



Our reference: A13233547

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Date: 12 November 2024

REVIEW OF PEST STATUS OF GRAPEVINE PINOT GRIS VIRUS (GPGV) IN WESTERN AUSTRALIA

Grapevine Pinot gris virus (GPGV) is a plant virus that infects many grapevine varieties and is primarily spread through grafting and the distribution of infected propagation material. It may also be spread by the grapevine leaf blister mite.

GPGV is known to be present in New South Wales, South Australia and Victoria, most likely introduced through the importation of infected propagation material from overseas. In 2018, it was nationally agreed that the virus was not technically feasible to eradicate from Australia. Further detections of GPGV are no longer managed or funded under national cost-sharing arrangements and regulation at the national border has ceased.

In January 2024, GPGV was detected in Western Australia (WA) in the Swan Valley. The material used to propagate the infected grapevine was sourced from a second property in the Swan Valley and further samples from that property submitted to the DDLS government laboratories tested positive for the virus. Tracing information indicates that material from this source block is likely to have been distributed to other parts of WA.

Recent surveillance in south-eastern Australia has indicated that there is no specific association of GPGV and disease in grapevines and GPGV does not appear to have an impact under Australian conditions.

The Department of Primary Industries and Regional Development (DPIRD) has assessed the biology and potential spread of GPGV and believes that it is not technically feasible or cost beneficial to eradicate the virus from WA given:

- GPGV is likely to be more widely distributed due to the asymptomatic nature of the virus;
- it is not shown to cause economic damage under Australian conditions;
- the presence of mite vectors;
- an open pathway of entry;
- method for control and eradicating GPGV is through complete removal and destruction of vines followed by a fallow period; and
- no industry funding mechanism in place to finance vine destruction.

DPIRD considers that the detection of GPGV represents an extension of geographical range of the virus within Australia.

Legislative amendment

Under WA's *Biosecurity and Agriculture Management Act 2007*, GPGV is declared a prohibited organism. Prohibited organisms are subject to mandatory reporting and control treatments to destroy, prevent or eradicate the pest. Infected plant material is subject to movement restrictions.

Where GPGV is present and not under eradication or official control, it is no longer considered a quarantine pest and not suitable to be declared a prohibited organism. In accordance with state legislation and national biosecurity agreements, DPIRD has reviewed the declared status of GPGV and intends to amend it to permitted organism. Control, reporting and movement restrictions will no longer apply.

If you require further information relating to DPIRDs intention to amend the status in WA of GPGV, please contact the Plant biosecurity policy team on plantbiosecuritypolicy@dpird.wa.gov.au.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Vincent', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Dr Vincent Lanoiselet
CHIEF PLANT BIOSECURITY OFFICER
BIOSECURITY