Order of the Minister of Agriculture and Water Resources dated 13 October 2009, fixing fight measures to undertake against the quarantine organism "tuta absoluta".

The Minister of Agriculture and Water Resources,

Having regard to law n° 92-72 dated 3 August 1992, reviewing the legislation relating to the plants protection, as completed by law n° 89-5 dated 11 January 1989 and notably articles 3 and 9,

Having regard to decree n° 2001-419 dated 13 February 2001, fixing the attributions of the Ministry of Agriculture,

Having regard to the order of the Minister of Agriculture dated 16 January 1999, fixing the list of the quarantine organisms, as completed by the order dated 13 October 2009.

Orders the following:

Article one - The fight against the "tuta absoluta" is obligatory on the whole national territory and is carried out in a permanent way.

Art. 2 - Are regarded as host plants of the "tuta absoluta", perpetuated or cultivated solanaceous.

Art. 3 - The farm owner or its exploiting person shall immediately report to the departments of the Ministry of agriculture and water resources or the territorially relevant regional commissionership of agricultural development any suspicion of appearance of the "tuta absoluta" in his exploitation.

Art. 4 - The concerned relevant departments of the Ministry of Agriculture and Water Resources or the territorially relevant regional commissionership of agricultural development carry out the necessary investigations in the zone where the "tuta absoluta" was reported.

Art. 5 - If the carried out investigations allow to identify the "tuta absoluta", the farm owner or its exploiting person proceeds to the fight operations according to the methods advised by the concerned territorially relevant departments of the Ministry of Agriculture and Water Resources or the territorially relevant regional commissionership of agricultural development.

Art. 6 - If the farm owner or its exploiting person does not take the necessary measures in order to fight the "tutta absoluta" within a deadline not exceeding a week as from the date of the confirmation of the intervention need, the relevant departments of the Ministry of Agriculture and Water Resources or the territorially relevant regional commissionership of agricultural development carry out the fight operations, the related expenses are at the expenses of the farm owner or its exploiting person.

Art. 7 - The order herein shall be published in the Official Gazette of the Republic of Tunisia.

Tunis, 13 October 2009.

The Minister of Agriculture and Water Resources Abdessalem Mansour

Visa The Prime Minister Mohamed Ghannouchi