Euphresco

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Establishing the basis for an International Plant Sentinel Network as an early-warning system for future pest threats (IPSN)

International Plant Sentinel Network

Funding
Non-competitive funding mechanism. Each funder only pays for the participation of their own national researchers. Total funding € 402,603

Research consortium
Fera-UK, JKI-DE, PPS-NL, DIBAF-IT (with subcontracts to: BGCI; CABI; and Forest Research (UK)

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Goals
The project is designed to enhance activities that provide early warning of new and emerging plant pests and diseases.

Objectives
The IPSN aims to:
• seek and share examples of best practice among botanic gardens and arboreta;
• develop standardised methodologies for monitoring and surveying of damaging plant pests and pathogens;
• provide training materials to increase capability among member gardens;
• facilitate access to diagnostic support;
• develop databases in order to share and store information; and
• communicate scientific evidence with NPPOs.

Key outputs and results
The project will seek best practice, develop standardised approaches and provide training materials, guidance on diagnostic approaches, databases and methodologies for monitoring and surveying of invasive alien plant pests and diseases. These materials will be housed on a website which will also provide a platform for interested parties to communicate concerns, problems, survey results and other relevant information regarding pest and pathogen identification and/or management techniques. The project will facilitate small scale research projects within botanic gardens and arboreta which provide information on specific pests and pathogens to aid Pest Risk Analysis activities