Unravelling the Little Cherry disease complex at European scale to improve transnational diagnostics and management of the disease (EURAVELCH)

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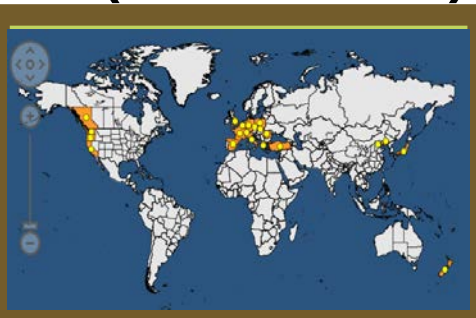

Funding

Mixed funding mechanism. Some funders pays for the participation of their own national researchers, for other funders an open call for proposal is published. Total funding € 154 000

Research consortium

ILVO (BE), AGES (AT), CRA-W (BE), ANSES (FR), JKI (DE), Naktuinbouw (NL), Agroscope (CH), CTFIL (FR)

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Goals and objectives

Little Cherry Viruses have the potential to cause substantial damage to cherry production. Mainly sweet cherry, but also sour cherry cultivars are identified as sensitive host plants.

The Euphresco project will specifically address the following questions which remain unresolved:

• Linking up with a transnational network of partners working on Little cherry disease: …..

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• Gaining information on the EU distribution to update distribution map of both viruses

• Networking and streamlining the research between the labs to maximize the outputs with a rational use of resources

• Reflecting on consequences for future EU quarantine legislation

• Getting a better insight in the pathogenesis of the host plants with little cherry disease symptoms by means of Next Generation Sequencing.

• Getting a broader view on the pathogenesis in sweet and sour cherries, and in ornamental *Prunus* spp. and giving insight on geographical or host differences in pathogen epidemiology.

• Evaluating agronomical impacts of both viruses (e.g. tree performance, fruit composition, crop yield)

• Gaining a better knowledge on the presence of viruses and other pathogens that might have an influence on the disease complex.

Key outputs and results

The project will deliver:

• updated distribution map,

• standardized diagnostics,

• knowledge to understanding genetic variability, epidemiology and spread of LChV.