

International Plant Protection Convention (IPPC) country report by the National Plant Protection Organization (NPPO) of South Africa: Notification of the detection of *Eriococcus ironsidei* Williams (Hemiptera: Eriococcidae) in Mpumalanga Province of the Republic of South Africa, October 2017

Pest	<i>Eriococcus ironsidei</i> Williams (Hemiptera: Eriococcidae) Common name: Macadamia Felted Coccid
Status of pest	Transient: actionable, under surveillance. The pest was detected only in two orchards, on one farm, in the Mpumalanga province.
Host or articles concerned	<i>E. ironsidei</i> was only detected on Macadamia spp. (<i>Macadamia integrifolia</i> : Proteaceae), from different varieties, 816 and A16, in the notified area. There is no other host known to be associated with the pest.
Geographic distribution	<i>E. ironsidei</i> was detected from an isolated area near the town Barberton, Mpumalanga province, approximately 40 km from Nelspruit.
Nature of immediate or potential danger	Potential spread or establishment of <i>E. ironsidei</i> from infested areas through host material to other provinces may negatively affect domestic and international trade and export potential of relevant host commodities. The Department of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries (DAFF) is continuing with delimiting surveys in production areas, to determine the extent of spread as well as pest status in other parts of South Africa. Phytosanitary measures are implemented to restrict the movement of propagation material from infested areas.
Summary	<i>E. ironsidei</i> was detected on leaves and branches of the macadamia trees in Mpumalanga province. The sample was collected after random symptom observations, near the town of Barberton in April 2017. The insect species (scales) were positively identified and confirmed by an internationally recognized taxonomist on 09 May 2017. Surveys in other parts of Mpumalanga are ongoing and more surveys in other provinces of the country will be conducted.

	<p>Removal and/or Movement of propagative material from affected nurseries from Mpumalanga province to the rest of the Republic of South Africa is restricted in accordance with the Agricultural Pests Act, 1983 (Act No.36 of 1983) to prevent further spread of this pest to other provinces.</p>
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