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- (71) **Applicants:** **WAGENINGEN UNIVERSITEIT** [NL/NL]; Droevendaalsesteeg 4, NL-6708 PB Wageningen (NL). **STICHTING DIENST LANDBOUWKUNDIG ONDERZOEK** [NL/NL]; Droevendaalsesteeg 4, NL-6708 PB Wageningen (NL).
- (72) **Inventors:** **VAN LAMMEREN, Andreas Antonius Maria**; Halderweg 34, NL-6721 ZK Bennekom (NL). **DE KEIJZER, Jeroen**; Leeuwerikswede 168, NL-6708 LN Wageningen (NL). **KETELAAR, Matteus Johannes**; Nienke van Hichtumstraat 8, NL-6708 SE Wageningen (NL). **VAN KUIK, Alphonsus Joannes**; Jacob van Lennephove 21, NL-3438 PB Nieuwegein (NL).
- (74) **Agent:** **HARRISON GODDARD FOOTE LLP**; 140 London Wall, London Greater London EC2Y 5DN (GB).

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(54) **Title:** NON-DESTRUCTIVE HEAT TREATMENT OF TREES TO STOP DISEASE PROGRESSION

(57) **Abstract:** Some bacterial species are major pathogens of trees. Establishment, growth and the quality of trees can be affected by these disease outbreaks. Infected trees exhibit extensive necrosis of phloem and cambium, which can ultimately lead to dieback. The endophytic localization of and ability of these pathogens to create a protective matrix render them poorly accessible to control agents. The present invention provides methods and apparatus for controlling or stopping bacterial infections in trees by heat-treatment comprising incubation of plants or plant parts at about 39 °C for a period not less than 48 hours.



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INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

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A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER

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B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)

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Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practicable, search terms used)

EPO-Internal, WPI Data

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category*	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	WO 2006/021225 A1 (POLLINGER HARTWIG [IT]) 2 March 2006 (2006-03-02)	1-5,7-13
Y	page 3, paragraph 7 page 4, paragraph 2 page 5, paragraph 4 page 9, paragraphs 1,2; figures -----	6
X	FR 35 295 E (VEDRINSKY ALEXANDRE) 31 December 1929 (1929-12-31)	14
Y	the whole document ----- -/--	6



Further documents are listed in the continuation of Box C.



See patent family annex.

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Date of the actual completion of the international search

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Name and mailing address of the ISA/

European Patent Office, P.B. 5818 Patentlaan 2
NL - 2280 HV Rijswijk
Tel. (+31-70) 340-2040,
Fax: (+31-70) 340-3016

Authorized officer

Schlichting, N

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C(Continuation). DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT		
Category*	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
A	M. KECK ET AL: "Heat treatment of plant propagation material for the control of fire blight", PLANT PATHOLOGY, vol. 44, no. 1, 1 February 1995 (1995-02-01), pages 124-129, XP055096463, ISSN: 0032-0862, DOI: 10.1111/j.1365-3059.1995.tb02724.x cited in the application abstract -----	1-11

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Information on patent family members

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Patent document cited in search report	Publication date	Patent family member(s)	Publication date	
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			WO 2006021231 A1	02-03-2006

FR 35295	E	31-12-1929	NONE	
