Determination of pest status based on different scenarios

Scenario 1

- Pest A was detected in commercial greenhouses in two regions of the country of Saltoria.
- Repeated surveys confirm that the pest has reproduced over three consecutive years.
- Outdoor surveillance has found no evidence of the pest.
- Suitable hosts and climatic conditions exist in the region for pest establishment.
- Growers voluntarily apply pesticides and destroy infested plants.
- The NPPO monitors the situation but has not implemented an official control programme.
- The pest occurs in fewer than 2% of the country's production sites.

Scenario 2

- Pest B was officially recorded by the NPPO of the Kingdom of Fjordtopia in 2005, based on specimens collected from a forest.
- In 2025, taxonomic revisions and re-examination of the specimens revealed that the historical specimens instead belonged to a closely related species.
- However, Pest B has subsequently been intercepted on six imported consignments, all detained at the border.
- A scientific publication from 2024 reports symptoms consistent with Pest B in a private garden, but no specimens were collected. The first author of the paper has a recently retracted paper due to misidentification.
- Targeted surveillance in the reported area found no evidence of the pest.

Scenario 3

- Pest C was first detected in one region of the Republic of Balkanovia in 2022.
- The NPPO implemented an official eradication programme involving destruction of infested plants and movement restrictions.
- The last confirmed detection occurred in 2024.
- Surveys in 2025 and 2026 found no further detections.
- However, surveillance covered only commercial orchards.
- One inspector noted that suitable wild hosts in surrounding forests were not surveyed at all from 2024-2026.
- The NPPO has announced that eradication was successful and proposes reporting the pest as absent.

Bonus: what additional piece of evidence would change the status for each scenario?

Pest status	Pest status description
Present: widely distributed	The pest is present throughout the area, where conditions are suitable.
Present: not widely distributed and not under official control	The pest is present in a part or parts of the area and is not under "official control" in accordance with Supplement 1 (Guidelines on the interpretation and application of the concepts of "official control" and "not widely distributed") to ISPM 5 (*Glossary of phytosanitary terms*).
Present: not widely distributed and under official control	The pest is present in a part or parts of the area and is subject to "official control" in accordance with Supplement 1 (Guidelines on the interpretation and application of the concepts of "official control" and "not widely distributed") to ISPM 5 (*Glossary of phytosanitary terms*). The purpose of the official control should be stated alongside the pest status determination.
Present: at low prevalence	The pest is present in the area but its prevalence is low in accordance with ISPM 22 (*Requirements for the establishment of areas of low pest prevalence*).
Present: except in specified pest free areas	The pest is present in the area except in parts of the_area which are free from the pest in accordance with ISPM 4 (*Requirements for the establishment of pest free areas*). These parts should be described alongside the pest_status determination.
Present: transient	The pest is present but the evidence supports the conclusion that the pest is not expected to establish because conditions (e.g. hosts, climate) are not suitable for establishment or appropriate phytosanitary measures have been applied.

Table 2. Pest status – Absent

Pest status	Pest status description
Absent: pest not recorded	Surveillance supports the conclusion that the pest is absent and has not been recorded (see ISPM 6 (*Surveillance*)).
Absent: the entire country is pest free	The entire country is established and maintained as a pest free area in accordance with ISPM 4 (*Requirements for the establishment of pest free areas*).
Absent: pest records invalid	Pest records indicate the presence of a pest, but the conclusion is reached that the records are invalid or no longer valid, such as in the following cases: - changes in taxonomy have occurred; - misidentification has occurred; - the record or records have not been confirmed; - there are errors in the record or records; - changes in national borders have occurred.
Absent: pest no longer present	Pest records indicate that the pest was present in the past, but surveillance indicates that the pest is no longer present (see ISPM 6 (*Surveillance*)). The reason or reasons may include: - climate or other natural limitation to pest perpetuation; - changes in cultivated host species or cultivars; - changes in production practices.
Absent: pest eradicated	Pest records indicate that the pest was present in the past. Documented pest eradication measures were implemented and were successful (see ISPM 9 (*Guidelines for pest eradication programmes*)). Surveillance confirms continued absence (see ISPM 6 (*Surveillance*)).

Answers

Scenario	Official pest status (ISPM 8, 2021)	Justification	Why alternative statuses are incorrect
1 Greenhouse outbreak	Present: not widely distributed and not under official control	Established populations occur in two regions. Grower voluntary measures is not the same as official control.	Transient: Reproduction over three years supports establishment. At low prevalence: Low incidence alone does not meet ISPM 22 requirements.
2 Disputed historical record	Absent: pest records invalid	The original record was confirmed as a misidentification. Border interceptions do not establish presence, and the garden report remains unconfirmed. Targeted surveillance supports absence.	Absent: pest eradicated: No eradication occurred. Absent: pest no longer present: There is no reliable evidence that Pest B was ever established.
3 Uncertain eradication	Present: not widely distributed and under official control	The last confirmed status involved a localised outbreak under official eradication measures. Surveillance does not adequately cover potential wild-host reservoirs, so successful eradication cannot yet be confirmed.	Absent: pest eradicated: Requires evidence that eradication was successful and surveillance confirms continued absence. Negative orchard surveys alone are insufficient.