of pest</b>	<i>Tuta absoluta</i> is present in the following provinces of South Africa: Mpumalanga, North West, Free State, Gauteng, KwaZulu-Natal, Limpopo, Western Cape, Eastern Cape and the Northern Cape.
<b>Host or articles concerned</b>	Detections in the above provinces were mainly from Tomatoes while minor detections were from Potatoes.
<b>Geographic distribution</b>	<i>Tuta absoluta</i> is considered to be present, actionable and under official control in the above mentioned provinces of South Africa.
<b>Nature of immediate or potential danger</b>	<i>Tuta absoluta</i> cannot be completely eradicated; however, it can be contained and suppressed to lower population levels.
<b>Summary</b>	<i>Tuta absoluta</i> is present in the nine provinces of South Africa.