



The REACT Project:

Novel strategies for an eco-friendly fight against invasive insect pests in the EU

REACT aims to develop long-term environmentally friendly response strategies and novel sustainable tools to protect fruit and vegetable production and export capacities from two invasive insect pests of EU priority – *Bactrocera dorsalis* (Bd) and *Bactrocera zonata* (Bz).

The project will provide enhanced capacity to prevent, identify, monitor, and control these pests. To assess invasion risks, REACT will study the main facilitators and drivers of early invasive processes, the sources and dynamics of adventive populations, and suitable hotspots for species establishment. The project will also develop a novel field-deployable, rapid, and cost-effective mobile solution for interception. Multiple novel reaction strategy components and tools will be developed and integrated to tackle outbreak events by economically sound programs. The project will also conduct experiments to prove the feasibility of an eradication approach for the first time in Europe. The program and its socio-economic impact will be evaluated with stakeholders and multiple actors. The goal is to create rapid response pest eradication capabilities that are pesticide free and safe for the environment.



REACT is a 48 month project kicked-off in November 2022. Its work will span until October 2026



REACT aims to provide rapid pesticide-free pest control to protect ecosystems and biodiversity in the EU and beyond



REACT unites 15 partners from 12 countries and 3 continents



REACT receives funding of 6.65 mil EUR from the EU under its Horizon Europe framework

REACT is one of the projects of the EU's Farm to Fork strategy for a transition to fair, healthy and resilient EU agriculture and forestry. It was submitted to tackle the challenge of plant pest outbreaks. (<https://ec.europa.eu/info/funding-tenders/opportunities/portal/screen/opportunities/topic-details/horizon-cl6-2021-farm2fork-01-04>)

