Beyond *Xylella*, Integrated Management Strategies for Mitigating *Xylella fastidiosa* impact in Europe

Practice abstract 18

Turning science into action: decision support for implementing IPM schemes against *Xylella fastidiosa* in Europe

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As the epidemics of ***Xylella fastidiosa* (*Xf*)** become established and widely distributed in some European regions, eradication of the pathogen becomes unfeasible and management priorities must shift from emergency toward long-term, adaptive Integrated Pest Management (**IPM**) strategies. BeXyl is addressing this need by developing a user-oriented Decision Support System (**DSS**) to help farmers, nurseries, advisors and plant health authorities select practical **IPM** schemes for managing ***Xf*** in important cropping systems in Europe.

What is IPM?

IPM means the careful consideration and combination of available plant protection methods to prevent, monitor, and manage harmful organisms in a coordinated way. It aims to keep pest and disease pressure below damaging levels while keeping the use of plant protection products and other forms of intervention to levels that are economically and ecologically justified and reduce or minimize risks to human health and the environment.

How did BeXyl make a difference?

Turning knowledge into practical guidance: BeXyl synthesised scientific evidence, expert knowledge and field experience into clear IPM schemes against *Xf* epidemics for almond, grapevine and olive.

Evaluating the IPM schemes: The proposed schemes are being assessed by experts and stakeholders to identify those that are effective, feasible, safe and ready for practical implementation.

Providing context-specific recommendations: The DSS will guide users towards suitable IPM schemes according to the crop, user profile, management objective and level of management intensity.

Helping users understand implementation conditions: The DSS will also provide supporting information on recommendations, constraints and practical considerations for applying the schemes in the field.

Impact: The DSS aims to support informed decision-making for the effective management of *Xf* epidemics, contributing to the long-term resilience and sustainability of agricultural production in affected regions of Europe.

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