



The Japan Rose Society

7 Feb. 2017

On the Non-Importation Measure Taken in Japan against Rose Plants Using *Rosa canina* Rootstocks

So far fire-blight disease which infects fruit trees such as apples, pears, etc. has never been seen in Japan. Since 1997, as the preventive measure to avoid the invasion of this disease, the import of plants which can be its hosts has been prohibited in this country, and since November, 2016, the import of *Rosa canina*, as well as rose plants using this species rose for rootstocks, has also been prohibited.

For the Japan Rose Society, a WFRS member which runs an international rose trial, this seems to be an extremely rigid measure. We consulted with the department concerned of the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries, and obtained the information on the reason for having taken the additional measure in 2016. We discussed on how to import rose plants without violating the regulation, and reached the following conclusion:

- 1) The rose plants to be entered in our trials should be ones budded or grafted on rootstocks other than *Rosa canina*.
- 2) The name of the rootstocks used, e.g *Rosa laxa* , should be written clearly in the quarantine application form.

We feel sorry to cause you extra trouble because of the new quarantine regulation in our country. We would be much obliged if you will kindly continue to enter your roses in our trials, accepting the conditions stated above.

= For your information =

The following is the information we obtained on the reason for the ban on the import of rose plants with *R. canina* rootstocks.



The Japan Rose Society

The following statement appeared in the paper entitled “First Report of Fire Blight Caused by *Erwinia amylovora* on Rosehip (*Rosa canina*) in Turkey”, by K.K. Bastas et al, Selcuk Univ. Faculty of Agriculture, Dept. of Plant Protection Campus, TR-42075 Konya, Turkey, which appeared in *APS (American Physical Society) Journals*, vol. 97, No. 12 (Dec. 2013) –

<http://dx.doi.org/10.1094/PDIS-03-13-0273-PDN>

Accepted for publication 1 July 2013.

During the summers of 2008 and 2010, leaf and shoot blight, wilting of the tips of young infected shoots, and cankers with brown discoloration on twigs were observed on six dog rosehip (*Rosa canina*) plants from four different private orchards in Eregli district of Konya Province, Turkey. Disease incidence was estimated to be approximately 0.5% on rosehips over 2 years within all survey areas, and surveys showed that ~4 ha was infested. Bacteria isolated from diseased leaf

Though this paper was not a report of the research work commissioned by the Japanese Government, the department concerned recognized it as the first report on the *Erwinia amylovora* infection on dog rose (*Rosa. Canina*) plants.

Therefore, it prohibited the import of mature trees *Rosa canina* and seedlings with *Rosa canina* rootstocks, from all countries and areas where this disease has been observed.

Thank you in advance for your kind cooperation.

Yours sincerely,

Mr. Osamu Hashimoto
A director of the Japan Rose Society,
In charge of the International Rose Trials, Tokyo

Dr. Takeo Nagata
The chief executive director,
The Japan Rose Society