



ORGANISATION NORD AMERICAINE POUR LA PROTECTION DES PLANTES
 NORTH AMERICAN PLANT PROTECTION ORGANIZATION
 ORGANIZACION NORTEAMERICANA DE PROTECCION A LAS PLANTAS
 CANADA UNITED STATES MEXICO

NAPPO Panel Report

Panel Name:	Biotechnology Panel	
Location:	Conference call	
Date:	December 2, 2009	
Panel Chair:	Terri Dunahay, US	
Participants:		
Michael Watson, US Julie Aliaga, US	Nataliya Dormann, Canada Phil Macdonald, Canada Nataliya Dormann, Canada	Oralia.Reséndez (for Francisco García García), Mexico Ana Lilia Montealegre, Mexico

Summary

Issue 1:	Follow-up and next steps from LMO symposium from the NAPPO Annual Meeting in October 2009
Consensus:	<p>The Panel discussed next steps to follow up on the symposium on “Living Modified Organisms and Plant Health” that was held at the NAPPO Annual Meeting in October 2009.</p> <p>The U.S. noted that the symposium was well received and summarized some of the main themes as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The importance of science in regulation and decision making. - The value of biotechnology as a tool in sustainable agriculture, for example as a means for decreased pesticide use, development of insect and virus resistant varieties, and addressing recalcitrant pest problems such as citrus greening - The importance of public sector research and development and the need for mechanism to support this research and to get products developed by the public sector to market, including regulatory reform - The need for new risk assessment methodologies for new technologies - The need to consider experience and familiarity and to look at approaches for harmonization or regional risk assessments - The need to anticipate pest outbreaks and engage in research - The importance of perseverance and the need to do whatever is needed to get through the obstacles in development of new products or approaches to plant health (regulation, public acceptance, etc); don't let the concerns and issues about public acceptance, i.e., in Europe, stop forward progress <p>The Panel discussed the potential value of follow-up activities that will build on the information conveyed at the symposium that are consistent with the NAPPO mandate of plant protection. One activity that was considered was the development of a white paper that provides additional information on biotech applications that could provide</p>

	<p>solutions to recalcitrant plant health problems such as citrus greening or Pierce's Disease. The development of the paper could include increased interaction with other NAPPO panels, as well as industry stakeholders and the academic research community and possibly with the North American Biotechnology Initiative (NABI) to take advantage of expertise and resources associated with that forum.</p> <p>The U.S. agreed to develop these ideas more fully into a proposal that will be shared with the other Panel members in early January 2010. The Panel will then meet by phone to discuss and develop a workplan.</p> <p>The U.S. noted again that Terri (Panel Chair) will be working in New Zealand on a fellowship from February – August 2010, so panel resources will be constrained during that time.</p>	
Issue 2:	Future panel work – agreement on proposed work assignment for 2009-2010	
Consensus:	<p>The proposed work assignment for the Biotechnology Panel for 2009-2010 is to “Collaborate with the NAPPO Secretariat and NAPPO Panels on issues or activities resulting from the symposium on Living Modified Organisms and Plant Health to be held at the 2009 NAPPO Annual Meeting.”</p> <p>The Panel agreed on this language for the Panel assignment for next year. The U.S. will draft a proposal for circulation to the Panel by early January 2010 that will describe some possible activities for accomplishing this assignment.</p>	
Next Steps		
Responsible Person	Action	Date
Terri Dunahay	A proposal will be prepared and circulated to the Panel members describing some possible activities to build on the interest generated with respect to LMOs and plant health during the symposium in October.	January 2010
Next Meeting		
Location:	TBD	
Date:	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Conference call to consider US proposal – January 2010 2. Conference call or meeting, Spring 2010, if needed 	
Proposed Agenda Items		
1. Discussion of US proposal for activities to follow up on the LMO symposium		
2. (If needed) – Additional conference calls or a meeting to assess progress on activities agreed to during the January 2010 conference call.		