EUROPEAN AND MEDITERRANEAN PLANT PROTECTION ORGANIZATION
(anglais seulement)

01/8767
WPPR Point 13.1.3

Report of a Pest Risk Assessment

The Panel on Phytosanitary Measures requested the Secretariat, on the basis of a data sheet and a PRA prepared by Dr A. McLeod (CSL, UK), to write on its own responsibility a report of a pest risk assessment for the Working Party. This report supports the conclusions of the Panel.

This report presents the main features of a pest risk assessment which has been conducted on the pest, according to EPPO Standard PP 5/3(1) Pest Risk Assessment Scheme.

Pest:	*Limonius californicus*
PRA area:	EPPO region
Date:	-
1. INITIATION	
1.1: Reason for doing PRA	Initially, UK commodity risk assessment of seed potatoes from the eastern seaboards of Canada. Later, for EPPO, study of potential quarantine pests of potato
1.2. Taxonomic position of pest	*Limonius californicus* Mannerheim Insecta: Coleoptera: Elateridae
2. PROBABILITY OF INTRODUCTION	
2.1 Entry	
2.1.1 Geographical distribution	Absent from the PRA area. North America: Canada (Alberta, British Columbia, Manitoba, Saskatchewan), USA (California, Idaho, Oregon, Washington).
2.1.2 Major host plants**:**	Polyphagous. Major host plants: potato, sugarbeet, cereals.
2.1.3 Which pathway(s) is the pest likely to be introduced on :	Seed or ware potatoes (containing larvae). Infested soil (eggs or larvae).
2.2 Establishment	
2.2.1 Crops at risk in the PRA area :	see 2.1.2
2.2.2 Climatic similarity of present distribution with PRA area (or parts thereof) :	There are similar ecoclimatic zones in the area of origin and EPPO region (mix of temperate climate [humid with cool summers) and continental (warm with dry summer])
2.2.3 Aspects of the pest's biology that would affect establishment :	Larvae bore inside tubers and could remain undetected. Eggs difficult to detect (although would probably dessicate)
2.2.4 Characteristics (other than climatic) of the PRA area that would affect establishment:	Host plants throughout the PRA area. Wireworms are difficult to eradicate. Natural enemies unlikely to prevent spread. Low populations difficult to detect. Important in irrigated crops. But has shown no tendency to spread
2.2.5 Which part of the PRA area is the endangered area	Western and central parts of EPPO region.

3. ECONOMIC IMPACT ASSESMENT

3.1 Describe damage potential hosts in PRA area :	Holes in potato tubers Other hosts: poor germination, root damage.
3.2 How much economic impact does the pest have in its present distribution :	One of 6 economically important spp. of *Limonius*. Important in irrigated crops. Minor pest of sugarbeet. Reduction of quantitative and qualitative yield.
3.3 How much economic impact would the pest have in the PRA area :	Would add to damage of wireworms already occurring in the EPPO region, but would possibly be controlled by measures already taken. Possibly, need to resow. Reduction of qualitative and quantitative yield.

4. CONCLUSION OF PRA

4.1 Summarize the major factors that make the risk from this pest unacceptable :	Polyphagous pest with widely distributed host plants. Occurs in areas with climate close to that of EPPO region. Pest of crops which are widely grown in the PRA area and economically and socially important. Additional wireworm problem
4.2 Give an estimate of the probability of entry :	Medium (mostly larvae in potatoes)
4.3 Give an estimate of probability of establishment :	Medium (larvae in seed potatoes)
4.4 Give an estimate of potential economic impact :	Medium (yield losses and quality reduction). Would add to other wireworm problems in the PRA area.
4.5 Level of uncertainty	This pest is one of the wireworm species in North America. It has not spread but the main pathway (potatoes) has so far been closed
5. GENERAL CONCLUSIONS OF THE SECRETARIAT BASED ON THE DISCUSSION AT THE PANEL ON PHYTOSANITARY MEASURES	This pest could have some impact on important crops in the EPPO region. Although entry and establishment are somewhat uncertain, this pest would add to the existing wireworm problem in the EPPO region. The addition of *L. californicus* to the A1 List is therefore recommended.

Additional note: this pest, like other soil-inhabiting pests, justifies the need for adequate freedom from soil in imported consignments of ware and seed potatoes.