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46th NAPPO Annual Meeting

Dear NAPPO Stakeholders,

As was first announced at the 45th virtual NAPPO Annual Meeting - hosted by Canada in October of 2022 -, the Executive Committee and its new Chair for 2023, Ing. Francisco Ramírez y Ramírez, Plant Health General Director for the NPPO of Mexico and host of the 46th NAPPO Annual Meeting - are very pleased to confirm that our upcoming NAPPO Annual Meeting will be an **in-person event!!** Please mark your calendars with the following details:

What – 46th NAPPO Annual Meeting

Where – the beautiful city of Mérida, Yucatán, México

When – Monday, Dec. 4 through Thursday, December 7, 2023

The meeting will begin with a welcome reception on the evening of Dec. 4th. Welcome remarks by Mexican dignitaries, NAPPO member country government and Secretariat updates, and a status report on global plant health by the IPPC Secretary are planned for the first day of meetings. Time has been set aside for NAPPO member country government, industry, and combined government-industry meetings on Dec. 5th.

Updates from the 14 NAPPO Expert Groups (EGs) conducting projects to improve harmonization and application of phytosanitary measures in our region will be part of the meeting, as will be an awards dinner to recognize specific EGs or individual members for their important scientific and technical contributions to NAPPO. Under



NAPPO 2023

REUNIÓN ANUAL | ANNUAL MEETING
DEL 5 AL 7 DE DICIEMBRE | DECEMBER 5 TO 7

MÉRIDA ■ YUCATÁN ■ MÉXICO

the direction of our colleagues from Mexico, the NAPPO Advisory and Management Committee is narrowing-in on strategic and high-impact subjects for the Annual Meeting knowledge topics and the one-day symposium.

The NAPPO Management Team will take this opportunity to hold their in-person fall governance meetings in Merida. The NAPPO Secretariat is busy with final negotiations to confirm the meeting venue, including setting aside meeting rooms for possible bilateral, Expert Group or specific industry meetings. *Please contact the NAPPO Secretariat if you wish to confirm a meeting room as they will be available on a “first come first served” basis.*

As soon as meeting venue and hotel information are confirmed and available, we will post them on the NAPPO webpage for the 2023 Annual Meeting. A welcome letter from our host country and a draft Agenda will also be uploaded. Registration for the meeting will open in the summer. We certainly hope to see you in Merida! It will be wonderful to reconnect with friends and colleagues from the NAPPO region and beyond!

Stephanie Bloem

NAPPO Executive Director

NAPPO Management Team Met in Raleigh, North Carolina, U. S. in November 2022

After two long years of virtual meetings, members of the NAPPO Management Team (Executive Committee (EC), Advisory and Management Committee (AMC), and Industry Advisory Group (IAG)) from Canada and the United States and the NAPPO Secretariat met face-to-face in Raleigh, North Carolina, with colleagues from Mexico joining virtually. Simultaneous interpretation was provided by the NAPPO Secretariat. Government, and industry updates for each NAPPO member country were provided during the meeting. Additional topics discussed included:

- Overall evaluation of the 45th Annual Meeting to provide insights and recommendations on how to continue to provide impactful meetings to NAPPO stakeholders.
- NAPPO work program updates, including progress reports on each project, expected deliverables and timeframes, and possible new projects to consider for the NAPPO work program. Updates included coordination and activities of the Inter-American Coordinating Group in Plant Protection (GICSV in Spanish).
- Executive Director succession planning.
- NAPPO Secretariat updates including how the Work Program meets the goals of the 2022-2026 NAPPO Strategic Plan and a third quarter financial report.
- Discussions on strengthening industry participation in NAPPO activities.
- IPPC updates relevant to NAPPO including new developments in the IPPC Standards and Implementation Committees, the new role (Chair) of NAPPO in the Technical Consultation of Regional Plant Protection Organizations (TC-RPPO).
- Collaboration with other RPPOs including EPPO.

News from Expert Groups

Seeds ToBRFV –A pilot for harmonization of diagnostic protocols for seed pests focused on ToBRFV.

The NAPPO Seeds Expert Group successfully concluded the ring test on the pilot project on harmonizing protocols for the detection of Tomato Brown Rugose Fruit Virus (ToBRFV) in tomato and pepper seeds. Nine laboratories from the NAPPO region tested five ToBRFV detection protocols, three conventional PCR-based (endpoint) and two Real Time PCR-based, generating a total of 3,680 data points. Analytical, diagnostic, and calibrator samples were used in this comparative study to evaluate the precision (repeatability, intermediate precision, and reproducibility), accuracy (percent recovery and amplification efficiency), and selectivity (sensitivity and specificity) for all the protocols tested. Resulting data was uploaded to and organized using a web-based portal specifically designed for this project. The data was analyzed and reviewed by EG members.

Four diagnostic protocols are transferrable (protocols were used by all labs in the ring test successfully, and they should, theoretically, produce similar results during routine use) between NAPPO's National Plant Protection Organizations (NPPO) and three of them demonstrated optimal performance and reproducibility for the detection of ToBRFV in tomato and pepper seeds. The collaboration of NPPOs, academia, and industry greatly contributed to the successful completion of the experimental phase of this project. The Seeds EG will draft a final report that will be presented to the NAPPO Executive Committee. A scientific publication will also be written by the group. The results of the ring test will allow NAPPO member countries to select one or more of the tested protocols that showed optimal results thereby harmonizing phytosanitary measures and facilitating efficient and timely seed trade in our NAPPO region.

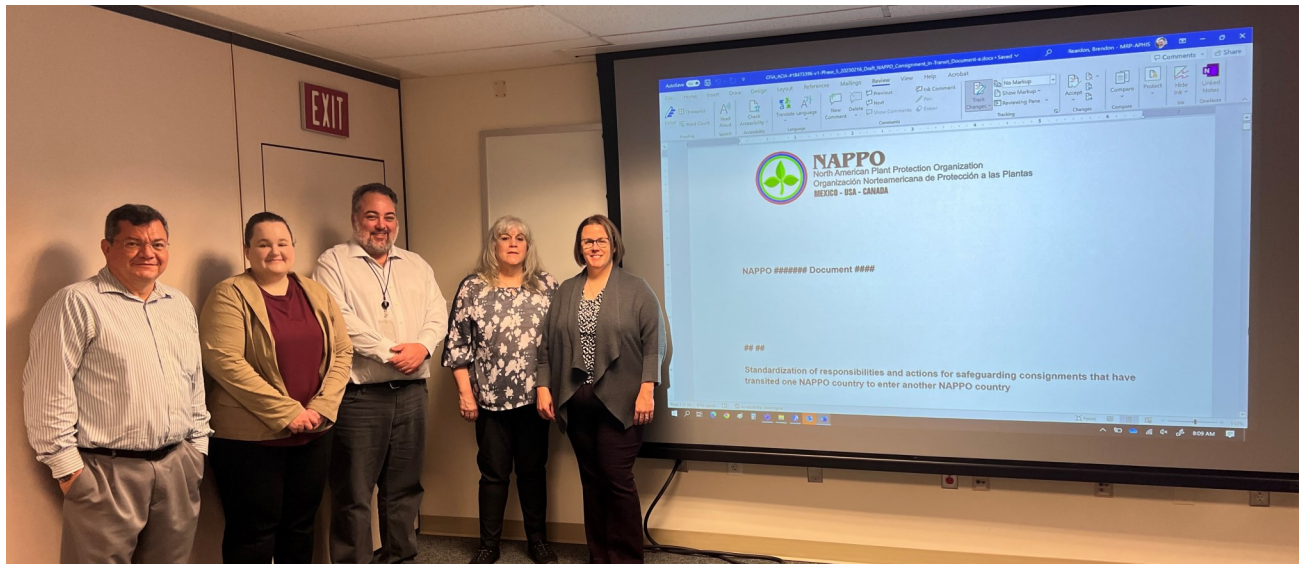
The ring test outcomes were presented to Seeds Canada by the NAPPO Secretariat on February 6 and a member of from the Seeds EG will present the ring test results at the International Congress of Plant Pathology to be held in August 20-25 2023 in Lyon, France. A detailed presentation is also planned for the upcoming NAPPO Annual Meeting in December 2023 in Merida, Yucatan, Mexico. The NAPPO Secretariat will post all EG reports and publications to the NAPPO website (www.nappo.org). Stay tuned for more information!

Guidance for improving the regional implementation of ISPM 25 (Consignment in-transit).

A two-day face-to-face meeting (February 16 and 17) of the members of the ISPM 25-guidance writing subgroup (WSG) took place at the APHIS PPQ Headquarters in Riverdale, Maryland. Wendy Asbil (CFIA), Erin Stiers (APHIS PPQ), Brendon Reardon (EG Chairperson, APHIS PPQ), Stephanie Dubon (NAPPO AMC member – APHIS PPQ) and Alonso Suazo (NAPPO TD) participated in the meeting.

The WSG reviewed the outline and status of the draft document and prioritized the sections that need further development. The WSG discussed the most important in-transit scenarios and non-compliance issues related to the in-transit movement of consignments at the U. S. - Canada border. Important communication aspects to prevent or address non-compliance issues were also discussed. The discussions concluded with the development of a list of recommendations for industry and NPPOs.

The WSG will develop an updated draft to share with the entire EG for review and feedback.



NAPPO ISPM 25 guidance face-to-face meeting participants. From left to right: Alonso Suazo (NAPPO TD), Stephanie Dubon (NAPPO AMC member APHIS PPQ), Brendon Reardon (EG Chairperson, APHIS PPQ), Wendy Asbil (CFIA), and Erin Stiers (APHIS PPQ).

RSPM 35 (Guidelines for the movement of Stone and Pome Fruit Trees and Grapevines into a NAPPO Member Country) - arthropod pest tables.

The EG concluded the revision and update of the RSPM 35 arthropod pest tables for stone and pome fruit trees and grapevines. The tables will be added to the standard as an ink amendment. During the revision process, each NAPPO member country presented detailed information on how pest status is determined in their NPPO. Similarities and differences were identified. Species with a different pest status in all three NAPPO countries were carefully reevaluated, and evidence presented by each country was used to reconfirm or modify the pest status as needed.

The NAPPO Secretariat would like to thank the EG members for their work on this important regional standard.

RSPM 26 (Certification of commercial arthropod BCAs or non-Apis pollinators moving into NAPPO member countries).

A “Study Paper” is being prepared by the EG to provide background information on RSPM 26, identify potential areas for update, outline implementation issues and provide recommendations going forward. The RSPM 26 EG has strong and very active industry and NPPO membership.

NAPPO Discussion Document 5 (DD05: Management of Huanglongbing and its Vector, the Asian Citrus Psyllid, Diaphorina citri).

Additional experts were identified by the U. S. and Mexican NPPOs. The Revision of NAPPO DD05 is expected to begin before the end of the first quarter of 2023. The NAPPO Secretariat would like to welcome the following new EG members: Francisco Javier Márquez Pérez (SENASICA), Michael Hennessey (APHIS PPQ), Mayra Arredondo (APHIS PPQ), and Cathy Sue Katsar (APHIS PPQ).

Phytosanitary Alert System. The EG continues meeting the IPPC Pest Reporting Obligations and facilitating awareness, detection, prevention, and management of exotic plant pest

species within North America by managing and publishing Official Pest Reports from NAPPO member countries. Nine Official Pest Reports have been published (8 from the U. S. and 1 from Canada) since November 1, 2022. The NAPPO Secretariat would like to welcome Rajesh Ramarathnam (CFIA) who has returned to the EG and thank Naima Ait Oumejjout (CFIA) for her contributions.

Forest Quarantine Research Group (FQRG). Current FQRG discussions include heat treatment parameters for wood products and how to get consensus on which treatment parameters to use in our region.

Furthering the implementation of Risk-Based Sampling. The RBS module content was translated, and all voice content was recorded in Spanish. The NAPPO IT specialist is building the module using the Storyline 360 (Articulate) software. Completion of this project is expected for the 2nd quarter of 2023.

NAPPO Standard Development: An Industry View

A revision of RSPM 35 “Guidelines for the movement of Stone and Pome Fruit Trees and Grapevines into a NAPPO Member Country” was recently finalized under the adroit leadership of CFIA’s Sarah Brearey. From an industry perspective, this revision of RSPM 35 was most significant in removing agents of unknown etiology (AUE), once thought to be viruses or virus-like entities, from the pest list in the standard. The three U.S. industry participants on the group, Bill Howell and Mike Willett (Northwest Nursery Improvement Institute) and Craig Regelbrugge (AmericanHort), were able to provide both technical and anecdotal information to the group regarding specific pome fruit AUE, including the observation that no disease had been detected in decades of field indexing otherwise clean material.

Even prior to its publication, a review of the proposed standard by USDA APHIS PPQ Plants for Planting resulted in a change to the testing and therapy permits issued to the U.S. National Clean Plant Network-Fruit Tree centers. Modification of these permits eliminated a requirement for field indexing for AUE, trimming three years off the pome fruit diagnostic protocols at these centers, putting valuable plant materials in grower’s hands and getting high quality apple and pear cultivars to consumers that much sooner.

The expert group’s consideration and confirmation of the information submitted by U.S. industry in developing the standard is a clear example of how the NAPPO industry-regulatory collaboration produced a standard that was successfully implemented for the benefit of agriculture without compromising quarantine security.

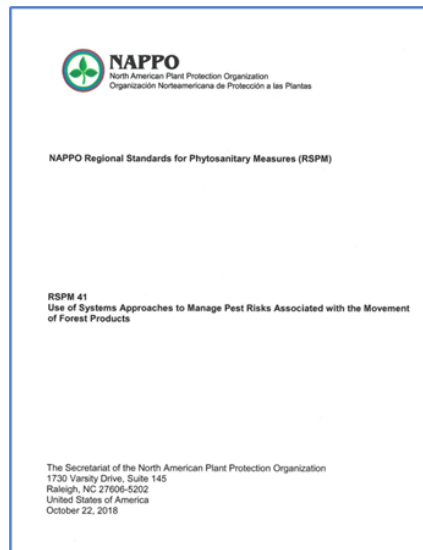
By: Mike Willet, Craig Regelbrugge, and Bill Howell
Industry members of the NAPPO RSPM 35 EG

Easy to Read Summaries of NAPPO Regional Plant Health Standards Coming Soon to the NAPPO Website

To improve implementation and utilization of NAPPO Regional Standards for Phytosanitary Measures (RSPMs) thereby contributing to the harmonization of phytosanitary approaches in our region, the NAPPO Secretariat has engaged our U. S. Editor – Lottie Erikson – to develop easy to read illustrated summaries of our RSPMs for use by industry and NPPO stakeholders alike.

Summaries will be made available in English and Spanish and be posted to the NAPPO website alongside each RSPM. The idea of making available these easy-to-read summaries came from the NAPPO Expert Group that drafted RSPM 41 – *Use of Systems Approaches to Manage Pest Risks Associated with the Movement of Forest Products*.

Thus far, Lottie has drafted four summaries that are under review by the NAPPO Advisory and Management Committee. The NAPPO Secretariat is responsible for finding images to illustrate the summaries. We hope you find these materials useful!



Recent GICSV Activities Prior to the Transfer of Coordination from NAPPO to OIRSA

The Inter-American Coordinating Group in Plant Protection (GICSV for its acronym in Spanish) is composed of the regional plant protection organizations (RPPOs) of the Americas: CAHFSA, CAN, COSAVE, NAPPO, and OIRSA. According to the GICSV's constitution and by-laws, the coordination of the steering committee will be the responsibility of one of its RPPO (Regional Plant Protection Organization) members for a two-year term on a rotating basis. The GICSV has been under NAPPO's coordination since March 2021 and will transfer the coordination to OIRSA (Organismo Internacional Regional de Sanidad Agropecuaria) by the end of this month (March 2023).

The GICSV has been quite active this year, with numerous meetings scheduled for all six working groups (WG) prior to the transfer coordination. In addition, the following webinars with simultaneous interpretation in English and Spanish have been offered or are scheduled to be offered in the near future:

Citrus Webinars. Over 870 people from Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Bolivia, Brazil, Belize, Costa Rica, Colombia, the Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Jamaica, Nicaragua, Panama, Peru, Chile, Paraguay, Mexico, Uruguay, the United States, and Venezuela, among others, took part in two webinars:

February 2nd Phytosanitary intelligence as an imminent regional strategy to prevent, suppress, and control pests and diseases in a dynamic international context: Case study of HLB and

Diaphorina citri. Speaker Roberto Tapia, SAG Chile. The webinar is available by clicking [here](#).

February 9th Introduction to citrus diseases of regional impact. Speaker Beatriz Xoconostle Cazares, CINVESTAV-IPN Mexico. The webinar is available by clicking [here](#).

Sea Container and Cargo Cleanliness Activities: Updates for GICSV. In response to the recent updates and continued interest in this topic, the GICSV organized a follow-up webinar to share and provide the latest updates on sea containers. This webinar took place on February 23 and had over 90 participants from different countries. The webinar is available by clicking [here](#).

Conversation: Single window and its phytosanitary context. Offered today March 1st by three subject matter experts with many years of experience in this topic:

- Opening the single window. *Robert L. Griffin*
- Quarantine in the digital age – How single windows support safe trade. *Shane Sela*
- Single window experience in Nepal. *Mahesh Chandra Acharya*

The new world of phytosanitary treatments. This webinar will be held on March 9, and the main objective is to promote the use of innovative methodologies related to pest management and market access. The international experts will discuss the future of the phytosanitary treatments, and will cover the following topics:

- The future of phytosanitary measures: risk-based treatments. *Robert L. Griffin*
- Phytosanitary irradiation and citrus cold storage: PICS treatments. *Emilia Bustos Griffin*

To participate in this webinar, please click on this link to register:

https://iica.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_ziiTsQy3QdmzOiYnnQaygg

Password: DCT2023 ID: 839 2623 3632

NAPPO to Chair the 35th Technical Consultation among Regional Plant Protection Organizations



The Technical Consultation among Regional plant protection organizations (TC-RPPO) brings together the ten RPPOs from around the world and is convened each year by the Secretary of the IPPC. During the years of the COVID-19 pandemic, the TC-RPPO met mostly virtually, with a short face-to-face meeting on the margins of the International Plant Health Conference (IPHC) in London in September of 2022. The current Chair of the 34th TC-RPPO is one of the RPPOs in South America - the Comité de Sanidad Vegetal del Cono Sur (COSAVE) through its current host country, Argentina. Mr. Diego Quiroga will be handing over the Chair to NAPPO at the last meeting of the 34th TC-RPPO to be held on the margins of the 17th Commission on Phytosanitary

Measures (CPM) meeting in late March at FAO Headquarters in Rome, Italy.

The purpose of the TC-RPPO is to encourage inter-regional cooperation in the application of harmonized phytosanitary measures and the implementation of international standards for phytosanitary measures (ISPMs), and provides a forum for consultation and exchange of phytosanitary intelligence among regions. The TC-RPPO contributes to the work program of the CPM, specifically to the Implementation of the IPPC Strategic Framework (2020-2030) Development Agenda items.

NAPPO hopes to organize the first multi-day face-to-face TC-RPPO meeting since the 31st TC-RPPO hosted by the Inter-African Phytosanitary Council (IAPSC) in Abuja, Nigeria in 2019. Tentative dates for the 35th TC-RPPO are 23-27 October 2023. Possible meeting venues being discussed with the IPPC Secretariat include Bogotá, Colombia and Rome, Italy. Stay tuned for updates!

Meetings between NAPPO and the European and Mediterranean Plant Protection Organization – EPPO

NAPPO Executive Committee members from Canada and the United States travelled alongside the NAPPO Executive Director to attend a meeting with EPPO at their headquarters in Paris in mid-January 2023. The EPPO-NAPPO meeting was organized in conjunction with the EPPO Panel on Global Phytosanitary Affairs. Discussion topics included the latest information and planned workshop on Sea Containers, the Implementation of the IPPC Strategic Framework (2020-2030) and its eight Development Agenda Items, potential adjustments to the CPM Chairperson in 2024-2025, long-term sustainable funding mechanism for ePhyto, climate change impacts of Pest Risk Analysis, One Health and Plant Health, IPPC-ISPMs and Annexes to ISPMs under development, possible collaboration between EPPO and NAPPO and future EPPO-NAPPO meetings, among others.

The group agreed to reconvene in Rome on the Sunday before the 17th Commission on Phytosanitary Measures (CPM-17) meeting in late March to examine and share CPM-17 regional positions. The January 2024 EPPO-NAPPO meeting will be hosted by NAPPO and held somewhere in the United States. In addition to strategic topics, the 2024 meeting hopes to include a technical issues section, where NPPO experts from both regions can come together and address specific technical issues identified by the regions.



Participants of the NAPPO-EPPO meeting at the EPPO Headquarters in Paris, France

NAPPO to attend the 17th Session of the Commission on Phytosanitary Measures (CPM-17) in Rome, Italy

The NAPPO Executive and Technical Directors will attend the first in-person CPM (CPM-17) since 2019, scheduled from March 27-31 2023 at the FAO headquarters in Rome, Italy.

Progress reports of the past year will be presented by the Standards Committee, Implementation and Capacity Development Committee, the IPPC Secretariat, working groups, technical panels and task forces. Four International Standards for Phytosanitary Measures (ISPMs) will be considered for adoption:

- 1) Draft annex to ISPM 20: *Guidelines for a phytosanitary import regulatory system: Use of specific import authorizations* (2008-006).
- 2) Draft revision of ISPM 18: *Requirements for the use of irradiation as a phytosanitary measure* (2014-007).
- 3) Draft 2021 amendments to ISPM 5: *Glossary of phytosanitary terms* (1994-001), and
- 4) Draft annex to ISPM 28: *Irradiation treatment for *Pseudococcus jackbeardsleyi** (2017-027)

For more information, click this link to access the [CPM-17 webpage](#) on the International Phytosanitary Portal.

Two important NAPPO-related events will take place in the margins of CPM-17:

- On Friday March 31, NAPPO will officially transfer the coordination of the Inter-American Coordinating Group in Plant Protection (GICSV in Spanish) to OIRSA (Organismo Internacional Regional de Sanidad Agropecuaria in Spanish). NAPPO and IICA have been coordinating GICSV activities for the last two years. Coordination of GICSV rotates every two years between the RPPOs of the Americas. Members of NAPPO, IICA and OIRSA will be present for this event.
- The TC-RPPO will meet following CPM-17. Mr. Diego Quiroga (COSAVE) will hand the Chair to Stephanie Bloem, the NAPPO Executive Director.

The IPPC Implementation and Capacity Development Committee (IC) meets in Rome

The IC met in Rome on 21-25 November to review their workplan for the year. This was the first in-person meeting since November 2019. The Officer in Charge of the IPPC Implementation and Facilitation Unit, which supports the IC, and the IC Chairperson from Canada thanked the members for their dedication and ability to adapt to the challenges of the virtual work environment, noting the importance of the IC in the implementation of the IPPC Strategic Framework 2020-2030.

Agenda topics included publishing of new guides, development of e-learning courses, the refocused IPPC Observatory, and assisting countries in completing Phytosanitary Capacity Evaluations (PCEs), among others. The IC agreed that a priority for 2023 is the successful implementation of the new IPPC guides and e-learning courses developed in 2022. The IC also noted the improvements made to the webpages on guides and training materials on the International Phytosanitary Portal and offered their support in promoting these resources.

The report on IC accomplishments for 2022 that will be presented at the 17th Commission on



Phytosanitary Measures (CPM-17) meeting in late March by the IC Chair Mr. Dominique Pelletier from Canada has already been posted and can be accessed here - <https://www.ippc.int/en/publications/91884/>.

The NAPPO Executive Director has been a member of the IC, representing all Regional plant protection organizations (RPPOs), since the Committee's inception. She will be stepping down from this position in May 2023. The new representative for all RPPOs on the IC is Ms. Melisa Nedilskyj from COSAVE.

**International Plant Protection Convention e-learning Courses
(excerpt from a recent International Phytosanitary Portal news
article - [https://www.ippc.int/en/news/spotlight-ippc-e-learning-
courses/](https://www.ippc.int/en/news/spotlight-ippc-e-learning-courses/))**

NAPPO stakeholders, please take note - the International Plant Protection Convention (IPPC) Secretariat and its partners have developed e-learning courses designed to enhance the capacity of staff from national plant protection organizations (NPPO). IPPC e-learning courses are free of charge and provide up to date online/remote training tools. Courses are self-paced but can also be tutor-led. NPPO staff will find practical, and



easy to understand guidance to help them improve their phytosanitary systems and effectively implement the Convention and its International Standards for Phytosanitary Measures (ISPMs). Upon completing a course, learners receive a digital certificate which they can add to their resume or to boost their LinkedIn profile. The platform with the link to all the IPPC e-learning courses is here - <https://www.ippc.int/en/e-learning/>

The Observatory, or a New Tool in the Toolbox of the IPPC Community

The IPPC needs no presentation to this audience. It is an international standard-setting body (ISSB) that does what it is supposed to do: developing and adopting international standards on phytosanitary measures (ISPMs) that provide guidance to its Contracting Parties (CPs) on how to conduct their plant health activities, which in turn allows for a more predictable and safer trade of plant products internationally.

What may be less known is that the Convention also contains provisions to encourage the development of guidance to ensure its proper and consistent implementation by its CPs, as well as developing their capacity to do so. It is with that in mind that the Implementation and Capacity Development Committee (IC) was established in 2017. When I am trying to explain the role of the IC, I often make the following oversimplified remark: making rules (ISPMs) is a crucial activity of the IPPC, however, if no one has the same understanding of the rules, nor has the capacity to comply to the rules, then rule-making becomes challenging (I might also have said “pointless” at times).

The work of the IPPC has indeed shifted more and more towards implementation over recent years, and the IPPC Observatory is one of the most recent tools added to the implementation toolbox to assess the ability of countries to implement the Convention.

What is the Observatory?

The IPPC Observatory was first established in 2011 under the name of Implementation Review and Support System (IRSS), and has been largely funded by the European Commission over three cycles of three years each. The mission of the IRSS then included the analysis of the implementation of the Convention and of its ISPMs to identify gaps, but also identify the underlying causes and provide assistance to address those gaps.

With the establishment of the IC, the “assistance part” of the IRSS more or less overlapped with the mandate of the IC itself. In an attempt to streamline implementation activities, the IC determined that the IRSS should limit its scope to analyzing the implementation, make recommendations, and to leave it up to the IC to determine what is the best course of action to address the gaps, be it developing a specific guide, workshop, etc. This was presented to the CPM which adopted the proposal.

With a shortened scope and a better defined mission, also came a new name, the IPPC Observatory, which is probably a better descriptor of its mission than a difficult of an acronym.

Since the establishment of the IRSS, fifteen studies have been published. In 2022 alone, eight new desk studies were conducted on topics that affect the implementation of the IPPC, and most of which will be published in 2023. Examples include: studies on the use of IPPC Diagnostic Protocols, on Risk-based Border Management, and on the successes and challenges of implementation of pest free areas.

How is it different from other IPPC initiatives?

At its core, the IPPC Observatory focuses on providing data and information about implementation challenges. The IPPC Observatory is meant to answer pointed questions about the state of the

implementation of the Convention in a relatively short time frame, via desk studies or surveys. Examples of topics currently underway include a study on e-Commerce, to show how online transactions have evolved since a similar study was conducted over a decade ago (2012). As we know, e-Commerce transactions have exploded in the last decade, even more so during the pandemic years. No surprises here. What is less known is how this trend has impacted plant health, as it is suspected that a significant number of parcels in circulation worldwide may actually contain prohibited or regulated articles, such as plant seeds.

Another Observatory topic is the design and distribution of the third IPPC general survey. Two general surveys have been conducted to date (in 2012 and 2016), and a third survey was being planned for distribution but the pandemic disrupted these efforts. The IC Sub-Group in charge of the Observatory determined it would be best to wait for NPPO activities to go back to some normality so that the survey provides data that can be easily compared with its pre-pandemic predecessors.

Finally a study on the use of the IPPC Diagnostic Protocols (DPs) is being conducted to attempt to answer the following questions: are DPs widely used by the IPPC Community? How widely and what are the preferred language versions used? This is important to determine as there is a common assumption that DPs are used in their original English version, regardless of the native language of the user. If this is the case, then shouldn't translation services be dedicated elsewhere? In the current environment of competing for resources, those are important questions to answer to inform future action.

Finally, one crucial aspect that differentiates the Observatory from other IPPC projects is that the call for topics remains open all year round. Think of it like of a suggestion box where ideas for topics can be communicated as they arise. So feel free to reach out to the official IPPC contact point of your country's NPPO should you have a suggestion for an Observatory topic!

Resources

IPPC Observatory web page: <https://bit.ly/3x86xig>

IPPC Observatory list of topics: <https://bit.ly/3YgyPCS>

IPPC Observatory fact sheet: <https://bit.ly/3l8WYpC>

IPPC Observatory video: <https://bit.ly/3x5nrhl>

By: Dominique Pelletier

CFIA and IPPC IC Chairperson

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