



# NAPPO

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

## NAPPO Conference Call Report

Expert Group:	Seed-ToBRFV	
Location:	Video conference	
Date:	May 27, 2020	
Chairperson	Edward Podleckis (APHIS-PPQ)	
Participants:		
Patricia McAllister (CFIA)	Pamela Ross (CFIA)	Nancy Osterbauer (APHIS-PPQ)
Vessela Mavrodieva (APHIS-PPQ)	Geoffrey Dennis (APHIS-PPQ)	Kevin Ong (TAMU)
José Manuel Cambrón Crisantos (SENASICA)	Jessica Berenice Valencia Luna (SENASICA)	Daniela Alejandra Bocanegra Flores (SENASICA)
Ric Dunkle (US industry)	Samantha Thomas (US Industry)	Marlene Ortíz (Mexico Industry)
Mario Puente Raya (Mexico Industry)	Patricia Abad (APHIS-PPQ)	Stephanie Bloem (NAPPO)
Nedelka Marín Martínez (NAPPO)	Alonso Suazo (NAPPO)	
<b>Summary</b>		
Project /Proyecto:	A pilot for harmonization of diagnostic protocols for seed pests focused on ToBRFV.	
Item 1:	Review of last conference call discussion points.	
Consensus:	<p>The Chairperson indicated that during the last conference call</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• a Chair and Vice-chairperson were elected.</li> <li>• the NAPPO Secretariat shared a document to use as a guide for the “Terms of Reference” for the EG project.</li> <li>• the NAPPO ED summarized the points of the terms of reference document and provided a list of questions for the EG to provide input for discussion during the next conference call.</li> </ul> <p>A discussion on each question followed.</p>	
Item 2:	<b>Q1.</b> What is the broad purpose/role of the group? What are the aims/responsibilities of the group?	
Consensus:	<p>The ED indicated that the purpose of the group is:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• to provide input to the Executive Committee on a way forward with the project and</li> <li>• to establish a harmonized protocol for the identification of the ToBRFV.</li> </ul> <p>Two points of views were discussed:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Mexico supported the work on developing a harmonized protocol for the NAPPO region.</li> <li>2. The US favors an approach of developing the</li> </ol>	

	<p>characteristics needed for protocols to be acceptable in the NAPPO region.</p> <p>Both points of views were discussed. Highlights from the discussions follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Working on the characteristics of an acceptable protocol will result in a more complex project for the EG raising concerns about the feasibility of completing the project in the expected time frame.</li> <li>• Mexico proposed to work on a single protocol and then focus the work on the characteristics. Many protocols are available. The EG should determine which ones are acceptable.</li> <li>• If different protocols are available and produce the same results how is the EG going to determine which protocols to select? Mexico suggested that the determination of acceptable protocols should be the first task for the EG, and the selection of protocols should be scientifically based and under consensus.</li> <li>• Measurable characteristics are important for the EG to consider because they can be used in better protocols that will be developed in the future.</li> <li>• Defining the characteristics/Criteria will eventually determine which currently available protocols in the NAPPO region are acceptable.</li> <li>• Discussions on the desired outcome for the EG will continue in the next conference call. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ One protocol vs</li> <li>○ Measurable characteristics to determine equivalent protocols.</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Need for common terminology. Consider the glossary provided by Mexico. The Chairperson requested the group to provide comments on the Glossary. Comments should be sent to the Secretariat for translation and to share with the EG.</li> </ul>
Item 3:	<b>Q2.</b> What are the major objectives of the proposed project?
Consensus:	<p>EG comments follow:</p> <p>Mexico:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Establish the criteria or characteristics for a protocol to use in the detection of the ToBRFV.</li> <li>• Establish a harmonized protocol for the detection of ToBRFV in the NAPPO region.</li> <li>• Establish a validation and recognition process for the results obtained by the harmonized protocol.</li> </ul> <p>US:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• What process will the group use to evaluate different methods?</li> <li>• How are we going to look into the development of new and more effective protocols in the future if we only have</li> </ul>

	<p>a selected protocol today?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• How is the EG going to decide that several protocols work equally well?</li> <li>• To determine the processes to use to compare protocols and use that information to determine which protocols are acceptable.</li> <li>• Develop equivalencies or validation of methods to use for the detection of ToBRFV. This is important because the testing is done in different labs run under different conditions.</li> </ul> <p>Canada:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The group should decide first on what the performance criteria for a protocol should be.</li> <li>• How to build on the work the EG will do with the ToBRFV and use it in other new pests very quickly in a harmonize way in the NAPPO region.</li> </ul>	
Item 4:	<b>Q3.</b> What is expected of this project? What is the target audience?	
Consensus:	<p>Target audience:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• NAPPO member countries NPPOs.</li> <li>• Wider audience resulting from a publication as an outcome of this work.</li> <li>• Third-parties labs.</li> </ul>	
Other subjects	An interim call will be scheduled to finish discussions on the remaining questions.	
<b>Next Steps</b>		
<b>Responsible Person</b>	<b>Action</b>	<b>Date</b>
<b>Next Meeting</b>		
Location:	Video conference (Zoom) - Interim call.	
Date:	June 10 from 1:00-3:00 pm EDT.	
<b>Proposed Agenda Items</b>		
1. Finish discussions on the questions provided for the ToR.		
2.		