

Council Directive 98/57/EC of 20 July 1998 on the
control of *Ralstonia solanacearum* (Smith) Yabuuchi et al.

Article 4

1 In each case of suspected occurrence, the responsible official bodies of the Member State(s) concerned shall ensure completion of official or officially supervised laboratory testing using, for the listed plant material, the relevant method set out in Annex II and in accordance with the conditions specified in point 1 of Annex III, or, in all other cases, any other officially approved method, in order to confirm or refute the suspected occurrence. In the case of confirmation, the requirements laid down in point 2 of Annex III shall apply.

2 Pending the confirmation or refutation of a suspected occurrence under paragraph 1, in each case of suspected occurrence where, either:

- (i) diagnostic symptoms of the disease caused by the organism have been seen and a positive result in the rapid screening test(s), as specified in Annex II section I, point 1 and section II has been obtained; or,
- (ii) a positive result in the screening test(s) as specified in Annex II section I, point 2 and section III has been obtained,

the responsible official bodies of the Member States shall, in relation to their own production:

- (a) prohibit the movement of plants and tubers from all crops, lots or consignments from which the samples have been taken, except under their control and provided that it has been established that there is no identifiable risk of the organism spreading;
- (b) take steps to trace the origin of the suspected occurrence;
- (c) introduce appropriate additional precautionary measures based on the level of estimated risk, particularly in relation to production of the listed plant material and the movement of seed potato lots other than those referred to in point (a), produced on the place of production from which the samples referred to in point (a) were taken, in order to prevent any spread of the organism.

3 In those cases of suspected occurrence where there is a risk of contamination of the listed plant material or surface water from or into another Member State(s), the Member State in which the suspected occurrence has been reported shall immediately notify, according to the risk identified, the details of the said suspected occurrence to the other Member State(s) concerned, and there shall be appropriate cooperation between the said Member States. The Member State(s) so notified shall introduce precautionary measures in accordance with paragraph 2(c) and take any further action, as appropriate, in accordance with paragraphs 1 and 2.

4 The following provision may be adopted in accordance with the procedure laid down in Article 16a of Directive 77/93/EEC:

— the measures referred to in paragraph 2(c).