The French Citrus certification scheme

Jean-Pierre Thermoz

To cite this version:

Jean-Pierre Thermoz. The French Citrus certification scheme. 9. International Congress of Plant Pathology (ICCP), Aug 2008, Turin, Italy. 1 p., 2008. hal-02816923

HAL Id: hal-02816923
https://hal.inrae.fr/hal-02816923
Submitted on 6 Jun 2020

HAL is a multi-disciplinary open access archive for the deposit and dissemination of scientific research documents, whether they are published or not. The documents may come from teaching and research institutions in France or abroad, or from public or private research centers.

L’archive ouverte pluridisciplinaire HAL, est destinée au dépôt et à la diffusion de documents scientifiques de niveau recherche, publiés ou non, émanant des établissements d’enseignement et de recherche français ou étrangers, des laboratoires publics ou privés.
Many major threats around the world can cause important losses of yield in Citrus production, due to viruses, phytoplasma, bacteria and fungi. When advancing new varieties and when propagating trees we have to take care not to diffuse pathogens.

Within the French certification scheme for fruit trees, planters from research, development, official services and nurserymen cooperate to propagate Citrus trees free of diseases. The French Citrus production is located in Corsica and an overseas department. Corsica is free of airborne and vector transmitted diseases. For 50 years INRA-GEQA manages an important germplasm of about 5,000 trees grown outdoor and is able to provide seeds of rootstocks and budwoods of many Citrus varieties.

INRA-GEQA is moving the scheme of sanitary control to a quality insurance system in order to secure the quality of the budwoods.

The European regulation for fruit trees

Two groups of texts are giving obligation for fruit trees:
- The measures for Plant Protection
- The marketing rules.

The European regulations for plant protection list the prohibited pests and origins of plants in the long directive 2000/29/EC and the additive texts. They are transcribed in the national laws of each European country. The marketing rules (directive 93/48/EC) give for the whole Union the limitations for fruit trees, mainly phytosanitary measures. They define the minimum level for marketing fruit scions, called Conformitas Agraria Communitatis (CAC level).

We can consider these requirements as mandatory certification.

A member state is not allowed to take national prohibitions out of these texts. The French fruit tree plant certification is a voluntary procedure.

The French certification for fruit trees

Beyond the commitment of the European regulations for fruit tree plants, the French nurserymen grow certified scions of a superior quality. The French fruit tree plant certification is a voluntary procedure. This certification is supervised by the French Ministry of Agriculture and carried out by the CTIFL (Interprofessional Center for Fruit and Vegetables). It is an official procedure.

Specifications are given for:
- The varietal identity by filiation and reference to an official catalogue
- The sanitary status
- Some cultivation conditions such as distances, rotations
- Criteria for quality of the scion such as the height of grafting and the diameter.

Along the thirty last year, the growers have earn benefit from trees of the best quality.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Pest or disease</th>
<th>Text</th>
<th>Detection (1)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Citrus tristeza closterovirus CTV</td>
<td>Plant Protection (2)</td>
<td>ELISA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Citrus exocarpa viroid CEVd</td>
<td>Marketing rules (3)</td>
<td>RT-PCR</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Phytoplasma citri</td>
<td>Marketing rules (3)</td>
<td>RT-PCR</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Phoma tracheiphila</td>
<td>Plant Protection (2)</td>
<td>ELISA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Spiroplasma citri</td>
<td>Marketing rules (3)</td>
<td>PCR</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Citrus psorosis ophiovirus CPsV</td>
<td>Marketing rules (3)</td>
<td>ELISA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Coryne sp.</td>
<td>Marketing rules (3)</td>
<td>ELISA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vectoric</td>
<td>Marketing rules (3)</td>
<td>ELISA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Temperatures</td>
<td>Marketing rules (3)</td>
<td>ELISA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Infection rate</td>
<td>Marketing rules (3)</td>
<td>ELISA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Citrus root knot nematode CRKN</td>
<td>Plant Protection (2)</td>
<td>ELISA</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

(1): Requirements for the voluntary certification
(3): Directive 93/48/EC

Bibliography:
- Directive 2000/29/EC
- Directive 93/48/EC
- Arrêté du 22 septembre 2005 (Règlement technique de la production, du contrôle et de la certification des matériaux de reproduction des plants fruitiers et des plants fruitiers destinés à la production de fruits)