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West Palaearctic Regional Section*  
**SROP** *Organisation Internationale de Lutte Biologique et Intégrée  
Section Régionale Ouest Palaéarctique*

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IOBC-WPRS Working Group  
"Integrated Plant Protection in Fruit Crops"  
Sub Group "Pome Fruit Diseases"

# **11<sup>th</sup> International IOBC-WPRS Workshop on Pome Fruit Diseases**

**26-30 June 2017**  
**Jūrmala, Latvia**

Program and abstracts



## **Emerging and threatening postharvest diseases in pome fruit in the Netherlands**

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Pome fruit may remain for up to 12 months in storage, during which time fruit rot diseases may develop. Despite the use of fungicides and improved storage technologies, postharvest diseases still remain an important limiting factor for the long-term storage of apples and pears. Postharvest diseases of pome fruit are caused by a range of fungal pathogens. Typically, symptoms of disease occur after several months in cold storage with controlled atmosphere. In this study, packinghouse surveys of postharvest diseases on stored apple and pear fruit were conducted from 2012 to 2016. Decayed apple and pear fruit were sampled from commercial packinghouses, representing orchards of various apple and pear producing areas and cultivars in the Netherlands. Approximately 300 samples were analyzed during the storage seasons from 2012 to 2016. A sample consisted of 10-15 representative decaying fruits from each grower lot. The survey revealed that the most important postharvest pathogens were *Cadophora luteo-olivacea* causing side rot on pears, and *Fibulorhizoctonia psychrophila* as the causal agent of lenticel spot on apples and pears. Also, new problems were noticed caused by pathogens not earlier described in the Netherlands on apple or pear, such as *F. avenaceum* on pear and apple, *Neonectria candida* and *Neofabraea kienholzii* on pear, and *Colletotrichum godesiae* and *Truncatella angustata* on apple.

**Keywords:** storage, fruit rot, fungal pathogens