Nederlandse Voedsel- en Warenautoriteit
Ministerie van Landbouw, Natuur en Voedselkwaliteit

Reduced checks of plants and plant products at import: a risk-based and data driven system

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Overview

- Legal basis, conditions and criteria
- Setting frequency rates
- Review of frequency rates
- Data-assessment methodology: examples
- Conclusions and recap

Legal basis, conditions and criteria

- Previously: Regulation (EC) No 1756/2004
  - Methodology proven to be effective

- Since 7 december 2022: IMPLEMENTING REGULATION (EU) 2022/2389

  - The frequency rates for identity checks and physical checks should be established depending on the risk posed by each good or category of goods to plant health.

Legal basis, conditions and criteria

- The basic frequency rate for identity checks and for physical checks should be 100 %: highest possible level of phytosanitary protection

  - Always 100% for plants intended for planting and products subjected to measures

  - Lower level of frequency possible when acceptable according to the respective phytosanitary risk

Legal basis, conditions and criteria

Selection of consignments for physical checks

- Random selection
- Automatically generated by IMSOC

- The competent authorities may decide to select a different consignment (than selected by automated decision) however;
  - same category
  - the same origin

Setting reduced frequencies

- Based on criteria listed in annex II
- New combination of product (group) x country/area of origin:
  - 3 years minimal average number of consignments per year: 200
  - Minimum total number of consignments preceding 3 years: 600
  - Number of consignments with Union Q-organisms < 1%

Setting reduced frequencies

- Criteria for modifications of rates:
  - estimated mobility index (most mobile stage)
  - Number of inspected consignments checked previous year
  - Number of non-compliance due to presence of Q-organisms
    - Detailed information on these non-compliances
  - Number of other non-compliances
  - Any other factors relevant to determining the phytosanitary risk

- A request can be submitted by member states
  - Providing information as set in annex III

Review of frequency rates

- Frequency rates are reviewed, at least on a yearly basis
  - Reviewing information from IMSOC and provided by Member states
  - Assessing whether the set frequency rates (annex I) have to be modified

Some products x origin with lower frequencies

Cut flowers

Ethiopia (1%)

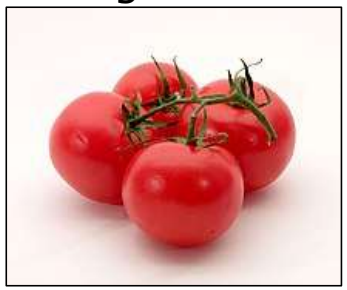
Ecuador (15%)

Fruits

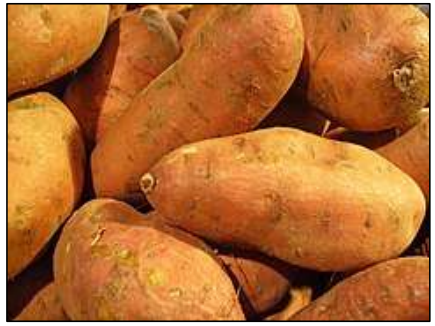
All 3th countries (10%)

Mexico (25%)

Vegetables



Morocco (1%)



All 3th countries (5%)

Data-assessment to support setting frequency rates Example 1

- Description: Vitis fruits
- Origin country: Non-EU

- Import data (number of consignments):
  - 2020: 28730
  - 2021: 28845
  - 2022: 29765
  - Average/year: 29113 (>200: yes)

Example 1

- Number of inspections (per year)
  - 2020: 5746
  - 2021: 5769
  - 2022: 5953

- Risk index:
  - # * risk weighted score:
  - 6+2+0.7=8.7

Year	2020	2021	2022		Total	
Number of interceptions	2	5	4		11	
QP Pest mobility						
High	0	0	0		0	Score = 9
Medium	1	0	1		2	Score = 3
Low	0	1	1		2	Score = 1
e.g. Document infringements & non listed harmful organisms	1	4	2		7	Score = 0.1

Example 1

- Conclusions for recommendation of rate
  - ! Number of consignments with Q-organisms must always be <1%
  - The risk index is given weight for number of inspections
    - In this example the risk index (8.7): minimum of 5%
    - In case of more inspections and same risk index: minimum of 1%
    - In case of few inspections: 10%
  - In the conclusion/recommendation also other information is considered
  - If the frequency was 20% -> recommend to reduce to 5-10%

Example 2

- Description: *Solanum melongena* fruits
- Origin country: Kenya

- Import data (number of consignments):
  - 2020: 345
  - 2021: 234
  - 2022: 450
  - Average/year: 289 (>200: yes)

Example 2

- Number of inspections (per year)
  - 2020: 345
  - 2021: 234
  - 2022: 450

- Risk index:
  - # * risk weighted score:
  - 2+0.3=2.3

Year	2020	2021	2022		Total	
Number of interceptions	1	2	2		5	
QP Pest mobility						
High	0	0	0		0	Score = 9
Medium	0	0	0		0	Score = 3
Low	1	1	0		2	Score = 1
e.g. Document infringements & non listed harmful organisms	0	1	2		3	Score = 0.1

Example 2

- Conclusions for recommendation of rate
  - The risk index is given weight for number of inspections
    - In this example the risk index (2.3): minimum of 5%
    - ! Number of inspections always minimum 200 per year
    - With current number of consignments = 100%
  - In the conclusion/recommendation also other information is considered
    - Furthermore: Implementing decision 2018/638: emergency measures against *Spodoptera frugiperda*. Lower than 100% not possible
  - Recommend to remain 100%

Conclusions and recap

- The risk assessment is data-driven but link with field-work
  - The data represents the inspection effort of preceding years:
    - Importance of effective inspection methodologies
- Only certain product groups are eligible for reduced rates
  - Not plants intended for planting / or products subjected to specific measures
- Risk assessment is based on multiyear inspection results
  - Risk is weighted by type of interceptions (mobility Q-organism)
  - More inspections = more data = more certainty
  - Based on yearly review: increase, decrease or maintain rates

Thank you for your attention

Questions?