



# OPTIMISATION OF PLANT PEST SURVEY EFFORTS

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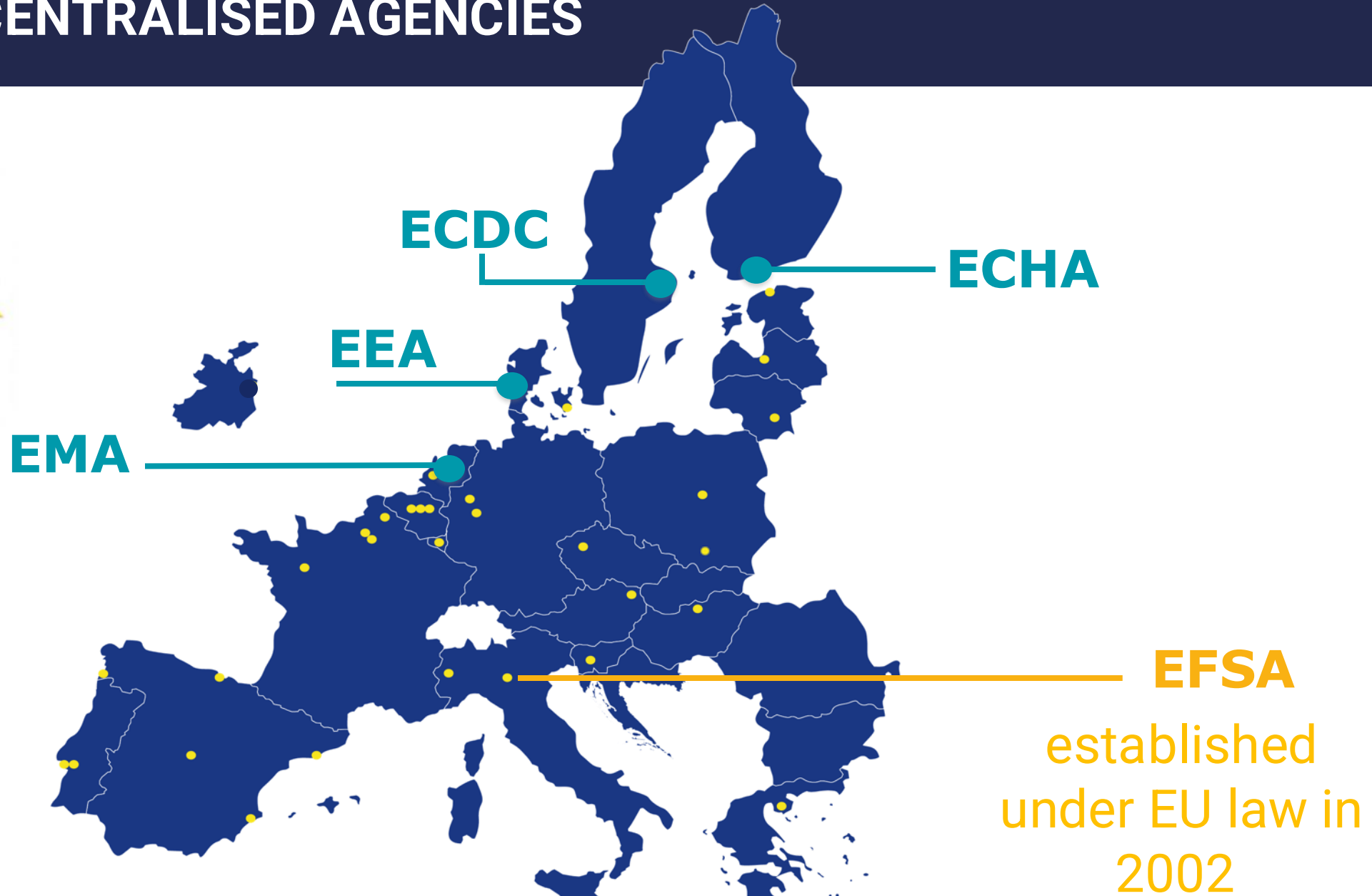
# OUTLINE



- 1 What is EFSA?
- 2 Plant Health in EFSA
- 3 Pest reporting
- 4 Pest survey toolkit
- 5 Survey optimisation
- 6 OptiPest



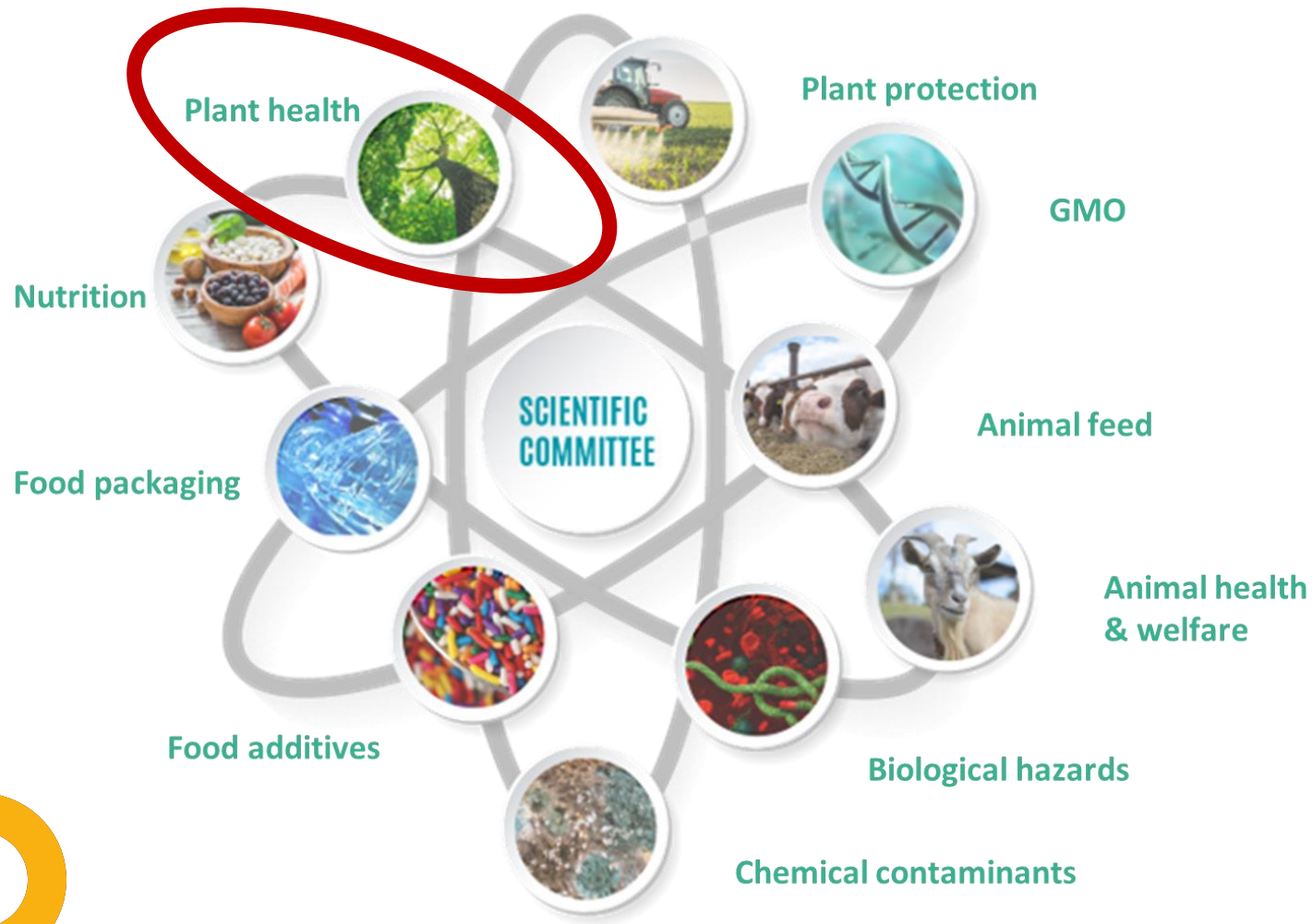
# EU DECENTRALISED AGENCIES



**EFSA**  
established  
under EU law in  
2002



# PLH IN EFSA



**570** staff

**650** experts

**1,600** virtual meetings / year

**9,300** scientific outputs since 2003



# EFSA SUPPORT TO PLH IN THE EU



List of quarantine pests  
List of priority pests  
Emergency measures  
Etc.



# Plant health monitoring and Risk assessment

Support to

**PREPARATION**

**Early  
warning**

**Horizon  
scanning**



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**Early  
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**Risk  
assessment**

Pest RA  
Commodity RA  
Environment RA



# Plant health monitoring and Risk assessment

Support to  
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**Early warning**

Horizon scanning

**Risk assessment**

Pest RA  
Commodity RA  
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**Prioritisation**

Pest ranking





# Plant health monitoring and Risk assessment

Support to  
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**Early warning**

Horizon scanning

**Risk assessment**

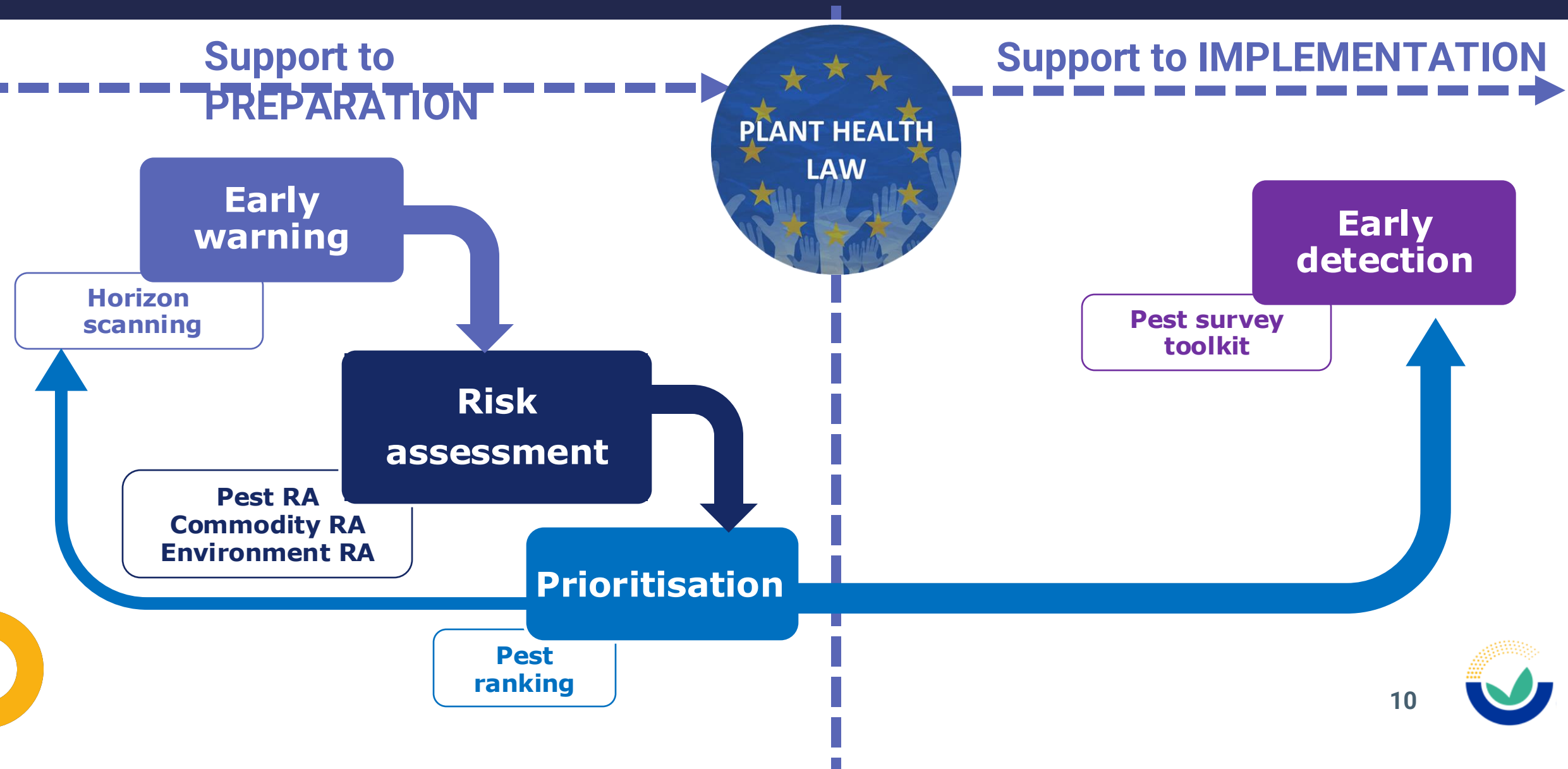
Pest RA  
Commodity RA  
Environment RA

**Prioritisation**

Pest ranking



# Plant health monitoring and Risk assessment



# PEST REPORTING

## ISPM 17 Main purpose:

Communicate **immediate** or **potential danger** of a quarantine pest

- occurrence
- outbreak
- spread

- immediate danger - one that has already been identified (pest already regulated) or is obvious on the basis of observation or previous experience
- potential danger - identified as the result of a PRA.

→ in the country in which it is detected

→ neighbouring countries

→ countries that are traded with

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**Risk  
assessment**

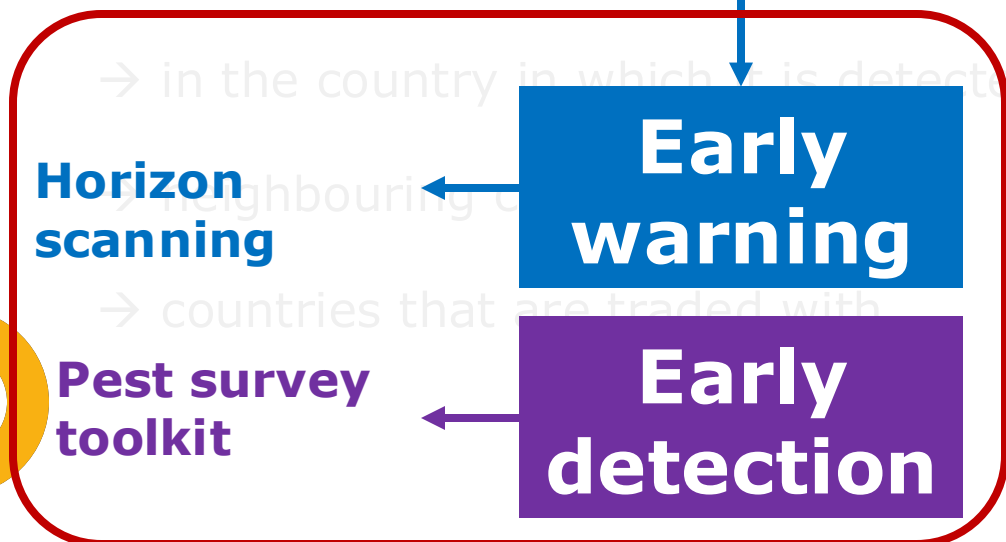
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**Risk assessment**

# TOOLKIT

IMPLEMENT

## Prepare



EFSA Pest Survey Cards



Relational Database

## Design and Optimize



RiPEST



OptiPest

## CONCLUDE

Robust surveys  
Harmonised in time and space

Pest status  
From trust to evidence

# Surveys optimization

**Pest X- 200 trees to sample**

IU tree

MeSe= 80% ; CL=95%; DP=1%

**Pest Y- 100 trees to sample**

IU tree

MeSe= 70% ; CL=95%; DP=0.5%

**Pest Z- 80 trees to sample**

IU tree

MeSe= 90% ; CL=95%; DP=2%

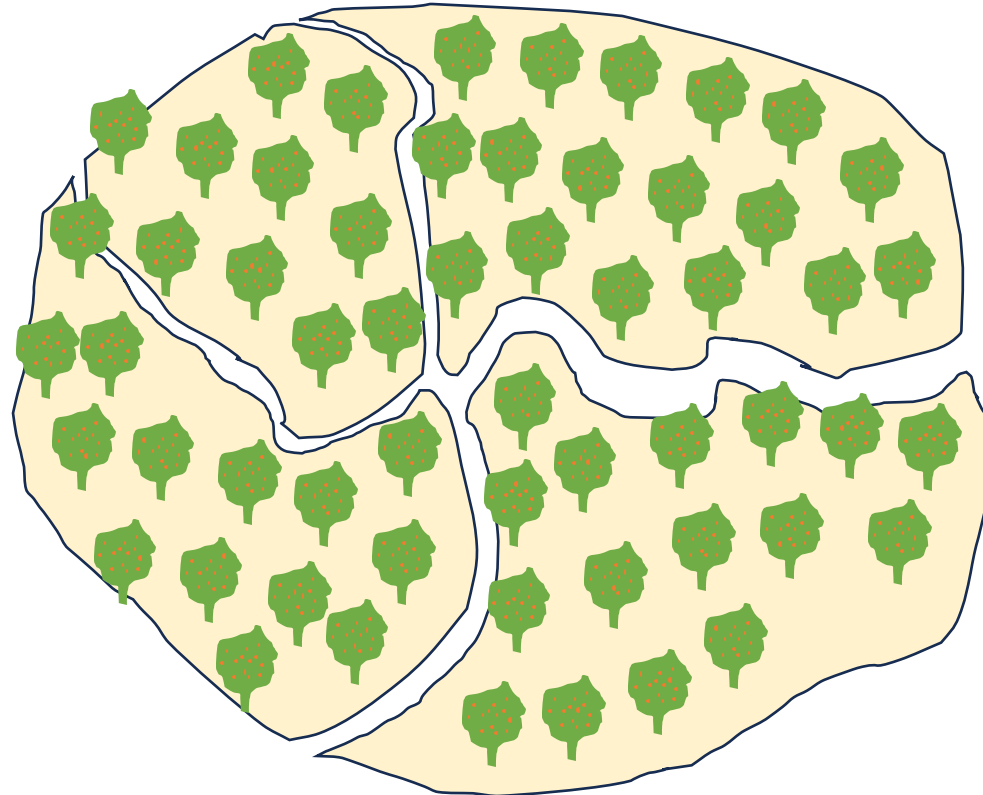
**Pest W- 120 trees to sample**

IU tree

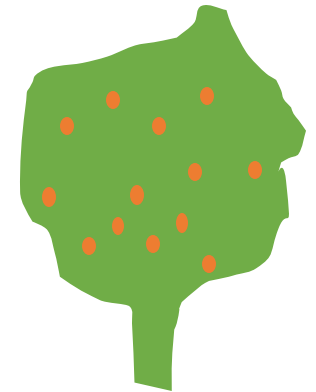
MeSe= 80% ; CL=95%; DP=1%

Total = 500 samples

Citrus orchards



Citrus tree



Limited resources  
How to reduce the sample size?



# Surveys optimization

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How to reduce  
of sample size?

Increase MeSe  
→ depends on the method

Decrease CL  
→ Lower confidence in the  
conclusions

Increase DP  
→ more resources for eradication is  
not realistic





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**Reduce robustness of survey**

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Total = 500 samples

Limited  
resources

How to reduce  
of sample size?

Without  
reducing the  
robustness of  
survey

Reduce the laboratory effort by  
pooling samples

Multi-pest survey using OptiPest



# Surveys optimization

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## OptiPest: Multi-pest surveys

1- Many pests checked in a same field inspection visit

Q1: How to reduce the number of visits without affecting the robustness of the survey

2- Plant samples can be the same for different pests

Q2: Can we optimise the reuse of the same samples for testing different pests

3- Many limitations come from resource availability

Q3: Can we adjust our inspections and/or sampling to the resource availability:

- Inspectors availability
- Laboratory capacity

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Total = 500 samples

## OPTIPEST: Multi-pest surveys

1- Time windows overlap

2- Plant samples overlap

3- Resources availability

**Optimisation  
algorithm**

**Overall  
reduction of  
survey efforts**

**Better use of  
resources**

**Robust surveys**

# OPTIMIZATION ALGORITHM

- **Goal:** Optimize the allocation of resources (sampling) across different crops and time periods.
- **Constraints:** Limited sampling capacity (inspection units) per month, different matrices to sample (e.g. fruits, shoots, leaves etc.).
- **Aim:** Minimize the number of field visits required and the total number of samples taken, while satisfying all sampling requirements.



# OPTIMIZATION ALGORITHM

- **Sampling Matrix:** Defines the parts of the crop to be sampled (e.g., fruits, shoots).
- **Monthly Capacity Limits:** The maximum sampling capacity available for each month.
- **Pest, Sample Size, and Time:** Information about pests, the number of samples needed, their reusability and the time windows for sampling.

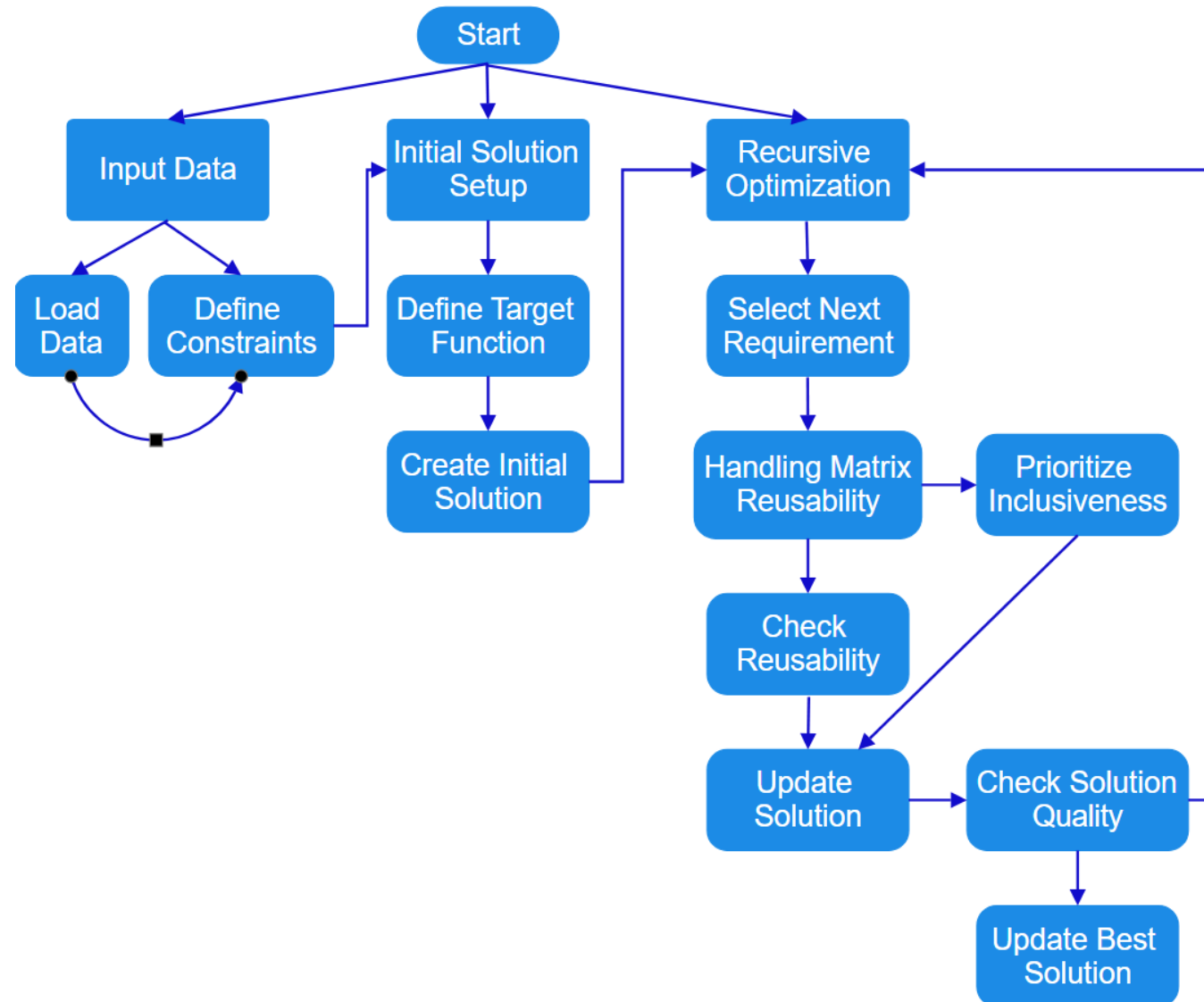


# OPTIMIZATION ALGORITHM

- **Best Solution:** The algorithm keeps track of the best solution found (i.e., the one with the fewest field visits and samples).
- **Final Output:** A summary table of the required field visits, the sample sizes, and the time windows in which the samples need to be taken is provided.
- **Graphical Illustration:** The solution can be visualized using plots that show the sampling schedule for each pest across different months.
- **Faceted Plot:** A faceted plot separates different crop matrices (e.g., fruits, shoots) and shows the sampling effort per pest over time.

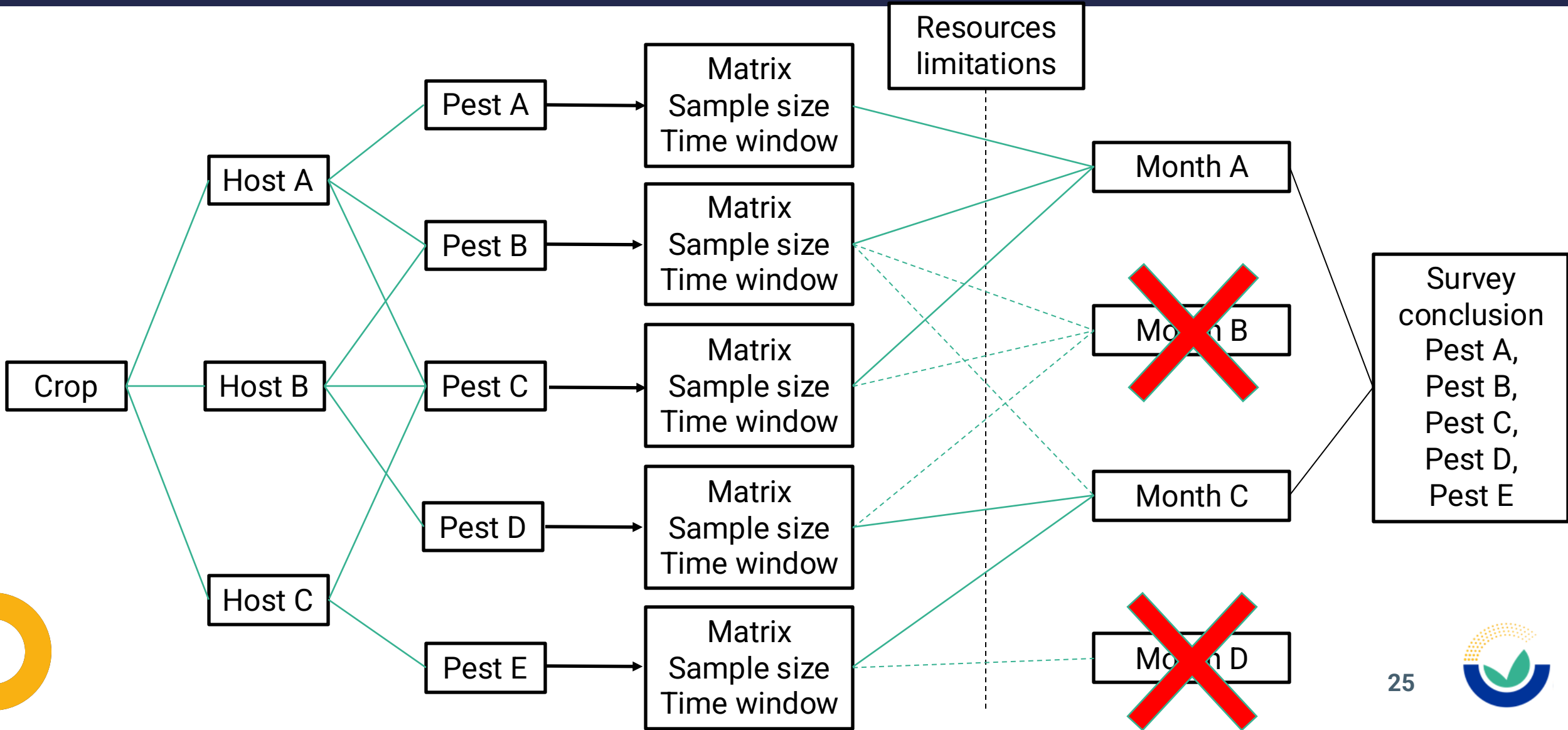


# WORKFLOW OF THE OPTIMIZATION ALGORITHM





# MULTI-PEST OPTIMIZATION PROCESS



# OPTIPEST DEMO



	Pest	Sampling matrix	Number of inspection units to sample	Months
1	<i>Agrilus auroguttatus</i>	Bark	395	6,7,8,9
2	<i>Agrilus auroguttatus</i>	Canopy	380	6,7,8,9
3	<i>Agrilus auroguttatus</i>	Trunk	360	8,9,10,11
4	<i>Anoplophora chinensis</i>	Bark	310	5,6,7,8,9
5	<i>Anoplophora chinensis</i>	Canopy	320	1,2,3,10,11,12
6	<i>Anoplophora chinensis</i>	Frass	290	5,6,7,8,9

## Data Overview

Table

Plot



# CONSTRAINTS

## Optimization parameters

### Monthly limits

Month	Maximum number of inspection units to sample
January	400
February	400
March	400
April	400
May	0
June	400
July	400
August	0
September	400
October	400
November	400
December	400

Increase monthly limits until solution is found.

 10% increase per step

Run algorithm

## A solution has been found!

- Number of visits: 7 (reduction:5)
- Total number of inspection units to sample: 5365 (reduction: 3475)



Download results (word)



Download results (excel)

Warning: The monthly limits have been increased in order to find a solution (See table below for the actual monthly limits).

Month	Sample size limit
January	400
February	720
March	400
April	400
May	0
June	1160
July	1580
August	0
September	705
October	0

Month	Sampling matrix	Number of inspection units to sample	Pest
January	Trunk	400	Pseudopityophthorus minutissimus-Pseudopityophthorus pruinosis-Arrhenodes minutus
February	Trunk	400	Pseudopityophthorus minutissimus
February	Canopy	320	Anoplophora chinensis
March	Trunk	400	Pseudopityophthorus minutissimus
April	Twigs & branches & leaves	400	Thaumetopoea processionea-Pseudopityophthorus pruinosis-Anoplophora chinensis-Pseudopityophthorus minutissimus-Anoplophora chinensis
June	Twigs & branches & leaves	400	Thaumetopoea processionea-Pseudopityophthorus pruinosis
June	Trunk	380	Pseudopityophthorus minutissimus-Thaumetopoea processionea-Anoplophora chinensis
June	Canopy	380	Pseudopityophthorus pruinosis-Agrilus auroguttatus-Pseudopityophthorus minutissimus
July	Twigs & branches & leaves	400	Thaumetopoea processionea-Lycorma delicatula
July	Trunk	400	Pseudopityophthorus minutissimus-Thaumetopoea processionea

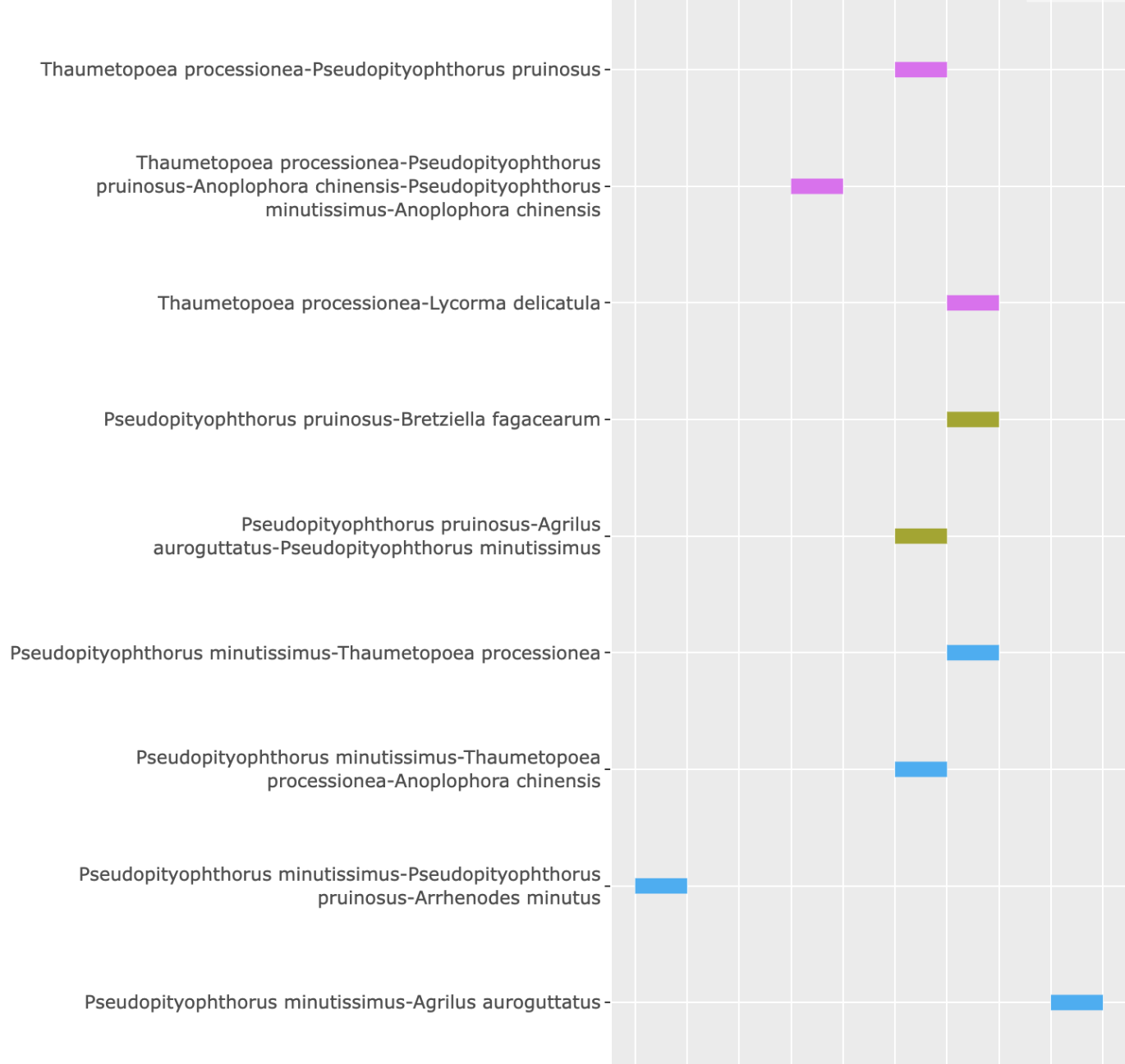
Showing 1 to 10 of 15 entries

Previous

1

2

Next



**Sampling matrix**

- Bark
- Canopy
- Frass
- Trunk
- Twigs & branches & leaves

Month	Sampling matrix	Number of inspection units to sample	Pest	Reuse inspection units from
January	Trunk	390	Pseudopityophthorus pruinosis	Pseudopityophthorus minutissimus
January	Trunk	215	Arrhenodes minutus	Pseudopityophthorus minutissimus
April	Twigs	400	Pseudopityophthorus pruinosis	Thaumetopoea processionea
April	Twigs & branches & leaves	375	Anoplophora chinensis	Thaumetopoea processionea
April	Twigs & branches & leaves	345	Pseudopityophthorus minutissimus	Thaumetopoea processionea
April	Twigs & branches & leaves	290	Anoplophora chinensis	Thaumetopoea processionea
June	Twigs	10	Pseudopityophthorus pruinosis	Thaumetopoea processionea
June	Trunk	380	Thaumetopoea processionea	Pseudopityophthorus minutissimus

THANK YOU !



Questions



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