

# How the EURL Bacteriology supports international phytosanitary policy makers on issues related to plant quarantine bacteria diagnostics

Robert Vreeburg

24-04-2026

EPPO Conference on Diagnostics of Plant Pests



**Co-funded by  
the European Union**

# EURL-Bacteriology

- Consortium of 4 partners:



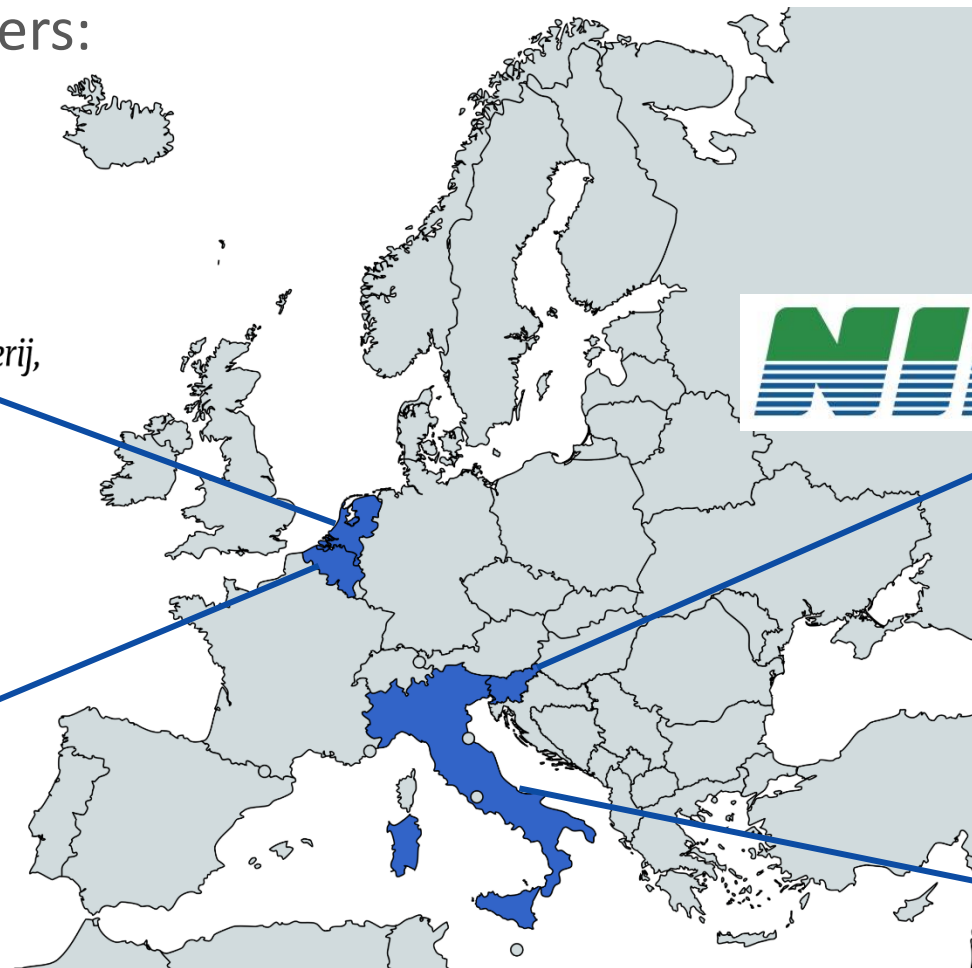
Nederlandse Voedsel- en  
Warenautoriteit  
*Ministerie van Landbouw, Visserij,  
Voedselzekerheid en Natuur*

**NVWA-NIVIP**  
The Netherlands

**ILVO**

Instituut voor Landbouw-,  
Visserij- en Voedingsonderzoek

**ILVO**  
Belgium



NACIONALNI INŠTITUT ZA BIOLOGIJO  
NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF BIOLOGY

**NIB**  
Slovenia



**CREA-DC**  
Italy

## Supporting policy makers – EU regulations

- European Commission has regulations on 3 EU-quarantine bacteria:

**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.*)**

(OJ L 269, 17.8.2020, p. 2)

- *Xylella fastidiosa*

**COMMISSION IMPLEMENTING REGULATION (EU) 2022/1193**

**of 11 July 2022**

**establishing measures to eradicate and prevent the spread of *Ralstonia solanacearum* (Smith 1896) Yabuuchi *et al.* 1996 emend. Safni *et al.* 2014**

- *Ralstonia solanacearum*

**COMMISSION IMPLEMENTING REGULATION (EU) 2022/1194**

**of 11 July 2022**

**establishing measures to eradicate and prevent the spread of *Clavibacter sepedonicus* (Spieckermann & Kotthoff 1914) Nouioui *et al.* 2018**

- *Clavibacter sepedonicus*

## Supporting policy makers – EU regulations

- *Xylella fastidiosa*, regulation 2020/1201, Annex IV
- Original from August 2020

### **B. Molecular tests for the identification of the subspecies of *Xylella fastidiosa***

1. Multi Locus Sequence Typing (MLST) based on Yuan et al., 2010 determining all subspecies;
2. PCR based on Hernandez-Martinez et al., 2006 determining the subspecies *fastidiosa*, *multiplex* and *sandyi*;
3. PCR based on Pooler & Hartung 1995 determining the subspecies *pauca*.

# Supporting policy makers – EU regulations

- *Xylella fastidiosa*, regulation 2020/1201, Annex IV
- Original from August 2020

## **B. Molecular tests for the identification of the subspecies of *Xylella fastidiosa***

1. Multi Locus Sequence Typing (MLST) based on Yuan et al., 2010 determining all subspecies;
2. PCR based on Hernandez-Martinez et al., 2006 determining the subspecies *fastidiosa*, *multiplex* and *sandyi*;
3. PCR based on Pooler & Hartung 1995 determining the subspecies *pauca*.

- Since 17-10-2024

## **B. Molecular tests for the identification of the subspecies of *Xylella fastidiosa***

1. Multi Locus Sequence Typing (MLST) based on Yuan et al., 2010 determining all subspecies ( <sup>11</sup> );
2. PCR based on Hernandez-Martinez et al., 2006 determining the subspecies *fastidiosa*, *multiplex* and *sandyi* ( <sup>12</sup> );
3. PCR based on Pooler & Hartung 1995 determining the subspecies *pauca* ( <sup>13</sup> );
- ▼ M5 ●
4. Real time PCR based on Dupas et al. 2019, determining all subspecies ( <sup>14</sup> );
5. Real time PCR based on Hodgetts et al. 2021, determining all subspecies ( <sup>15</sup> ).

2 real-time PCR  
assays added

## Supporting policy makers – EU regulations


- Similar changes in 2022-version of *Ralstonia solanacearum* regulation was drafted.

### *R. solanacearum* detection tests

2006/63 (EC)	(EU) 2022/1193
Stem streaming test	X
Detection of poly- $\beta$ -hydroxybutyrate granules	X
Serological agglutination test	X
Selective isolation	Selective isolation
Immunofluorescence (IF)	Immunofluorescence (IF)
Conventional PCR (4x)	Conventional PCR (1x)
Fluorescent in-situ hybridization test	X
ELISA	X
Bioassay test	X
	Real-time PCR (4x)
	LAMP (1x)

# Supporting policy makers – EU regulations

- Give advice on the use of tests
- Give comments to draft texts
- Collect or generate performance data of tests



**Supporting policy makers – EU regulations**

- *Xylella fastidiosa*, regulation 2020/1201, Annex IV
- Original from August 2020

**B. Molecular tests for the identification of the subspecies of *Xylella fastidiosa***

1. Multi Locus Sequence Typing (MLST) based on Yuan et al., 2010 determining all subspecies;
2. PCR based on Hernandez-Martinez et al., 2006 determining the subspecies *fastidiosa*, *multiplex* and *sandyi*;
3. PCR based on Pooler & Hartung 1995 determining the subspecies *pauca*.

- Since 17-10-2024

**B. Molecular tests for the identification of the subspecies of *Xylella fastidiosa***

1. Multi Locus Sequence Typing (MLST) based on Yuan et al., 2010 determining all subspecies <sup>(11)</sup>;
2. PCR based on Hernandez-Martinez et al., 2006 determining the subspecies *fastidiosa*, *multiplex* and *sandyi* <sup>(12)</sup>;
3. PCR based on Pooler & Hartung 1995 determining the subspecies *pauca* <sup>(13)</sup>;
- ▼MS ●
4. Real time PCR based on Dupas et al. 2019, determining all subspecies <sup>(14)</sup>;
5. Real time PCR based on Hodgetts et al. 2021, determining all subspecies <sup>(15)</sup>.

2 real-time PCR assays added

Report on TPS EURL\_BAC\_TPS\_2023\_01\_Xf:  
Molecular detection and subspecies  
determination of *Xylella fastidiosa* by real-time  
PCR (Dupas *et al.*, 2019, Hodgetts *et al.*, 2021)



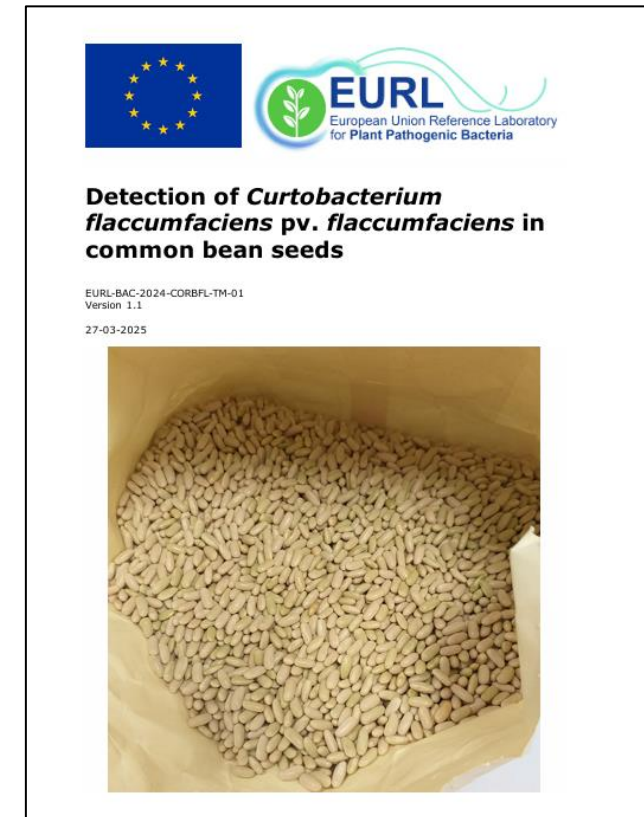
**EPPO database  
on Diagnostic Expertise**

[HOME](#)   [Laboratory List](#)   [Expertise List](#)   [Technical Auditors/Experts list](#)   [Validation data](#)   [PT offers](#)   [Connect to my Lab](#)

LIST OF **VALIDATION DATA**

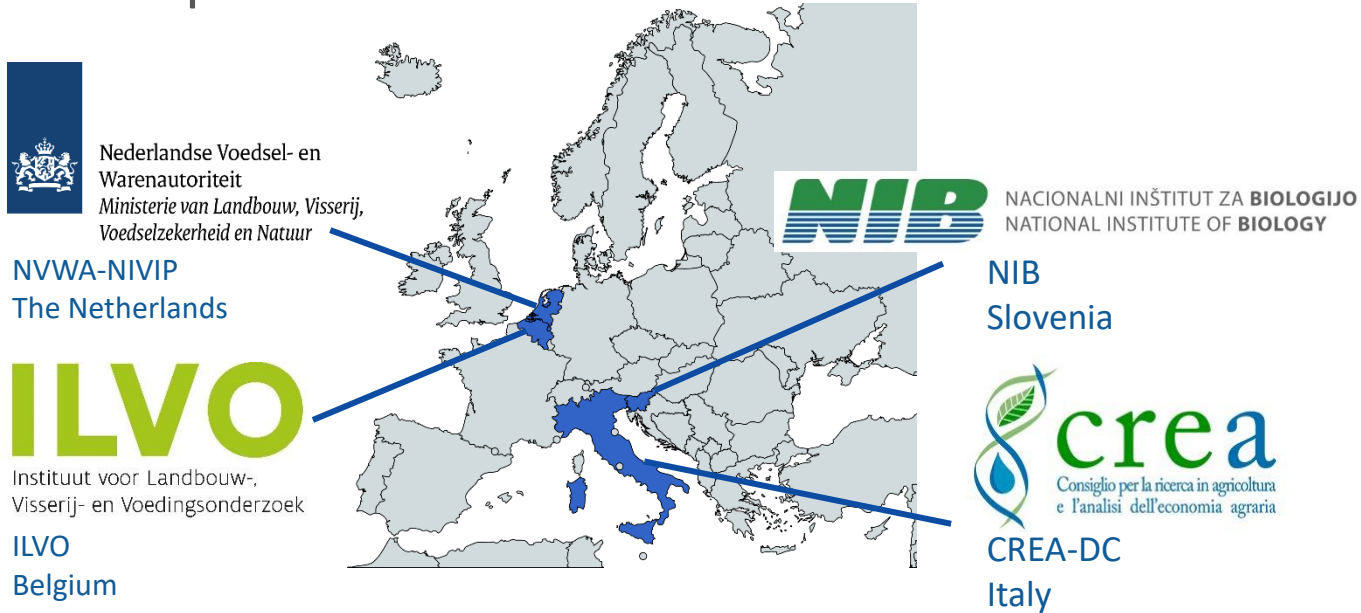
## Supporting policy makers – EURL protocols

- Findings of *Curtobacterium flaccumfaciens* pv. *flaccumfaciens* in bean plants
  - 2021
  - 2024
- Findings of *C. flaccumfaciens* pv. *flaccumfaciens* in imported bean seeds
- Importmonitoring for *C. flaccumfaciens* pv. *flaccumfaciens* in bean seeds?
  - Need for good test for screening seed batches
  - EPPO standard PM7/102(1) from 2011
  - New real-time PCR assays available
- Publication of (validated) EURL-protocol



# Acknowledgements

- EURL-Bacteriology partners
- TPS/PT participants
- European Union



Co-funded by  
the European Union

Questions

