

Advice 19-2015 of the Scientific Committee of the FASFC on the evaluation of a draft royal decree modifying the royal decree of 22/06/2010 on the control of the potato cyst nematodes

The Scientific Committee has assessed a draft royal decree modifying the royal decree of 22/06/2010 on the control of the potato cyst nematodes.

This draft royal decree provides the extension of requirements foreseen in the royal decree of 22/06/2010 to nursery plants, including the implementation of an official control of the presence of potato cyst nematodes in fields where these nursery plants will be sowed, planted or stored. This extension is requested by the nursery sector wishing that its production meets the requirements of third countries in this field.

The Scientific Committee welcomes the changes made by this draft royal decree to the legislation in regard to the control of potato cyst nematodes. The Scientific Committee recommends to add a point to Article 2 to clarify the cases in which there is no risk of spread of these nematodes regarding nursery plants. In addition, the Scientific Committee recommends to add an article to remove the exception to the requirement of rotation for potatoes harvested before the 20th June, because these potatoes may already be infested by cyst nematodes on that date, or at least to change the terms by using the concept of degree-days sum to set the deadline for harvesting early potatoes.

The full text is available on this website in dutch and in french, respectively under the section "Wetenschappelijk Comité/Adviezen" and "Comité scientifique/Avis".