



# Contingency plan in Slovenia

– example *Anoplophora chinensis*

Eva Groznik, Simon Zidar,  
dr. Barbara Piškur

Department of Forest Protection  
Slovenian Forestry Institute

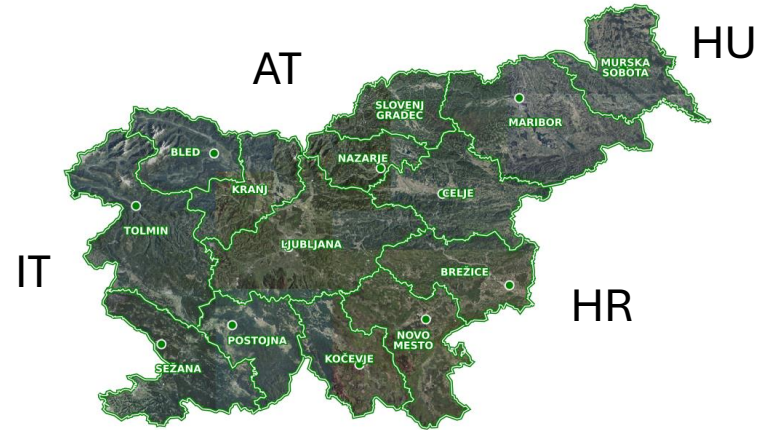




# Kočevje

Municipality of Kočevje informs SFI\* about rapidly declining *Platanus x hispanica* (22. 6. 2022)

First inspection by phytosanitary surveyers (SFI) in the presence of SFS\*\* (28.6.2022)



\*SFI: The Slovenian Forestry Institute

\*\*SFS: The Slovenia Forest Service



Foto: Nikica Ogris



Foto: Simon Zidar





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## Field visit and inspection of *Platanus x hispanica*, 28. 6. 2022

- Observed necrosis on the tree trunk – possible symptom of *Ceratocystis platani* presence? → sampling
- Several round exit holes (1 cm in diameter) on the root collar – suspicion of *Anoplophora chinensis*?



Foto: Nikica Ogris



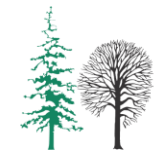
Foto: Simon Zidar



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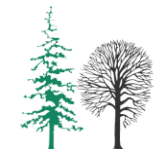
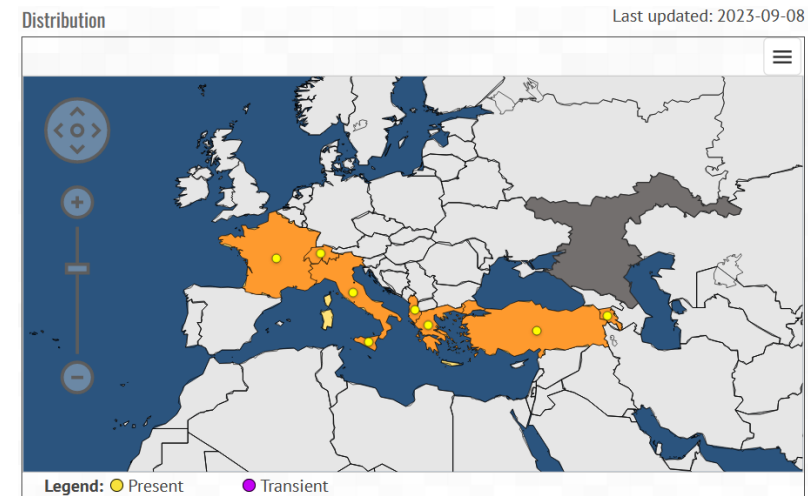
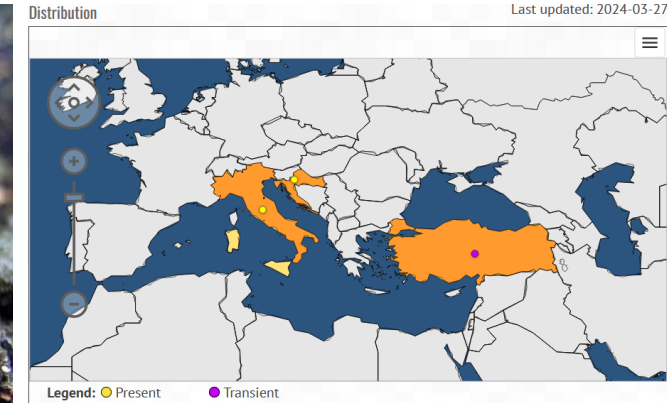
Foto: Simon Zidar





# EU quarantine pests

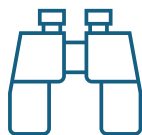
- *C. platani* and *A. chinensis* are listed as **EU quarantine pests** in Annex II, Part B of Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) 2019/2072
- Both are present in Slovenian neighboring countries



Together with the NPPO\*, steps were agreed upon before the final result of the laboratory analysis confirming or disproving the suspicion of the presence of quarantine pests:



Sampling for presence of *A. chinensis* required felling of the tree. This was delayed because we had to wait for the results of the analysis of possible presence of *C. platani*.



A **survey of the surrounding 100 m** around the tree shall be carried out immediately,



**the tree is secured with an insect net** to reduce the risk of adult *A. chinensis* escaping,



**guidelines for action** in the event of **confirmation of *C. platani*** shall be prepared,



guidelines for the felling of the plane tree shall be prepared for the following two scenarios: (a) *C. platani* is present and sampling for *A. chinensis*; (b) *C. platani* is not present, sampling only for *A. chinensis*.

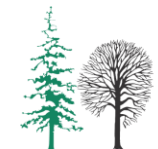




# Survey of the surrounding, 1. 7. 2022



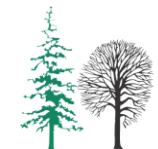
- Surveys for the presence of *A. chinensis* was done in an **area within 100 m radius** around the plane tree by inspectors and surveyors from authorized organizations
- All deciduous trees surveyed
- Gardens, orchards, hedges, shrubs and trees along the river Rinža
- **A total of 389 deciduous trees were surveyed:** 28 different woody species, of which 13 tree species are potential hosts



# Protecting the potential out-migration of *A. chinensis*, 1. 7. 2022



- Obtaining authorization to use phytopharmaceuticals
- Tree trunk and soil (emergence of beetles from the roots) covered with Storanet® insecticidal netting
- The area was inspected every two days and checked for the presence of beetles





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## Analysis result for *C. platani* – **negative** (11. 7. 2022)

- Initiated procedure for the felling of a plane tree according to plan (b) for the collection of a sample suspected of containing *A. chinensis*, carried out on 14. 7. 2022
- Felling was organized by the Municipality of Kočevje in agreement with the NPPO, under official supervision (phytosanitary inspector)
- The felling was carried out by qualified arborists and the tree was felled in parts
- Each cut piece of wood was inspected for the presence of insect exit holes or possible tunnels and larvae
- After felling, a sample of the part with exit holes was taken by the phytosanitary inspector and handed over to SFI (official laboratory for insects)





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# Transportation of the sample, 14. 7. 2022

Precautions at the sample transport

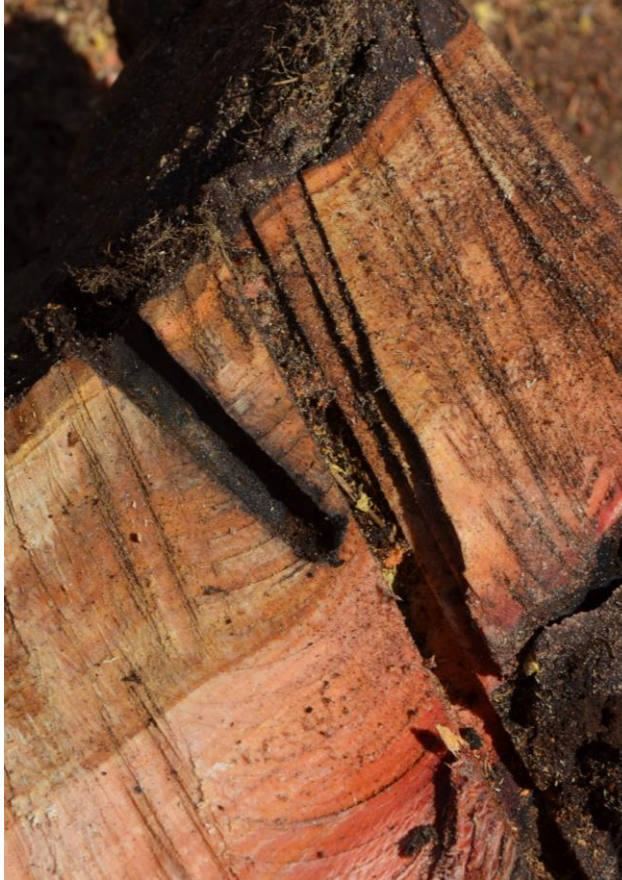




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# Analysis results

- Upon examination of the sample on site, it was presumed that the openings were most likely not caused by the insects
- The sample was analyzed at the quarantine station of the Forest Protection Laboratory (SFI), and **no presence of *Anoplophora chinensis* was detected.**
- The holes at the root collar were most likely the result of human activity, presumably with the intention of deliberately destroying the tree

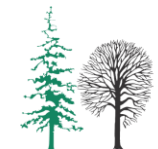
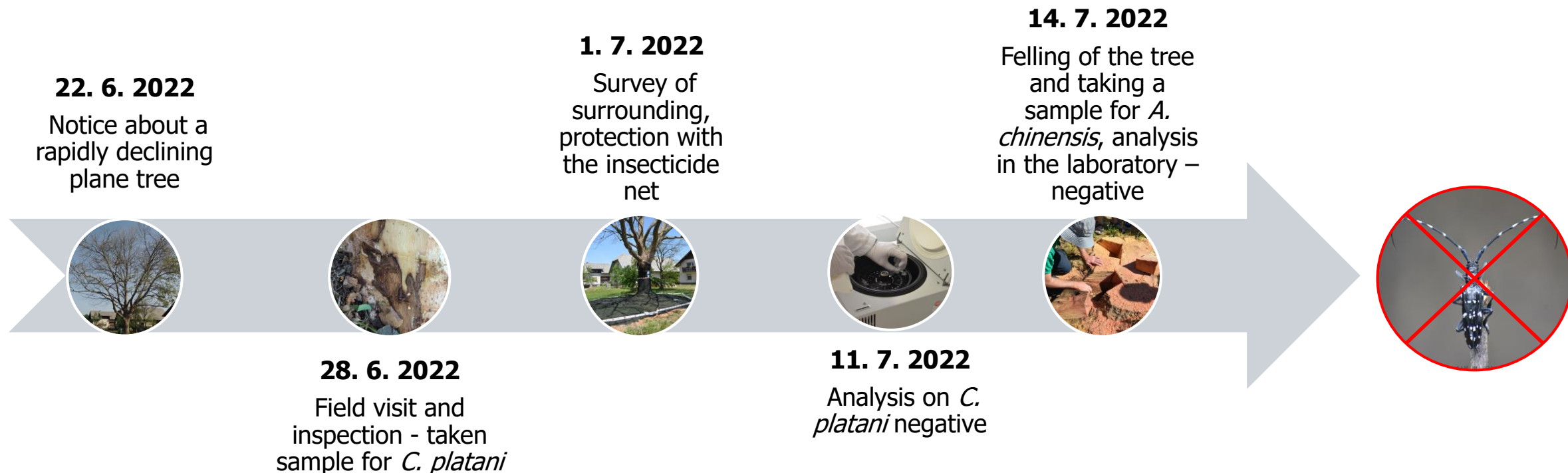




# Act fast!

**Rapid notification and immediate action** is required when a suspected case of quarantine pests is found.

The whole process from notification to final harvesting and sample analysis took **from 28 June 2022 to 14 July 2022 (16 days)**.





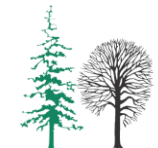
# Financial costs - the case of Kočevje

~ 7.000 €

(only surveys, lab analysis, tree removal)

If suspicion of *Anoplophora chinensis* **would be** confirmed:

- + removal of the tree stump or even excavation of the root system
- + removal and destruction of the affected plants within a radius of 100 m around the infested tree (infested area)
- + transportation of trunks and branches in enclosed containers
- + chipping the trunks and branches to a thickness and width of no more than 2.5 cm or burning this material
- + regular inspections would also be carried out simultaneously in the demarcated area, with emphasis on the protective belt within a radius of 2,000 m from the border of the infested area (total 2,100 m)
- + restricted movement of certain host plants





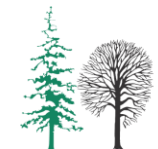
# Contingency plan for *Anoplophora chinensis*



Since 2023, Slovenia has a contingency plan for *Anoplophora chinensis*



The event in Kočevje was a great simulation exercise for all involved



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# Cooperation is the key to success!

For effective action to contain and eradicate harmful organisms, **cooperation among all stakeholders is necessary.**

The willingness and swift action of the owners of the affected trees play a significant role in this process.







REPUBLIC OF SLOVENIA  
**MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE, FORESTRY AND FOOD**

THE ADMINISTRATION OF THE REPUBLIC OF SLOVENIA  
FOR FOOD SAFETY, VETERINARY AND PLANT PROTECTION

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