

GUIDELINE FOR MONITORING OF PESTS AND DISEASES IN SENTINEL NURSERIES

Short Term Scientific Mission (STSM), COST Action FP1401

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Host: Dr. Michelle Cleary, Southern Swedish Forest Research Centre, Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences, Malmö, Sweden

Period: from 2016-08-01 to 2016-09-10

Summary

'The health of green plants is of vital importance to everyone' (Lucas, 1998).

The aim of the STSM was to standardize the current version of the guide for detection and identification of pests and diseases in sentinel plantings, based on damage or disease symptoms. The final guide will be an aid for detecting and monitoring pests and diseases in sentinel nurseries, botanical gardens or arboreta and will include parts dealing with symptoms caused by abiotic, invertebrate and microbial agents. The work of the applicant was focused on prioritising tree pests and diseases found in sentinel nurseries.

The first version of the guide was reformatted according to the common decisions made during the stay in Sweden. The phytopathological part of manual was transformed into a standardized format for diseases of broadleaves and conifers trees and was extended in length. Index Fungorum and MycoBank databases were used for checking Latin names of fungi. The applicant used many other fungi and disease internet resources and relied on various sources from literature (American, Canadian, etc.) for checking and correcting damage types, hosts and causal agents.

During the STSM in Sweden, a common structure for whole document and the phytopathological and entomological parts were reformatted and extended accordingly. The structure of phythopathological part of the guide as well as the whole document will be presented in Novi Sad in October in 2016.

This STSM was a great and refreshing experience for the applicant in researching information about potential new alien tree pests and diseases in sentinel nurseries for risk analysis. Also, the time allowed for renewal of professional training in forest pathological agents and efficient time collaborating amongst researchers with different expertise and PRA experts.