Webinar for the EPPO Codes Users

2025-12-08

6th Webinar

- **Overview on EPPO Codes -** Muriel Suffert

- **Presentation of online tools available in EPPO Global Database -** Sam Warner

- **Presentation of EPPO Data Portal and API -** Damien Griessinger

- Questions of Users

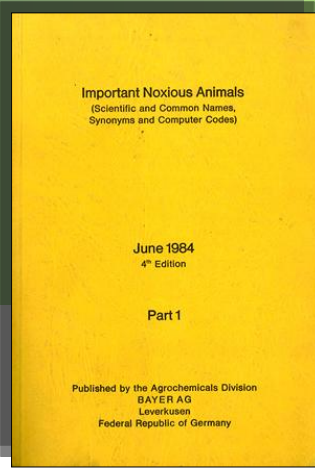# EPPO Codes:
a overview

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www.eppo.int

- What are EPPO Codes?

- General principles

- Content of the coding system (incl. non-taxonomic codes)

- How to ask for new Codes

- How to remain informed of changes

What are the EPPO Codes?
Brief history

- In the **1970s, BAYER** started to develop computer codes for plants, pests and pathogens important in agriculture, and compiled their scientific and common names

- **1996: BAYER transferred EPPO** the maintenance and development of the BAYER coding system

- **1990s-2000s**: EPPO included codes into a 'Plant Protection thesaurus' (**EPPT**: an interface facilitating access to codes and names), developed a hierarchical system to reflect **taxonomic links**, and created **codes for viruses**

- **2007**: it was agreed to rename BAYER codes **'EPPO Codes'**, EPPT was made freely accessible on the Internet

Important Noxious Animals
(Scientific and Common Names, Synonyms and Computer Codes)

June 1984
4ᵗʰ Edition

Part 1

Published by the Agrochemicals Division
BAYER AG
Leverkusen
Federal Republic of Germany

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What are the EPPO Codes?

- 5-6 letter computer codes: unique identifiers for plants and pests that are of interest in agriculture and plant protection

- Codes mainly cover taxa ('taxonomic codes') but also other entities such as crop groups ('non-taxonomic codes')

EPPO Codes: a few general principles

For cultivated and wild plant species (including weeds)

5 letters = 3 (genus) + 2 (species)

S O L   T U

Solanum tuberosum: SOLTU

An unspecified species of *Solanum*: SOL**SS**

Genus *Solanum*: **1**SOL**G**

Mnemonic element: whenever possible, codes are constructed on the basis of the current scientific name

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EPPO Codes: a few general principles

For pests and pathogens:

6 letters = 4 (genus) + 2 (species)

B E M I T A

The species *Bemisia tabaci*: BEMITA

An unspecified species of the genus *Bemisia*: BEMI**SP**

Genus *Bemisia*: **1**BEMI**G**

Special case of viruses:
codes are constructed with the acronyms
Tomato yellow leaf curl virus **(TYLCV) = TYLCV0**

EPPO Codes: a few general principles

1 biological entity = 1 unique code

Once a code is created it may not be deleted or used again for other purposes

Phyllosticta citricarpa (GUIGCI)

MENU
- ● Overview →
- ● Distribution
- ● Host plants
- ● Host commodities
- ● Categorization
- ● Reporting
- ● Photos
- ● Documents
- ● Datasheet
- ● EPPO links

Overview

Code created in: 2002-11-02

Basic information
- ● EPPO Code: GUIGCI
- ● Preferred name: Phyllosticta citricarpa
- ● Authority: (McAlpine) Aa

more photos...

Other scientific names

Name	Authority
Guignardia citricarpa	Kiely
Phoma citricarpa	McAlpine
Phyllosticta paracitricarpa	Guarnaccia & Crous
Phyllostictina citricarpa	(McAlpine) Petrák

Taxonomy
- ❯ Kingdom — Fungi (1FUNGK)
- ❯ Phylum — Ascomycota (1ASCOP)
- ❯ Subphylum — Pezizomycotina (1PEZIQ)
- ❯ Class — Dothideomycetes (1DOTHC)
- ❯ Order — Botryosphaeriales (1BOTSO)
- ❯ Family — Phyllostictaceae (1PHYCF)
- ❯ Genus — Phyllosticta (1PHYSG)
- ❯ Species — Phyllosticta citricarpa (GUIGCI)

Common names

Name ▲	Language ▲
Search...	- select - ▾
black spot of citrus	English
CBS	English
freckle spot of citrus	English

MENU
- ● Overview →
- ● BCA

Overview

Code created in: 1996-10-16

This code has been deactivated and replaced by HELIZE
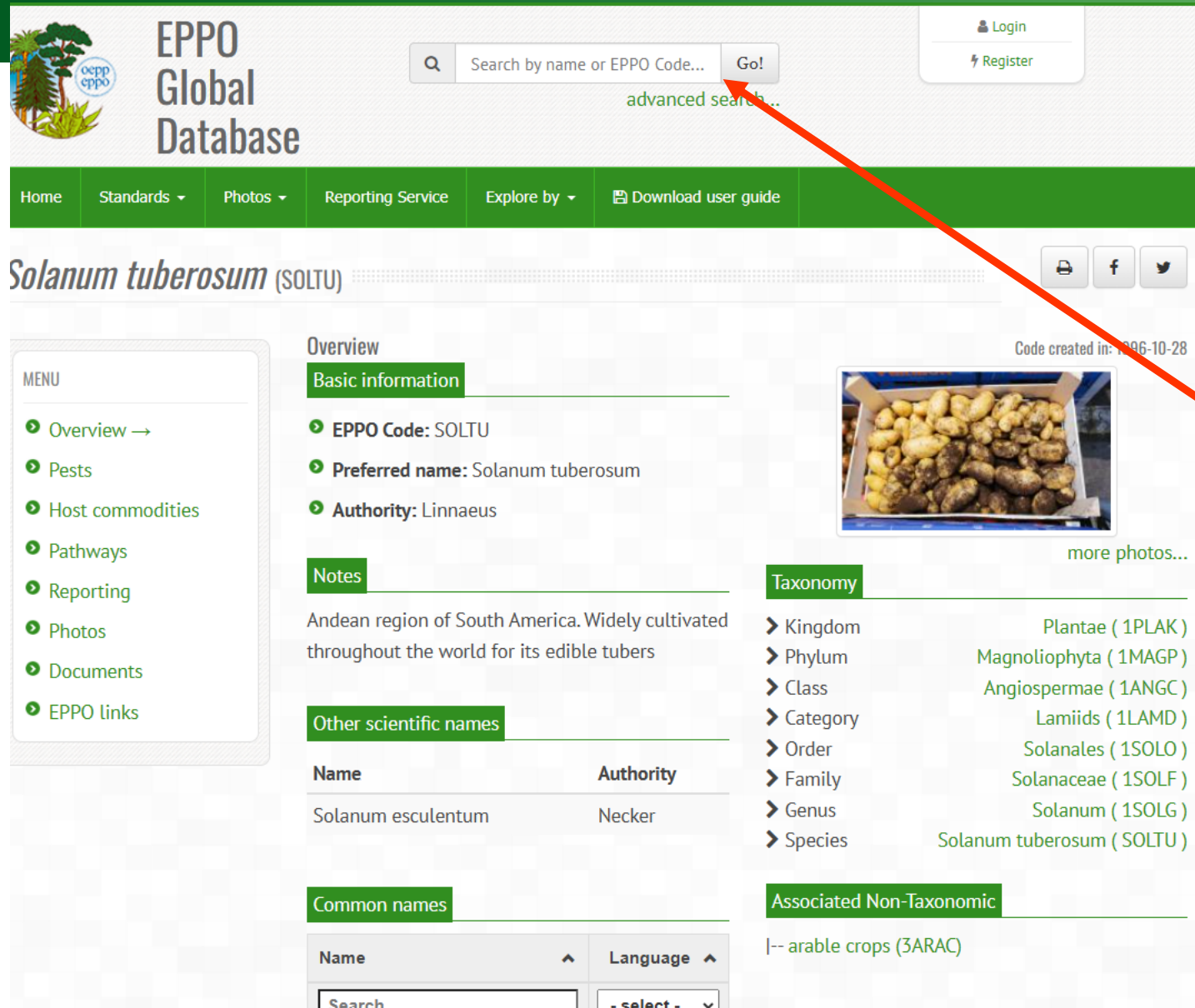
Basic information
- ● EPPO Code: HELIST
- ● Preferred name: Heliothis strombleri

Notes

Heliothis strombleri is now considered a synonym of Helicoverpa zea (HELIZE).

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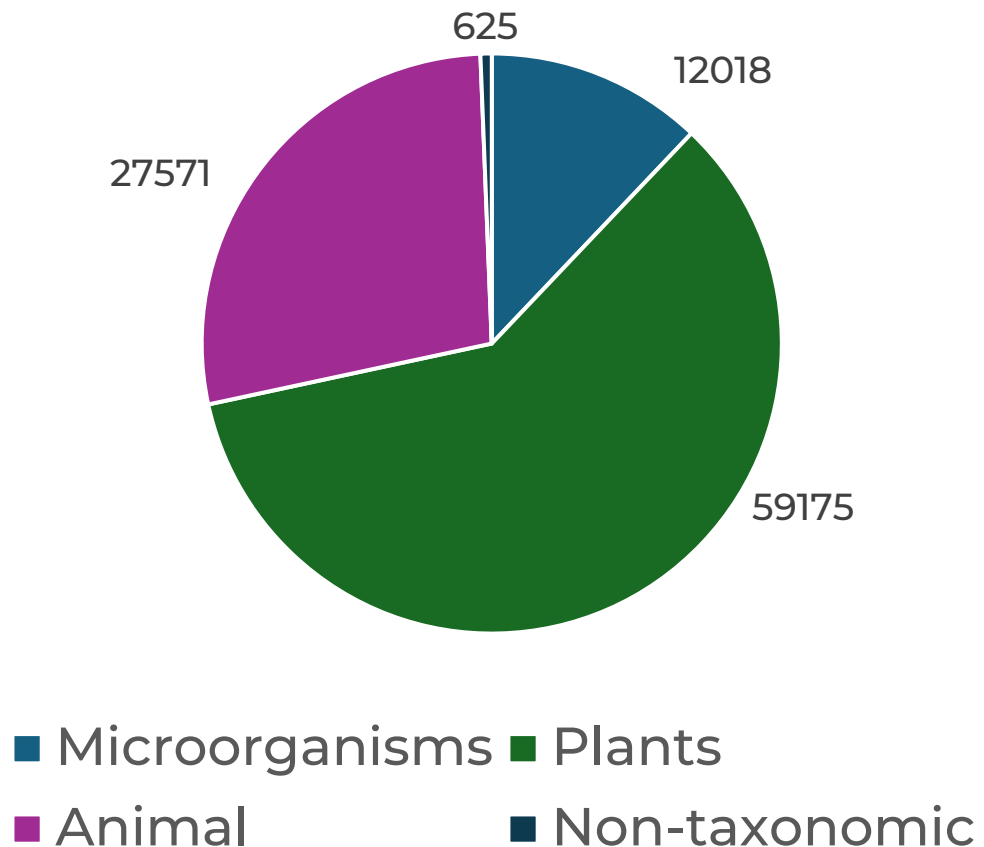# EPPO Global Database
Repository for all EPPO codes: https://gd.eppo.int

Simple and advanced search tools are available in the database

+

Webservices for batch queries

A few numbers (December 2025)

Pie chart values: 625, 12018, 27571, 59175

- Microorganisms
- Plants
- Animal
- Non-taxonomic

>98 700 species important for agriculture and plant protection (over 120 000 codes in total)

Number of new codes created per year

EU grant
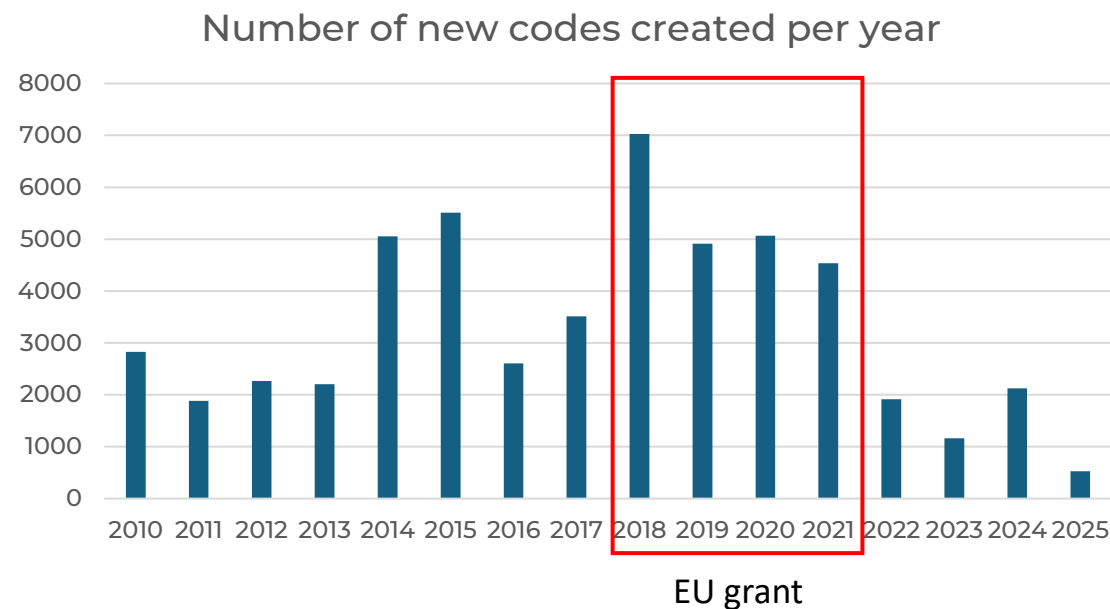
Contents of the coding system

For each plant/pest:

- EPPO code

- Preferred scientific name

- Synonyms (or other scientific names)

- Common names in different languages

- Elements of taxonomy

Simplified taxonomic tree

Kingdom	Animalia	1ANIMK
Phylum	Arthropoda	1ARTHP
Subphylum	Hexapoda	1HEXAQ
Class	Insecta	1INSEC
Order	Hemiptera	1HEMIO
Suborder	Sternorrhyncha	1STERR
Family	Aleyrodidae	1ALEYF
Genus	Bemisia	1BEMIG
Species	Bemisia tabaci	BEMITA
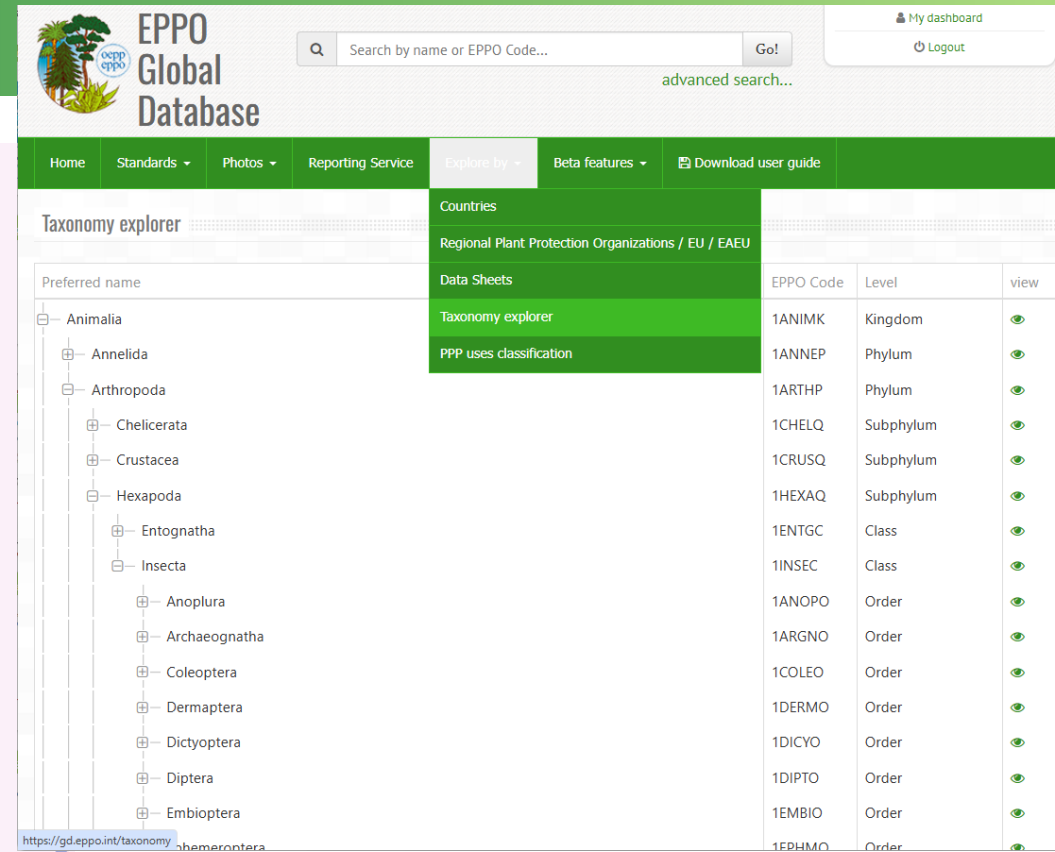
Harmonized coding
Parent / child relationships

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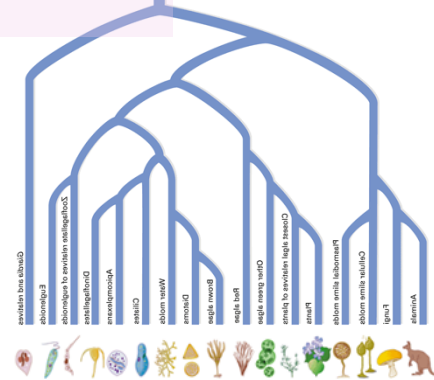
Non-taxonomic Codes for plant protection products (PPP)

- Non-taxonomic codes follow different rules – EPPO Standard [PP1/248](#)

- Developed by the EPPO Working Group on PPP data harmonization

- Harmonized definitions of the declared uses of PPP - facilitate communication among countries and mutual recognition of PPP authorizations

In GD, select **Explore by 'PPP uses classification'**
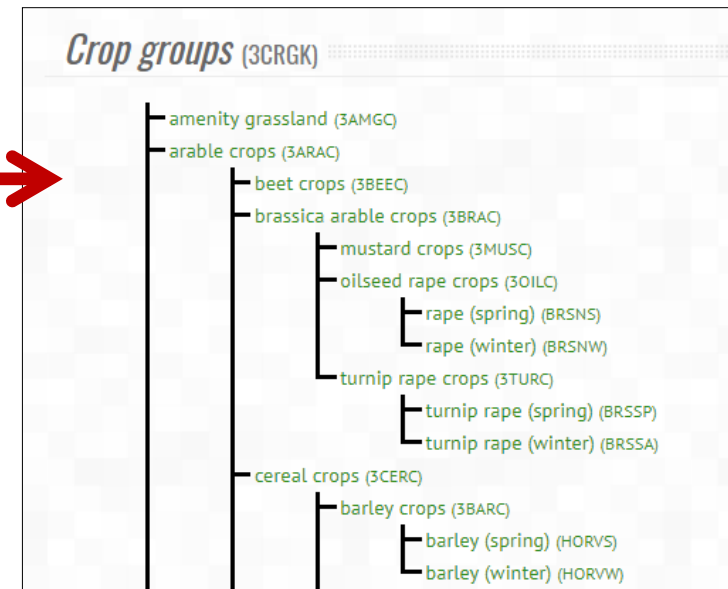
How to obtain core files?

- The whole set of EPPO codes and associated names is freely available under the terms of an open data licence
- Web services are available to facilitate downloading (and updating) of EPPO codes

Downloads – EPPO Data Portal

The open data licence, computer files (in different formats) and explanations are available from a dedicated platform:
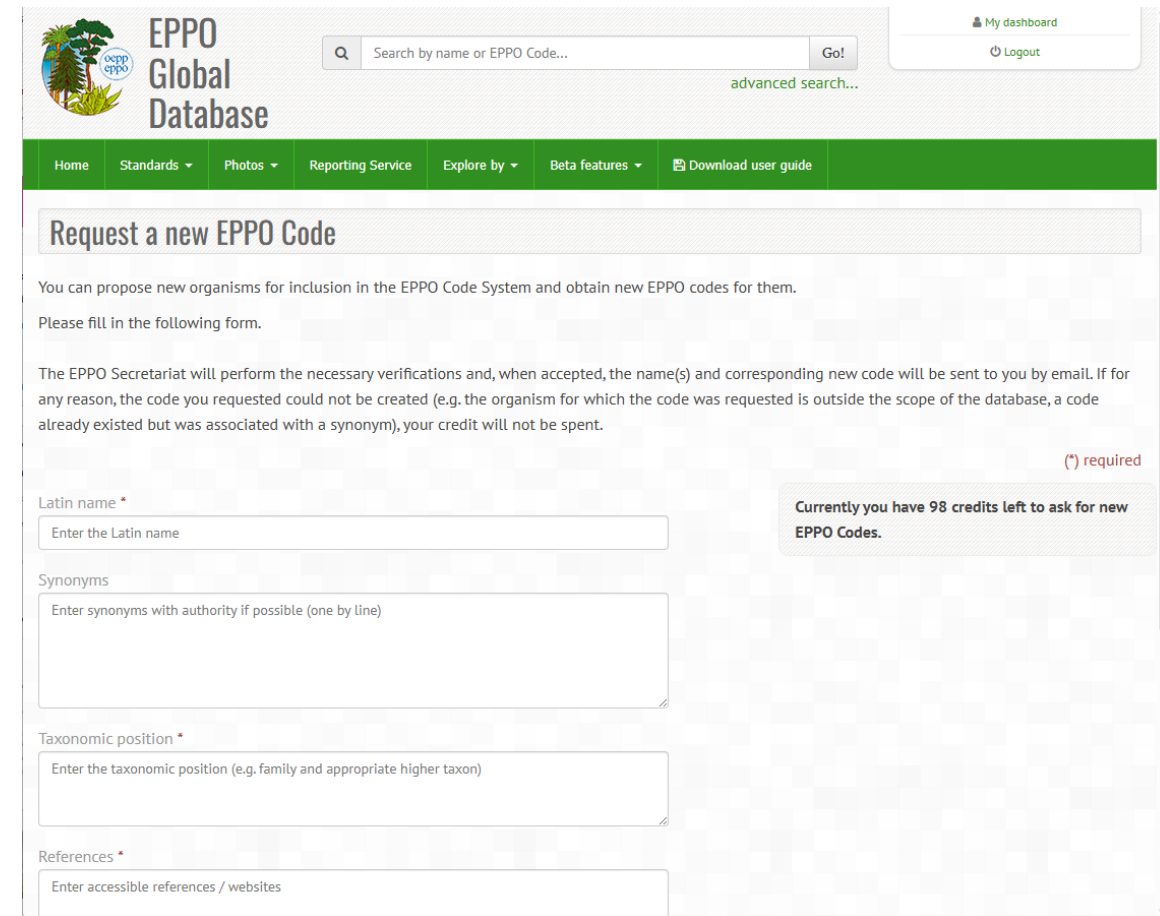**https://data.eppo.int**
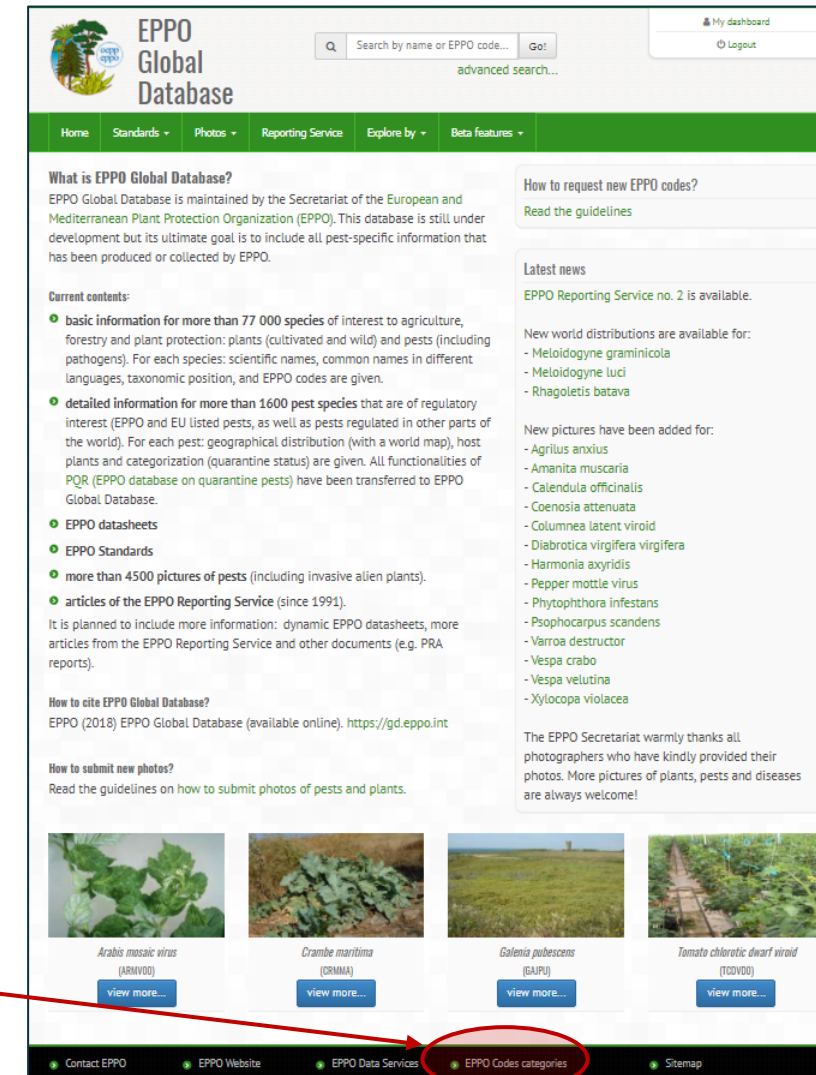
How to get NEW EPPO Codes created?

- Additional service subject to fees – Free for EPPO members (NPPOs)

- Forms available in **EPPO Global Database**

- Access guidelines at https://gd.eppo.int/media/files/new_codes_user-guide.pdf

How to stay informed?

Subscribe to the EPPO Codes Monthly Newsletter

- Create your free account in the EPPO Global Database

- In your dashboard, choose the EPPO Codes Newsletter

- >1600 registered users

Use EPPO Data Portal

Newsletters
- ☑ EPPO Standards ⓘ
- ☑ EPPO Reporting Service (English) ⓘ
- ☑ Service d'Information OEPP (français) ⓘ
- ☑ EPPO Codes ⓘ

Save

À: 'mailing_eppocodes@eppo.int'
Objet: EPPO Codes Monthly Newsletter: 2025-10

EPPO Codes Monthly Newsletter: 2025-10

This free newsletter is addressed to all EPPO Codes users. Its objective is to summarize the main modifications that have been made to the database during a monthly period (the month covered is indicated in the title) and provide users with an easy and transparent way of tracing major changes. The Newsletter contains a list of newly created codes and a list of deactivated codes with their replacement codes. These lists are automatically generated from the database. Other modifications concerning data that is related to already existing codes, such as changes in preferred scientific names, authors of scientific names, synonyms, common names are not shown to keep the Newsletter easy to read. However, these modifications can be traced in the core database files (e.g. for users who are downloading EPPO Codes files via the EPPO Data Services). More general information about the EPPO Codes can be found on the EPPO website.

A short webinar for EPPO Codes Users will be organized on December 8th. It will include a session to raise questions from users. We will send a specific message with a link in the coming days.

Summary

| New codes | 44 |
| Deactivated | 10 |

New codes

Microorganism

Code	Pref name
CIBRCO	Ciboria coryli
CILVPI	Cilevirus pistaciae
DIOKDI	Dioscovirus dioscoreae
HIGVPI	Higrevirus pistaciae
MERVJU	Mersevirus jujubae
NCUCSA	Neocucurbitaria salicis-albae
PAPVX0	Potexvirus ecscaricae

Conclusions

EPPO codes are widely used in information systems worldwide

They are useful to:

- Avoid typing errors during data entry and ensure consistency of data over time

- Provide an efficient way of dealing with taxonomic changes and different languages in databases

- Ensure consistent searches within databases

- Facilitate data exchange between databases

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bsky.app/profile/epponews.bsky.social

www.facebook.com/EPPOsecretariat/