



COMPREHENSIVE DATABASES ON REGULATED PLANT PESTS

# An identification and reference tool for plant pathogens

## Factsheet

Increased risk of introduction of plant pathogenic quarantine pests due to globalization and climate change enhances the need for up-to-date knowledge and validated identification and detection methodologies. The worldwide erosion of expertise in the field of diagnostics and the limitations in accessibility of voucher collections obstruct necessary support of the phytosanitary inspection system.



### MISSION

Developing Q-bank as a useful identification and reference tool for the identification and reference of quarantine pests & invasive species. Users are specialists and researchers of National Plant Protection Organizations (NPPO's) and other institutes in the phytosanitary field.

### GOAL

A web-based database for all quarantine pests against their taxonomical, phylogenetical and phytosanitary background with the following functionalities:

- Storage of morphological and molecular (verified/refereed) data, DNA/RNA barcodes, symptoms and nomenclature with images and links
- Species-specific sequences for developing identification and detection methods
- Polyphasic identification and data analysis
- Identification keys on invasive plants
- Links to reliable reference collections: voucher specimen, tissue, DNA/RNA and whole-genome-amplified DNA/RNA
- Links to other relevant databases, e.g. EPPO
- Link to reliable culture collections, tissue and DNA banks





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## BENEFICIARIES

National Plant Protection Organizations and stakeholders in the statutory plant health domain, including:

- National Reference Laboratories (NRLs) and National Inspection Services
- Diagnostic laboratories, R&D organizations in plant health
- Agricultural production and trade

## ORGANIZATION

Guaranteeing the high quality of data/links is provided by governance and maintenance structure, including:

- A steering committee representing funders, stakeholders and end users
- An executive board of curators with taxonomic, phytosanitary and collection expertise
- An administrator for helpdesk and database software support
- A coordinator

## FINANCING

The start-up of Q-bank is financed by the Dutch Ministry of Economic Affairs, Agriculture and Innovations (2011-2013).

The EU project QBOL participates by supplying sequence data (DNA Barcodes) of quarantine organisms listed in the Plant Health Directive 2000/29/EC and taxonomically related species.

Curators contribute in kind.

The next challenge is to involve new funders for sustainable maintenance and development of Q-bank and for new research projects for broadening and deepening the database.

**You are cordially invited to join **Q-bank** as interested and committed colleague, stakeholder, data supplier, curator or .... funder of research projects**

[www.Q-bank.eu](http://www.Q-bank.eu)



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