



NAPPO

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

NAPPO Conference Call Report

Expert Group:	Forestry- Evaluating the risk associated with different types of wood packaging material – Opportunities to improve ISPM 15 compliance.	
Location:	Zoom meeting	
Date:	July 11, 2025	
Chairperson	Meghan Noseworthy (NR Canada)	
Participants:		
Arvind Vasudevan (CFIA)	Tyrone Jones (APHIS PPQ)	
Brad Gething (US Industry)	María José Martínez (Mexico Industry)	Enrique Negrete (Mexico industry)
Samuel Podlipsky (Mexico Industry)	Leigh Greenwood (US industry)	Chuck Dentelbeck (Canada Industry)
Tanya Staffen (CFIA – NAPPO AMC)	Nedelka Marín-Martínez (NAPPO)	Alonso Suazo (NAPPO)
Summary		
Project:	Forestry- Evaluating the risk associated with different types of wood packaging material – Opportunities to improve ISPM 15 compliance.	
General comments:	The meeting focused on updates and progress regarding the project, including harmonizing terminology for wood packaging materials between Canada, the United States, and Mexico. The team discussed ongoing efforts to make WPM terminology and definitions widely available for more accurate data collection. They also noted a recent USDA webinar on wood packaging material, planned future EG meetings and presentations, and confirmed posting of meeting reports on the NAPPO website.	
Item 1:	Updates on terminology and data collection	
Consensus:	<p>Terminology Harmonization Progress Update</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - It was noted that CFIA has published definitions for WPM. The categories and definitions align with those recently published by the USDA and include additional terms used in Canada. Efforts are underway to discuss with the border services the potential use of the newly adopted terms and definitions for future data collection. - The Secretariat will translate the definitions in the table of the draft S&T document (in the NAPPO Google Docs folder) for colleagues in Mexico. - The group also discussed the status of similar efforts in Mexico; there has been progress in contacting relevant departments and organizations for support. 	

	<p>Wood Packaging Production in North America</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The team discussed one of the objectives of the EG: to describe the production processes for each type of WPM in North America. - The group agreed to start by describing the processes point-by-point, in the three countries, before summarizing the information on a table. For example, the steps for pallets may include obtaining certified materials, building pallets, applying the IPPC HT mark, and ensuring documentation is in place. This was a best-case scenario example, and the group acknowledged that it would be more challenging to include lesser-known processes for other types of WPM. - The group considered expanding the comparison to include other countries, for example, those in South America. <p>Biological Risk</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The group discussed another of their objectives: a logical and scientific risk assessment of different types of WPM (Action item: Eric and Meghan). <p>Wood Packaging Origin Data Issues</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The group discussed the new USDA APHIS wood packaging material dashboard, where data showing the origin of shipments sometimes incorrectly indicates the origin of the wood packaging material. This is a new system, and improvements are being made. There are plans for collecting more detailed data at the border in the future. <p>Wood Packaging Webinar Review</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The EG discussed a webinar on wood packaging held the previous day, by the USDA on behalf of customs, for educational credits. The recording will be shared with those who missed it (Action item: John Daniels). 	
Item 2:	Project updates and NAPPO Annual Meeting	
Consensus:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The group discussed the potential of submitting the new WPM definitions for the IPPC glossary. - The EG agreed to meet on August 22nd at 2 PM Eastern time. - The team confirmed that their meeting reports are posted on the NAPPO website under the expert working group section. - Tyrone will present the WPM EG project report at the NAPPO Annual Meeting in October. 	
Next Steps		
Responsible Person	Action	Date/

Meghan Noseworthy and Eric Allen	Finalize the scientific description section of the draft document.	July 25th
NAPPO Secretariat	Translate the CFIA and USDA terminology definitions and provide them to Mexican colleagues as soon as possible.	
Arvin Vasudevan	Provide an update regarding the potential use of new terminology by border services.	
Brad Gething	Review the scientific description section once Meghan and Eric have completed it.	
Tyrone Jones	Prepare and deliver the report on this expert working group at the IFQRG meeting in September and the NAPPO meeting in October.	
Alonso Suazo	Send the meeting report, agenda, and action items list with the calendar invite for the next meeting.	
Maria José Martínez and Samuel Podlipsky	Follow up on previously developed Mexican terminology document.	
John Daniels	Circulate the WPM webinar recording to the EG.	
Next Meeting		
Location:	Zoom meeting	
Date:	August 22, 2025, from 2:00 to 3:00 p.m. Eastern Standard Time	
Proposed Agenda Items		
1. Review action items of the July EG meeting		
2.		
3.		