



2 May 2017

Dr. Yunus Bayrum
Deputy Director General
General Directorate of Food and Control
Ministry of Food Agriculture and Livestock
TURKEY

Dear Dr. Bayrum,

Re: Declaration of Turkey on *Xylella fastidiosa*

The New Zealand Ministry for Primary Industries (MPI), responds with thanks to the Republic of Turkey for providing the Declaration of Turkey on *Xylella fastidiosa*, 6 October 2016, from the Ministry of Food, Agriculture and Livestock, Turkey, as described in the in the letters:

- 2017/72824569-DTO DT/11991360, Permanent Mission of the Republic of Turkey to the World Trade Organisation, 15 February 2017
- 2017/92347553-Wellington BE/12039748, Embassy of the Republic of Turkey, 28 February 2017

MPI has assessed *Xylella fastidiosa* as posing a significant threat to New Zealand's horticultural, arable, and forestry sectors, as well as native species, should it enter and establish in New Zealand.

MPI has considered carefully the situation in Turkey, and the rest of Europe. We have information that confirms the presence of at least three *Xylella fastidiosa* subspecies in Europe with the infected plants likely being present in Europe for many years. This suggests that *Xylella fastidiosa* could be distributed much more widely in Europe than currently recognised. The continuing spread of *Xylella fastidiosa* through Europe continues to cause significant concern to New Zealand. With recent reports of interceptions in Italy, France, Germany, Switzerland, and Spain, MPI have put provisional measures in place to try to get ahead of the developing situation, by requiring all host plants to have been grown in and exported from a "pest free area" or "pest free place of production".

MPI appreciates and acknowledges your advice that *Xylella fastidiosa* is not present in Turkey. At present, we are still in the process of considering ongoing, permanent, measures to manage the risk of *Xylella fastidiosa* on imported nursery stock. In the meantime, to comply with the provisional measures, MPI requires that phytosanitary certificates for nursery stock hosts from Turkey are endorsed with the additional declarations:

For whole plants, cuttings, and dormant bulbs:

"The plants in this consignment have only been grown in, and exported from, a "Pest free area" [Turkey], which is free from *Xylella fastidiosa*".

For plants in tissue culture (requirements will apply to phytosanitary certificates issued from 1 June 2017):

"The tissue cultures/plants in-vitro in this consignment, and the plants they were derived from, have only been grown in a "Pest free area" [insert area name] or "Pest free place of production" [insert place name], which is free from *Xylella fastidiosa*".

Please do not hesitate to contact me directly or through New Zealand's Mission to the European Union, should you require further information or guidance on this matter.

Yours sincerely



Peter Thomson
Director, Plant, Food & Environment

Cc: Rachelle Linwood
Director, Market Access

Katherine Clift
Counsellor, New Zealand Mission to the European Union