



# The united voice of Farmers and their cooperatives at European Level

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**copa**\***cogeca**  
european farmers      european agri-cooperatives

# copa

european farmers



# cogeca

european agri-cooperatives

- Created in **1958**
- **23** million European farmers and family members
- **60** full members from the EU Member States and 36 partner organisations

- Created in **1959**
- **22,000** European agricultural cooperatives
- **35** full members from the EU Member States, 4 affiliated members and 36 partner organisations



In **1962**, a joint Secretariat was created, making it one of the largest and most active organisations in Brussels for the past **60** years.



## Mission

To ensure a viable, innovative, competitive EU agriculture and agri-food sector guaranteeing food security to half a billion people throughout Europe.



## Objective

Promoting European farmers and agri-cooperatives views to **influence** EU decision-making process and public opinion.

(This is a template for "Briefing notes on emerging issues" identified by a member of the StaCG-ER) Not for distribution

## BRIEFING note on emerging Issues<sup>1</sup>

Originated by Peeters Luc on 24 04 2015

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The scope of this briefing note is to present emerging issues identified by a member of StaCG-ER or EFSA to the Group. StaCG-ER is requested to (i) evaluate the relevance of the issue presented and (ii) facilitate the exchange of any relevant information. The information provided in this briefing note is not comprehensive and is intended as a quick summary and a point of departure.

### **Xylella fastidiosa in EU (ID0339)**

#### **KEYWORDS:**

Xylella fastidiosa | Xylella | plant pathogen | bacterium | microbiological hazard | plant | olive | citrus | grapevine

#### **DESCRIPTION OF THE ISSUE**

Xylella fastidiosa is a bacterium which can affect more than 300 species of plants including olives, citrus, and grapevine. Vector of transmission: numerous species of Cicadellidae and Cercopidae. X. fastidiosa is also spread via transport of affected plants or parts of plants. Possible natural spread of the vector by wind and transport.

EFSA has been requested by the EC to perform a X. fastidiosa pest risk assessment as urgent technical assistance in the field of plant health as regards the list of host plants of X. fastidiosa with the following "Terms of reference":





## General considerations

- \* the *Xylella* emergency involved the EU society in a variety of aspects, making the agricultural component not the only one deeply affected by this situation: the outbreaks are impacting the local societal networks, political decisions, environmental and historical compartments, cultural identities.. Etc
- \*Therefore combined actions are required
- \*Maybe some farmers/endusers have been involved in the main *Xylella* projects presented in these days, although we could not figure it out



## What are the key achievements of the research?

- \* the richness and diversity of scientific expertise involved in the *Xylella* issue increased in a very short time
- \* Most of the presented results were understandable even from an outsider
- \* Impossible to eradicate but possible to confuse/restrict its growth (Steven Lindow)
- \* Resistance is not impossible (Pasquale Saldarelli)
- \* Many achievements and new methodologies were shown: not clear yet if and how many of them are generically suitable for *Xylella* spp.



## What are the next research priorities?

- \* it is crucial to be able to transfer the acquired knowledge to the other compartments of society, farmers in the first place
- \* Integration of all the technologies and acquired knowledge and experience
- \* « *How research can support solutions* »: from now on, we should move from a passive (support) to an active role by proposing and promoting practical solutions
- \* Multi-actor approach is, from now on, needed, even from the conceptual phase of next generation of research projects dedicated to *Xylella*
- \* the empiric experience, from the real world, should be taken onboard



## Concluding remarks

### Thank you

- for the important achievements presented in this conference,
- for the opportunity given to farmers to raise their voice

\*Till now: *Xylella* was the tool for researchers to improve expertise and skills

\* From now on: the achieved expertise should become the tool to fight *Xylella* in the field

**End users, e.g. farmers, are ready to contribute!**





Thank you for your attention!

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European farmers

European agri-cooperatives



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