



# NAPPO

North American Plant Protection Organization  
Organización Norteamericana de Protección a las Plantas

## NAPPO Conference Report

Expert Group:	Electronic Certification	
Location:	Video conference – Zoom meeting	
Date:	January 12, 2022	
Chairperson	Christian Dellis (APHIS – PPQ)	
Participants:		
Delfino Hernández (SENASICA)	Chuck Dentelbeck (Canada industry)	Francisca de la Cruz Martínez (SENASICA)
Paul Newman (Canada Industry)	Stephanie Dubon (NAPPO AMC)	Nedelka Marín-Martínez (NAPPO)
Avtar Virk (CFIA)	Jamie Richardson (CFIA)	Cara Grant (CFIA)
Stephanie Bloem (NAPPO)	Alonso Suazo (NAPPO)	

### Summary

Project:	<i>Electronic Phytosanitary Certification (ephyto)</i>
General comments:	<p>Welcome remarks by the NAPPO TD and the EG Chairperson. Mr. Paul Newman (Canada Industry), a new member of the EG, introduced himself to the EG. EG members introduced themselves following Mr. Newman introduction.</p> <p>EG agreed to record this video conference for report purposes. The NAPPO TD agreed to take notes and prepare the report for the Chairperson to review, approve and return to the Secretariat. The approved report will be translated, shared with the EG members, and uploaded to the NAPPO website.</p>
Item 1:	Country report
Consensus:	<p>Canada:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Continues to experience IM IT challenges.</li> <li>Resequencing activities and prioritizing work with plant certificates and government to government certifications.</li> </ul> <p>Mexico:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Continues favorable collaboration and interactions with the US.</li> <li>Had issues with certificates sent in white pages. White paper certificates were used by the US in December 2021. This issue was addressed by Christian Dellis who indicated that ephyto is still the main mechanism. Christian also indicated that many countries would not accept the “white paper” form because a lot of information was redacted. This is not an issue with the ephyto (exporters and importers information is visible). Mexico suggested the US send an</li> </ul>

	<p>official notification announcing that ephyto is still the main mechanism.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Is ready to start testing the system with Canada.</li> <li>• France started using the ephyto system with Mexico in December 2021. Mexico started exchanging with France on January 1, 2022.</li> </ul> <p>US:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Is sending ephyto to 56 trading partners and receiving from 26.</li> <li>• Most countries in Europe cannot send ephyto but they can receive.</li> <li>• Actively in conversation with Paraguay and Ecuador to send and receive ephyto with the US</li> <li>• Is maintaining a public site with the various countries that are actively exchanging:  <a href="https://www.aphis.usda.gov/aphis/ourfocus/planthealth/sa_export/ephyto-participating-countries">https://www.aphis.usda.gov/aphis/ourfocus/planthealth/sa_export/ephyto-participating-countries</a> </li> </ul>	
Item 2:	Updates from the IPPC	
Consensus:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Working on a focus group to develop financial models for a sustainable funding approach for the ephyto project.</li> <li>• Meet twice a month with the IPPC ephyto project developers to address and review requests that come from trading partners with respect to the generic system and the hub.</li> <li>• Working on a French version of the generic system. A Spanish version will follow.</li> <li>• Working with Trinidad and Tobago, the last country to join the generic system.</li> <li>• Is investigating the possibility of using the ephyto hub for other non-plant systems (animal health, etc.)</li> </ul>	
Item 3:	Industry updates	
Consensus:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Canada industry still working to have industry certificates in the system.</li> <li>• Letters of credits (LoC) are no longer an issue for ephyto. Producers in Canada were successful in removing the requirements from the LoC. The financial institutions in Canada accept the ephyto system.</li> </ul>	
Other subjects	The ED informed the EG that Mr. Ibrahim Shaqir from APHIS PPQ is the new EC member since APHIS PPQ. Mr. Osama El-Lissy (former EC member) retired.	
<b>Next Steps</b>		
<b>Responsible</b>	<b>Action</b>	<b>Date</b>
<b>Next Meeting</b>		
Location:	Video conference – Zoom meeting	
Date:	April 6, 2022 from 2:00 to 3:00 pm EST.	
<b>Proposed Agenda Items</b>		
1.		

2.