Assessment of *Dickeya* and *Pectobacterium* spp. on vegetables and ornamentals

Euphresco

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Funding

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Research consortium

WUR (NL), CFIA (CA), LUKE (FI), PETLA (FI), UoE (FI), AFBINI (GB), SASA (GB), NVWA (NL), FN3PT (FR), Volcani (IL), NIBIO (NO), UG (PL)

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Goals

Recently, there has been an emergence of new *Dickeya* and *Pectobacterium* problems relevant to a wide range of crop and ornamental plants world-wide, including many economically important crops, such as potato, cabbage, Zantedeschia, hyacinth, Dahlia, pepper, Chrysanthemum, Philodendron, Freesia, Saintpaulia, Iris, Aglaonema, Crocus, Campanula and Phaleonopsis. This includes:

- the emergence of new genetic clades
- the introduction and rapid spread of new (sub-) species initially emerged in non-European countries.

Given the range of current or emerging *Dickeya* and *Pectobacterium* problems, there is a need to optimize resources by ensuring that research is well-coordinated and is not duplicated nationally and internationally.

Key outputs and results

Diagnostic methods: Development and validation of detection and identification methods for *Pectobacterium* and *Dickeya* species in different matrices

Surveys: Assessment of the presence of different *Dickeya* and *Pectobacterium* species in vegetable and ornamental crops. Collected strains will be deeply characterized using molecular and phenotypic methods.

Risk assessment: Information on the ecology and plant pathogen interaction of new genetic clades of *Pectobacterium* and *Dickeya*. will be exchanged with the aim to assess the risks of introductions of new or the spread of existing species. Studies will include comparisons of the aggressiveness.

Management: Exchange of information on disease management strategies which includes cultivation practices, hygiene and the use of (bio-) control agents.