1. The Joint Research Centre estimates *Xylella fastidiosa* full spread could cost the Union over EUR 5.5 billion per year due to loss of production, with potential export losses of EUR 0.7 billion per year. In case *Xylella fastidiosa* fully spreads across the Union, it could affect over 70% of the Union’s production value of olive trees older than 30 years, and 35% of the younger trees\(^1\). The European Food Safety Authority (EFSA) ‘Scientific opinion on the pest categorisation of *Verticillium dahliae* Kleb.’ cites yield falls up to 50% or more for olive orchards in affected areas\(^2\).

2. *Xylella fastidiosa* is regulated as a Union quarantine pest under the EU plant-health Regulation\(^3\). The Commission adopted measures against its spread in an Implementing Regulation\(^4\) thereby repealing the former Commission Implementing Decision\(^5\). Spain has received EU co-financing support for the expenditure directly related to survey programmes, eradication and containment measures to fight *Xylella fastidiosa* under Regulation 652/2014\(^6\) and the Single Market Program Regulation\(^7\). According to EFSA so far, no cure for plants in the field is available. Results from the Research and Innovation Programme Horizon 2020\(^8\), projects POnTE \(^9\) and XF- ACTORS\(^10\) contributed with a better knowledge on the pest\(^11\), to managing it and preventing greater economic losses. *Verticillium dahliae* is listed as a Union regulated non-quarantine pest in EU plant-health Implementing Regulation\(^12\). Measures and


\(^5\) Commission Implementing Decision (EU) 2015/789 of 18 May 2015 as regards measures to prevent the introduction into and the spread within the Union of *Xylella fastidiosa* (Wells et al.) (OJ L 125, 21.5.2015).


\(^9\) [https://cordis.europa.eu/project/id/635646](https://cordis.europa.eu/project/id/635646)

\(^10\) [https://cordis.europa.eu/project/id/727987](https://cordis.europa.eu/project/id/727987)


requirements are in place in the Union to prevent the presence of the pest on plant propagating material under Commission Implementing Directive 2014/98/EU\textsuperscript{13}.

The current Research and Innovation Programme Horizon Europe\textsuperscript{14} will continue funding research and innovation to protect crops from pests.


\textsuperscript{14} https://ec.europa.eu/info/research-and-innovation/funding/funding-opportunities/funding-programmes-and-open-calls/horizon-europe_en