

# PONTE

## "Pest Organisms Threatening Europe"

### Project Summary

The PONTE project fosters and promotes a multi-actor approach and transnational research collaborations in plant protection, agro-engineering and economics. It involves key industries/SMEs that develop diagnostic kits and services, agrochemical and seed companies, and stakeholder groups.

Project Number  
**635646**

Starting date  
**01 Nov. 2015**

Ending date  
**01 Nov. 2019**



## The PONTE Consortium:

- ✓ **25 participating institutions** (research institutions, universities, international organizations, companies)
- ✓ **120 researchers**
- ✓ **13 countries** (Italy, France, Spain, the United Kingdom, Austria, Finland, The Netherlands, Norway, Costa Rica, Israel, Serbia, Belgium, Germany)

The PONTE project focuses on minimizing the risk of introduction/impact of emerging pests threatening EU agriculture and forestry. The targets are:

- 1. Bacterium *Xylella fastidiosa* (Xf) and its hemipteran vectors in olive, grapevine, citrus, stone fruit, ornamentals and landscape trees of high socio-economic importance.**

"*Xylella fastidiosa* (Xf) is one of the most dangerous plant pest known worldwide and a top priority for the EU."

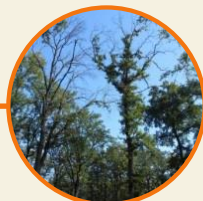
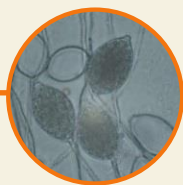


2. **Bacterium *Candidatus Liberibacter solanacearum* (CaLsol) and its psyllid vectors affecting a number of strategic crops such as potato, tomato and carrot.**

"The emergence of CaLsol haplotypes in carrots and celery in the EU has raised serious concerns about the risk that they pose to potato and other solanaceous crops across the whole EU."



3. **Fungi *Hymenoscyphus fraxineus* (anamorph *Chalara fraxinea*) and *Phytophthora* spp. seriously affecting broadleaf and conifer species in forest ecosystems.**



## The knowledge generated within the PONTE Project facilitates:

- ❖ Implementation of area-wide pest risk assessments;
- ❖ Prevention of the entry and development of the surveillance and early detection tools (diagnostic kits, lab-on-chip, new biomarkers);
- ❖ Mitigation of the spread and reduction of the socio-economic impact;
- ❖ Implementation of the IPM based on disease resistance, disease free seed, cultural practices and physical environmentally-friendly treatments;
- ❖ Support to knowledge-based decision-making policies at EU level.

### Activities

- Progress meetings
- Conferences
- Educational workshops

### Communication

- Weekly Newsletter
- Press review
- Symptom database
- Protocols
- Bibliography
- Legislation
- Factsheets
- Social networks
- Youtube channel

### Contact us



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