Situation of *Rhynchophorus ferrugineus* in France - 2010

International Conference on Red Palm Weevil Control strategy for Europe – Valencia – 4-6 May 2010
Palm trees in France

- Palm trees used for their ornamental value – *Phoenix canariensis*, *Washingtonia* spp.
- Essential component of Mediterranean urban landscape: tourism, historic symbol (French Riviera)
- About 50% of palm trees in private garden/ 50 % in public area

Examples

- Nice (Alpes Maritimes): 15000 palm trees, « Promenade des anglais »
- Hyères les Palmiers (Var): 15000 palm trees, 50% public
Palm trees in France

3 regions impacted (climatic conditions, presence of hosts)

PACA: about 200 nurseries or garden centers affected - ¾ resalers

CORSE: 4 nurseries and 4 garden centers registered in 2009 for palm trees trade

LANGUEDOC ROUSSILLON (LR) (as PACA)
Detection of the pest in France

September 2006: first outbreak in a private garden in Porto Vecchio (Corse)

October 2006: first outbreak in a private garden in Var (PACA)

End of 2007: first trapping in Languedoc-Roussillon

December 2008: first palm tree detected infested in LR
Status of the pest in France

CORSE

Aleria, jan 2010
Status of the pest in France

PACA 2007
Status of the pest in France

PACA 2008
Status of the pest in France

PACA 2009
Status of the pest in France

PACA 2009

Communes dans lesquelles l’insecte a été identifié (palmier ou piège)

Communes dans lesquelles aucun foyer n’a été déclaré mais située à moins de 10 km d’un palmier contaminé
Status of the pest in France

LANGUEDOC ROUSSILLON
# Implementation of the emergency measures

## Measures of eradication:
- **Falling down and destruction** of the infested palm tree (burning and grinding)
- **Intensive visual monitoring** of palms in the vicinity (demarcated area)

## Difficulties:
- Cost for private owners and municipalities (1000-3000 euros/palm tree)
- Access (urban, concentrated, traffic)
- Closed private gardens
  - Difficult to apply the measures
Implementation of the emergency measures

**Monitoring**

**Use of pheromone traps:** different strategies depending on regions
- traps in infested zone
- traps in free areas
- traps on edge of infested area
- minimal distance of palm trees (20 or 30 meters)

CORSE: 31 traps
PACA: 219 traps
LR: 119 traps
Implementation of the emergency measures

Demarcated area:
- Infested zone: in a 100 m radius around an infested palm tree
- Buffer zone: in a 10 km radius around the outbreak

OUTBREAK = infested palm tree or trapping of an adult

Information: municipalities, nurseries, garden centers.

Place of production or garden centers in demarcated zone: complete physical protection or preventive chemical treatment.
### Dispersal of the pest

**Number of palm trees**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>PACA</th>
<th>Corse</th>
<th>LR</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2006</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2007</td>
<td>60</td>
<td>97</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2008</td>
<td>212</td>
<td>75</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2009</td>
<td>617</td>
<td>200</td>
<td>4</td>
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</table>

**EXTENSION despite of the implementation of the measures**
**Dispersal of the pest**

**EXTENSION**
more than 100 municipalities concerned (buffer zone)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Infestation Zone</th>
<th>2007</th>
<th>2008</th>
<th>2009</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>PACA INFESTED ZONE</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>31</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PACA BUFFER</td>
<td>34</td>
<td>36</td>
<td>39</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CORSE INFESTED</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CORSE BUFFER</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LR INFESTED</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Reflexion on a new strategy

**July 2008** : creation of a working group with stakeholders

- Municipalities
- INRA
- Growers
- NPPO, regional services

... 

Objective: new action plan and a national legislation (May or June 2010)