

# International Symposium on Pepino mosaic virus: the European perspective

Friday, 22 January 2010 at Wageningen, the Netherlands



In the decade since Pepino mosaic virus first reappeared, it has now established itself both inside and outside Europe. Over the last few years new strains and genetic recombinants have appeared. How dangerous is PepMV and what is the economic impact of the virus on the European tomato industry? The Pepeira symposium in January in Wageningen will provide an up-to-date overview of the current knowledge on PepMV from the regulatory as well as the scientific point of view. This overview will be followed by a discussion between the principal stakeholders from science, government, industry and grower organizations about the impact and consequences of possible European measures.

The final report of the **Pepeira** research project, funded by the 6<sup>th</sup> Framework of the EU, is eagerly awaited by the European Commission. It will be presented during the symposium in Wageningen and will undoubtedly play an important role in the ongoing discussion on the phytosanitary status of PepMV. Which measures will the different European countries take against the virus and how will these measures affect the European tomato industry and all those involved?

## Pepeira main research objectives

- Assess the economic impact of PepMV on tomato crops
- Develop an economic model to determine overall economic impact in EU member states
- Determine biological and genetic characteristics of different PepMV isolates and strains and the best methods to detect and diagnose them
- Determine possible risks of all PepMV strains for tomato and other Solanaceous crops
- Develop a new EPPO protocol for detection and diagnostics for phytosanitary organizations and reference labs
- Draw up a revised EU wide Pest Risk Analysis

Twenty scientific partners from 17 European countries have collaborated in the **Pepeira** project over the last three years collecting new and existing data in order to be able to provide answers.

## Tentative programme

- Welcome and general introduction
- Current status of PepMV in Europe
- PepMV damage assessment
- Reliable diagnostic protocols
- An analysis of the risks of PepMV
- General discussion with all stakeholders





## Pepeira discussion

- Which factors contribute to PepMV symptom development and damage?
- What is the average economic damage caused by PepMV and how does that affect the European tomato industry?
- What is the importance of seed transmission in the spread of PepMV?
- Which detection methods are advisable for a reliable and sensitive detection of PepMV during seed production and in nurseries?
- Will resistant PepMV varieties be the only durable solution for the PepMV epidemics?
- Which virus control measures can be initiated from the project results?
- How can we ensure implementation of these measures at a European level?
- Which stakeholders will be involved in this and what should their role be?

The **Pepeira** research partner from your country identified you as an important stakeholder concerning the issues around PepMV. We would therefore like to invite you to this meeting and would greatly appreciate your active participation in it.

The **International Symposium on PepMV** will take place on Friday, 22 January 2010 in conference centre 'De Hof van Wageningen' at Wageningen, the Netherlands.

The registration site and more information on the program, conference fee and hotel accommodation can be found at [www.pepeira.com](http://www.pepeira.com)

## Contact

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