

An International Plant Sentinel Network as an early-warning system; research on future pest threats (IPSN II)



Funding

Mixed funding mechanism: Non-competitive and virtual pot. Each funder only pays for the participation of their own national researchers, in certain cases after national selection. Total funding € 440 000 ca.

Research consortium

DEFRA (GB), BMLFUW (AT), FPS (BE), CISTA (CZ), BMEL (DE), CREA (IT), SASA (GB), APHIS (USA), UNITUS (IT), UdL (ES), PHA (AU), UCPH (DK), CABI (GB), BBB (NZ), SLU(SE), CABI (CH), SDU (TR)

Contact information

Project coordinator: Katherine O'Donnell
katherine.odonnell@bgci.org

Goals

The IPSN's overall goal is to act as an early warning system for new and emerging plant pests and diseases; providing information that can help mitigate the impacts of such organisms or prevent their introductions altogether.

In order to do this, the IPSN will utilise its already established network of botanic gardens, arboreta, plant protection scientists and National Plant Protection Organisations (NPPOs) as well as the tools and resources developed in the previous project.

Objectives

- Enhanced early detection of new and emerging pests and diseases; including known and unknown organisms.
- The project will support Pest Risk Analysis (PRAs) through research coordination and evidence gathering to address knowledge gaps to support PRA activities.
- The establishment of a self-sustainable network.

Key outputs and results

- Key training and standardised surveying materials aimed at supporting garden staff with the opportunity to explore utilisation by a wider range of stakeholders.
- European and international workshops in Euphresco partner countries and prioritised areas around the world.
- Best practice and general support for botanic gardens and arboreta wishing to run citizen science projects or education programmes.
- An electronic reporting system and front-facing database to track changes in plant health and gather information to enhance early detection and/or risk assessments.
- Maps illustrating the distribution of gardens, host species and pest species.
- Sentinel research projects for priority organisms and priority host species.