Council of the European Union

Brussels, 23 October 2026
(OR. en)

14676/1/26
REV 1

AGRI 767
PHYTOSAN 89

NOTE

From:	General Secretariat of the Council
To:	Delegations
Subject:	AOB item for the meeting of the "Agriculture and Fisheries" Council of 26 and 27 October 2026: Presence of the bacterium Xylella fastidiosa in the Luxembourg Moselle wine-growing region *- Information from Luxembourg, supported by Belgium, Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, Czechia, France, Hungary, Malta, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Slovakia and Slovenia*

The presence of the bacterium Xylella fastidiosa has been confirmed at three sites in the vineyards of the Luxembourg Moselle wine-growing region in the municipalities of Mertert and Grevenmacher as part of the 2026 official survey carried out in accordance with Article 2 of Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) 2020/1201 of 14 August 2020 as regards measures to prevent the introduction into and the spread within the Union of *Xylella fastidiosa* (Wells *et al.*). The presence of Xylella fastidiosa subsp. fastidiosa within the territory of Luxembourg was officially confirmed on 12 October 2026 and communicated through EUROPHYT. This is the first detection of the pest in Luxembourg.

Measures to prevent the spread

In accordance with Implementing Regulation (EU) 2020/1201, the competent authorities in Luxembourg have designated 3 infected zones with a radius of 50 meters around each positive sampling site, as well as a buffer zone extending 2.5 kilometers around each infected zone. Within the infected zones, which cover a total area of 2.35 hectares, all vines and other potential host plants affected by these measures will be grubbed up and destroyed.

Measures to control insect vectors are implemented in the affected areas, and the movement of host plants which are intended for planting will be prohibited or strictly regulated. Intensive sampling in the buffer zones is performed according to Art. 10 of Implementing Regulation (EU) 2020/1201. These measures aim to detect any new infections quickly and to protect the rest of the vineyard and avoid the spreading of the bacterium. The buffer zone stretches into German territory. There is close cooperation between the relevant competent authorities.

Impact of transboundary diseases on EU agriculture

Whilst the Common Agricultural Policy contributes to agricultural production and the stability of farmers' incomes, recent disruptions have highlighted the need to strengthen the resilience of the entire agri-food system, including the fight against emerging risks arising from cross-border animal (TAD) and plant diseases and pests (TPPD). TADs and TPPDs are spreading faster, further, and with greater impact on economies and livelihoods than ever before.

Animal and plant health is a crucial issue for the European agriculture, the resilience of our food system and our food security. European funding must provide sufficient resources to support the monitoring, prevention, and control of animal and phytosanitary diseases.

In this perspective, we would like to recall the Council conclusions on the Union co-financing of phytosanitary and veterinary programmes and emergency measures, approved by the Council (Agriculture and fisheries) at its 4037th meeting held on 24 June 2024. The Council invited the European Commission to reflect on a level and way of financing phytosanitary and veterinary programmes and emergency measures and called on the Commission to explore ways of improving the management of Union co-financed phytosanitary and veterinary programmes and emergency measures and reducing the administrative burden.