

BOOK REVIEW

SMITH I.M., McNAMARA D.G., SCOTT P.R., HOLDERNESS M. & BURGER B. (eds): QUARANTINE PESTS FOR EUROPE. 2nd ed. CAB International, Oxon & European and Mediterranean Plant Protection Organization, Paris, 1425 pp., ISBN 0-85199-154-8, GBP 125.00.

SMITH I.M. & ROY A.S. (eds): ILLUSTRATIONS OF QUARANTINE PESTS FOR EUROPE. European and Mediterranean Plant Protection Organization, Paris & CAB International, 1996, 241 pp., ISBN 0-85199-150-5, GBP 65.00.

The book contains detailed information on 125 species or genera of insects and mites, 10 nematodes, 74 fungi, 39 bacteria, and 53 viruses and viroids harmful or pathogenic to plants, together with one parasitic plant genus (*Arceuthobium*), but excluding weeds and vertebrate pests of plants, stored product pests, and organisms of medical and veterinary importance. The data sheet on each pest contains information on identity, i.e. typically scientific names (with authorship, but without date of description), synonyms, and common names (always English, but often in many European languages), taxonomic position, and codes of the species in specialized databases (Bayer computer code, EPPO list, EU Annex designation).

There is a list of available "Hosts", both cultivated plants and wild reservoir hosts, and even indication of which related plant species or cultivars are resistant to the pest attack. "Geographic distribution" contains list of countries of all continents (including individual states of the USA), where the species was established or reported; some important species also have the history of spreading.

Description of "Biology" reveals information on oviposition (in insects), development, thermal requirements, phenology and overwintering, all supported by reference to original articles. Section on "Detection and identification" helps to recognize the pest species itself in diverse ontogeny stages, and the symptoms of presence or damage caused by the pests, even if they are not actually present or visible on the plant. The reader may find also recommended methods for evaluation of abundance and seriousness of the infestation.

Section on "Means of movement and dispersal" helps to predict how the pest may be imported into new areas, and hence how to prevent the spreading. "Pest significance" of course var-

ies among pest species – economic impact of some is substantial, others are still absent in Europe, but serious in other parts of the world, still others are present mostly in small numbers and cause only occasional problems in agriculture or forestry. Methods of "Control" of the pests are only briefly mentioned, including recommended pesticides and known natural enemies. "Phytosanitary risk" includes list of regions in the world where the species is considered as quarantine, and potential distribution that might be reached if the transported products were not properly inspected. Section "Phytosanitary measures" gives recommendations how to inspect the transported material (for what to search), what requirements should be set on the producer/importer, and about possible treatments of fruits or other plant parts/products (cold, fumigation).

The items within the above stated categories of organisms are ordered alphabetically, and the book is completed with common index of scientific and national names. It would greatly help people who will work with the book to have as well a hierarchical taxonomical index; an index of geographical names etc. would also be useful. However, a list of all references would be too long and difficult to search in, thus the editors chose to give a list of references for each species separately. The book was prepared for the European Union by four-members editorial committee of EPPO (European and Mediterranean Plant Protection Organization) and CABI (Centre for Agriculture and Biosciences International), together with 114 specialists from all over the world.

Besides its great value for practical phytosanitary and goods importation inspection, the extensive data on biology of individual species may be helpful to basic researchers in the fields of physiology and ecology of insects and microorganisms.

The first book contains only text – it would be very difficult and expensive to include illustrations into this really thick volume. Thus, there is the second book – simply a gallery of colour photographs (and some colour drawings) of the pests and/or the plants with typical injury caused by the pests, sometimes along with a healthy plant for comparison. It is certainly a vital part of the first book for the practical phytosanitary purposes, but is unnecessary for those that will seek the basic information on physiology or ecology of the harmful organisms.

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