

# NEWSLETTER OBSERVATORY OF HIGH-STAKE SPECIES FOR HUMAN HEALTH



OBSERVATOIRE DES ESPECES  
A ENJEUX  
POUR LA SANTE HUMAINE

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## INTERNATIONAL RAGWEED DAYS 2023 IN FRANCE

News

As every year in June, the fight against ragweed is in the spotlight in France. From the 15th to the 30th June, events on the theme of *Ambrosia* were organized everywhere in the country (see Fig1).

This is an opportunity for various structures (municipalities, association for the environment, structures in charge of the ragweed management, botanical conservatories, national parks, etc.) to create events that aim to **inform and raise awareness** of health, environmental and agriculture problems caused by ragweeds.

Information meetings, training, exhibitions, exchanges, collective uprooting, activities with children...

Each year, the number of events organised increases. This year, more than 100 events took place in France !

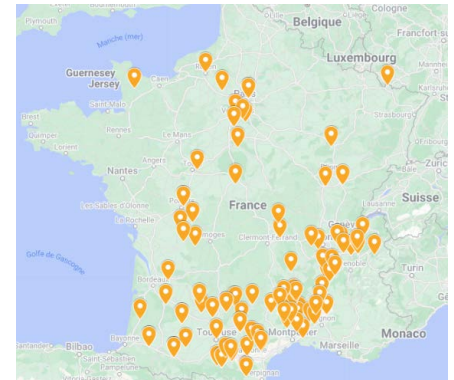


Fig1 - Map of 2023 IRD events in France



Fig 2 - Collective uprooting of ragweed

## WHEN DOES RAGWEED START POLLINATING THIS YEAR IN FRANCE?

News

The french National aerobiological monitoring network (RNSA) estimates each year the pollination starting date of *Ambrosia artemisiifolia*.

The RNSA is a french network whose main purpose is to quantify and study biological particles in outdoor air (mold and pollen) generating an **allergic risk** for the population.

Thanks to a mathematical model based on **meteorological data** from the beginning of the year, the group is able to estimate the precise moment when the concentration of ragweed pollen will be **sufficient to represent an allergic risk** for sensitive people.

**RNSA**  
RÉSEAU NATIONAL DE SURVEILLANCE AÉROBIOLOGIQUE

This year, the model gives the date of **11 August for the Auvergne Rhône-Alpes region**.

The model shows the same result as in 2021. In 2022, the "ragweed day for allergy sufferers" was two days earlier (2022 had a warm spring and summer).

**Last week, the first ragweed pollens have been appearing** in the center of the France and in the Auvergne Rhône-Alpes region for a few days **with a low risk of allergy**.

# BUDAPEST : MINISTERIAL CONFERENCE ON ENVIRONMENT AND HEALTH

Science

From July 5 to 7 took place the 7th Ministerial Conference on Environment and Health in Budapest. A great opportunity for the Observatory to present, through a poster, the issues relating to high-stake species for human health.

The poster, written in English, presents the **management and monitoring of harmful species in France**.

Ragweed and processionary moth are invasive species, exotic for ragweed and endemic for processionary moth, whose proliferation represents a health issue. Their geographical distribution and their risks are increasing with climate change and loss of biodiversity.

The French Ministry of Health published recently **public health regulations** specific to three species of ragweeds and two species of processionary moths. Operational texts were written, and the framework is gradually emerging.

The poster presents these species, as well as the different actors involved in their control, from local to international scale.

[Click here to see the poster](#)



## UPDATE OF DISTRIBUTION MAPS OF RAGWEEDS IN FRANCE

The French ragweed observatory published online an update of the distribution maps of the three *Ambrosia* species regulated in France.

In France, **3 ragweed species** are recognized and regulated as species with challenges for human health : *Ambrosia artemisiifolia*, *A. trifida* and *A. psilostachya*.

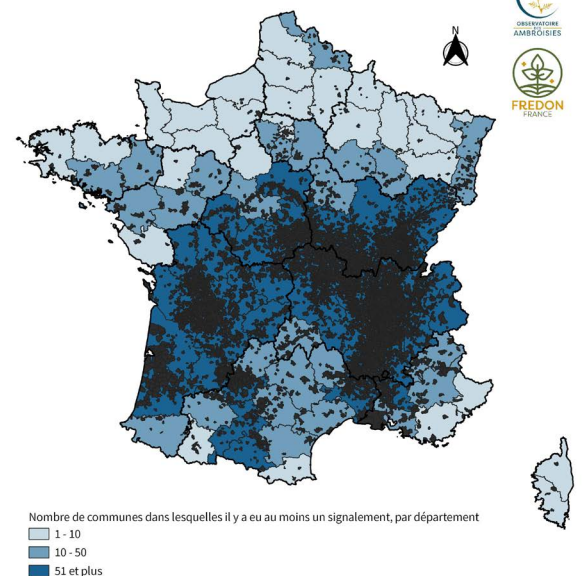
Every year, the French ragweed observatory produces distribution maps for these species.

For example, you can see on the right the distribution map of common ragweed in France (*Ambrosia artemisiifolia*), cumulative datas 2002-2022..

Every black dot is a municipality where at least one common ragweed plant has been seen. Blue areas represent the French départements, with a colour scale according to the number of municipalities where there has been at least one report.

It was created thanks to the crossing of data collected by the [ragweed reporting plateforme](#) but also various professional networks such as national botanical conservatories, FREDON France, CPIE, etc.

Etat des connaissances sur la répartition de l'Ambrosie à feuilles d'armoïse (*Ambrosia artemisiifolia* L.) en France entre 2002 et 2022



Carte réalisée par l'Observatoire des ambrosies - FREDON France - mai 2023.

Les zones définies représentent, par département, le nombre de communes dans lesquelles il y a eu au moins un signalement

## SHORT NOTICE

- **15th of September 2023 - Kick-off Meeting of the EWRS Working Group on Biological Control, Aveiro (Portugal):** In order to pursue the re-establishment of the biological control working group, **a one day kick-off meeting** is planned in Aveiro (Portugal) on the 15 September 2023. Although independent the kick-off meeting will take advantage of the preceding **IOBC meeting** “Benefits and Risks of Exotic Biological control agents” held at the same location from 11-14 September in order to facilitate synergies between the two events, i.e. allowing participants to attend both meetings.
- “**Fredonnons la Nature**”, a **scientific podcast by FREDON France** has been launched in the beginning of 2023 and deals **each month with a new species at stake**. For now, 7 episodes have been released. The podcasts can be found following this link (in French only): <https://linktr.ee/fredonfrance>

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Follow all the Observatory actions on social medias:



Former Ragweed Observatory letters can be consulted [here](#)