

CIXI

Pest survey cards of Non-EU Cicadomorpha species known as vectors of *Xylella fastidiosa*

A key aspect to improve pest surveillance is the ability to implement early detection campaigns that can allow the simultaneous survey of multiple target pests and pathogens. A key step to develop such an approach requires collating comprehensive information on the biology, ecology, and survey protocols for each target species, and then group them based on common characteristics. Against this background, pest survey cards are prepared at the request of the European Commission to assist member states to plan survey activities of quarantine organisms using statistically sound and risk-based pest survey approaches. The main objectives of the CiXi project are to fulfil the requests of the call by: i) preparing a vector detection database (which consists in an Excel spreadsheet including the biology, ecology, distribution and the detection/identification methodologies for the 49 species targeted by the call) and evaluating the best criteria to group the taxa by shared traits (e.g. by crop, vector life cycle, or detection methods); ii) preparing the pest survey cards for each group of taxa. Besides drafting a number of pest survey cards, the CiXi project will assist EFSA in developing novel survey approaches aimed at targeting the non-EU vectors of *Xylella fastidiosa*, a quarantine bacterium regulated in the EU as a harmful organism under Annex I A II of Council Directive 2000/29/EC. The latter aim will be reached by compiling accessible and user-friendly databases reporting key info on the target pests. In particular, we will gather information from both scientific literature and opinion of experts. Then, all the information collected will be carefully analysed to identify the best grouping criteria and information included in the database will be used to draft pest survey cards for each group of species.

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