



**MINISTERO DELLE POLITICHE AGRICOLE
ALIMENTARI E FORESTALI**

Direzione Generale dello Sviluppo Rurale

DISR V

Servizio Fitosanitario Centrale

**IPPC INTERNATIONAL SYMPOSIUM FOR PEST
FREE AREAS AND SURVEILLANCE**

Pest Free Area for *Xylella fastidiosa* in Italy



Xylella fastidiosa outbreaks in Italy



EU and National legislative framework



COMMISSION IMPLEMENTING DECISION (EU) 2015/789

18 May 2015

As regards measures to prevent the introduction into and the spread within the Union of *Xylella fastidiosa* (Wells et al.)



Ministerial decree 18 February 2016 – Establishing the National Pest free area

Ministerial decree 13 February 2018 - Transposition of EU decision 2015/789

Ministerial decree 6 June 2019 – Establishing the updated National Pest free area

National Contingency plan

Regional plans



IPPC ISPMs framework



International Plant Protection Convention

To assess the presence or absence of *Xylella fastidiosa* in the whole territory of Italy, and to establish a Pest Free Area, the following ISPMs have been used as guidelines

ISPM 4: Requirements for the establishment of pest free areas

ISPM 6: Surveillance

ISPM 8: Determination of pest status in an area



EU and National survey activities tools



To plan annual survey activities using a risk-based pest survey approach



EFSA pest survey card on *Xylella fastidiosa*
3 June 2019



National Guidelines on survey (2015)



Establishment of Pest Free Areas



In order to provide appropriate phytosanitary guarantees for plants from Italy, Areas free from *Xylella fastidiosa* have been established according to the ISPM 4.

Therefore, PFA from Xf have been defined as an uninfested part of the country where just two limited infested areas are present.

PFA have been delimited by administrative boundaries corresponding to the Italian Regions since survey activities are carried out by the Regional Plant Health Services according to the organization, rules and competences of our NPPO set out by the D.lgs. 214/2005.



National Guidelines on survey

- The official survey in the uninfested area aims to verify the absence of the pest.
- Ensure the highest possible level of early detection of outbreaks.
- Harmonize survey activities across the national territory, taking into consideration the level of specificities as regards risk factors.
- Identify the locations at most risk taking into consideration the climatic and environmental conditions, common production and growing practices in their territory.
- Each Regional Plant Health Service organizes its own survey (Sites to be inspected, sampling methodology, staff resources) in accordance with the minimum requirements set at the national level.

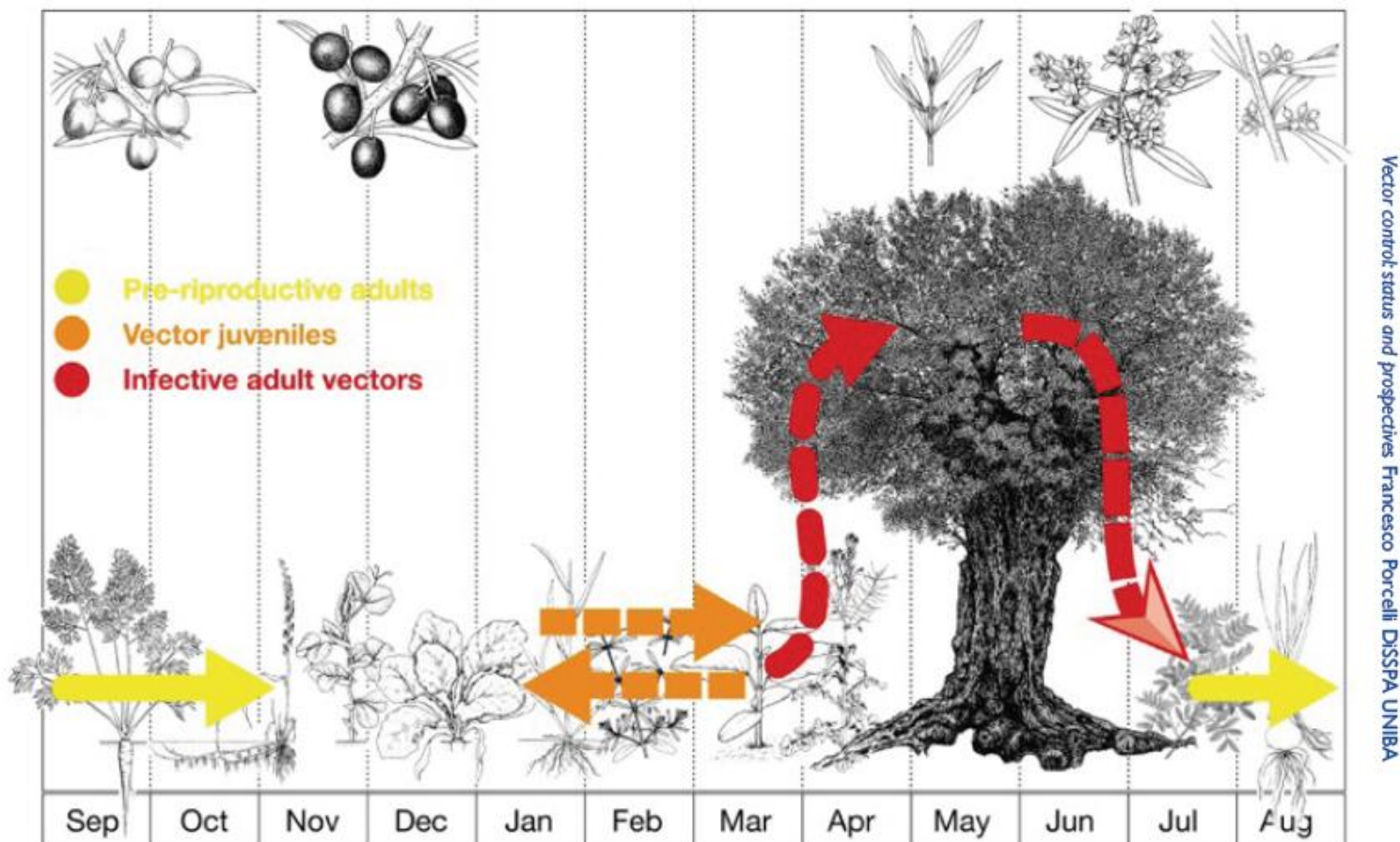


Risk factors

- ▶ Plant species able to host multiple *X. fastidiosa* subspecies, have a higher probability to be found infected
- ▶ Spread capacity of *X. fastidiosa*
- ▶ Biology of the vectors
- ▶ Climatic conditions
- ▶ Risk activities (production and handling of plants for planting and their transport, touristic routes such as vehicle and boat transportations).



Biology of the vector



National Guidelines on survey

- Official survey is focused both on symptomatic and asymptomatic plant material and inspections are carried out both in natural and urban areas, both public and private, as well as in production sites (nurseries, garden center, orchards and crops).
- Official survey includes also the collection and analysis of vector samples, as early detection outbreaks tool.
- Plant and vector samples are tested according to the specific methods indicated in the database of the Commission pursuant to Decision 2015/789.



Host plants



❑ Olive

Host plants



❑ *Nerium
oleander*



Host plants



❑ *Prunus dulcis*



❑ *Prunus avium*

Asymptomatic host plants



❑ *Vinca* spp.



Survey results

Italy (excluding demarcated areas)

Years	CULTIVATED AND NATURAL AREAS				PRODUCTION SITES			
	N° visual inspections	Results (n/p)	N° tests	Results (n/p)	N° visual inspections	Results (n/p)	N° tests	Results (n/p)
2014	1,690	n	695	n	847	n	488	n
2015	13,344	n	8,567	n	3,842	n	5,199	n
2016	10,117	n	7,944	n	2,868	n	4,833	n
2017	13,407	n	7,618	n	6,352	n	4,976	n
2018	15,102	p*	11,194	p*	5,332	n	22,157	n
2019 (January-June)	2,906	n	1,288	n	4,314	n	14,291	n

* finding in Monte Argentario (Tuscany)



Maintenance of Pest Free Areas

- Specific survey according to the *National Guidelines on survey* that we have been implementing since 2015
- Measures provided for in Article 9 of Decision 2015/789 for the movement within the Union of plants known to be susceptible to the European and non-European isolates of the pest ("specified plants")
- Traceability requirements for professional operators provided for in Article 10 of Decision 2015/789
- Official checks on movement of specified plants provided for in Article 11 of Decision 2015/789.



Impact on international trade

Within the IPPC context, the establishment of PFA can guarantee the safe supply of susceptible commodity from these Areas, towards Third countries requesting an official attestation of the absence of the pest. By virtue of this attestation restrictive measures must not be adopted.

However, despite our efforts, import restrictions on plants from Italian PFAs remain in effect from several Third countries....

The best international agreement is not worth much if its obligations cannot be enforced when one of the signatories fails to comply with such obligations. An effective mechanism to settle disputes thus increases the practical value of the commitments the signatories undertake in an international agreement.

