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The U.S. Reports on the 2015 NAPPO Annual Meeting



Dear Plant Health
Colleagues:

I was honored to
host the 39th
annual meeting of
the North
American Plant
Protection
Organization
(NAPPO) in

Memphis, Tennessee from October 26
–30, 2015. We were thrilled to have
diverse participation, which included
government and industry
representatives from Canada, Mexico,
Australia, South Korea, Costa Rica,
the United Kingdom, and, of course
the United States. Approximately 125
persons attended the event, including
representatives of more than 30
industry associations.

Highlights from the annual meeting
included policy presentations from
senior agricultural officials of the three
NAPPO countries:

- Mr. Elvis Cordova, Deputy Under
Secretary, Marketing and
Regulatory Programs, U.S.
Department of Agriculture;
- Mr. Jai Templeton, Deputy
Commissioner, Tennessee
Department of Agriculture;

- Mr. Greg Wolff, Chief Plant Health
Officer, Canadian Food Inspection
Agency; and
- Dr. Francisco Javier Trujillo
Arriaga, Director General of Plant
Health for Mexico's National
Service for Health, Safety, and
Food Quality, Mexico's Senior
Plant Health Director.

In all of these policy presentations, I
heard over and over again the
enormous contributions that the
agricultural sector makes to the
economy of the three NAPPO
countries. And every one of the
presentations described the unique
challenges that confront the
agricultural sector—including plant
health—and the opportunities to
enhance economic growth and trade
for farmers and other producers in
North America.

The meeting provided a forum for
industry representatives and other
stakeholders to meet with government
officials from the NAPPO member
countries to discuss various plant
health topics, standard-setting
activities, and other challenges facing
the region. We designed and
formatted the meeting to maximize
interactions and consultations between
the industry and government plant

health professionals and to enable communication within and among the various commodity sector groups. This approach responded to previous industry suggestions to adjust the meeting to meet industry's needs. We agree that the interaction between government and industry stakeholders is crucial to making these annual meetings a success.

We were privileged that key plant health leaders from other regions of the world also attended the meeting. We heard key messages from Dr. Kyu-Ock Yim, who chairs the International Plant Protection Convention's (IPPC) Commission on Phytosanitary Measures. That presentation highlighted the IPPC's plans to organize an International Year of Plant Health in 2020. We also heard from Dr. Martin Ward, the Director General of the European and Mediterranean Plant Protection Organization. Dr. Ward described the top plant health challenges in Europe. Similarly, Dr. Robert Ahern, the senior plant health official of the Inter-American Institute for Cooperation on Agriculture, reported on the Institute's activities that address plant health challenges in the Western Hemisphere.

The participation of these key

counterparts from other regions of the world illustrates NAPPO's increased efforts to strengthen its relationship and coordination with other regional and international organizations that have similar plant health missions and priorities. After all, North American plant health and trade interests reach well beyond North American borders.

Lastly, we were pleased with the annual symposium on innovations in pest risk management. The symposium addressed the ever critical issue of how to mitigate pest risks efficiently without unnecessary interference in or impediments to trade. The symposium's theme was complemented and reinforced by "knowledge-topic" presentations on the international regulatory framework for plant health and harmonization. The symposium and the presentations were well-received by industry and government participants.

For more information on the presentations given during the meeting, please visit www.napppo.org.

All of us at NAPPO thank the private sectors from the United States, Canada, and Mexico for their participation in and contributions to the meeting. And in closing, I thank all the members of the NAPPO Secretariat for their hard work this past year and for helping make the annual meeting a success.

Sincerely,

Osama El-Lissy
Deputy Administrator
Plant Protection and Quarantine
Animal and Plant Health Inspection
Service
United States Department of
Agriculture

During the annual meeting, Dr. Kyu-Ock Yim, chair of the IPPC's Commission on Phytosanitary Measures, presented on the IPPC's plans for an International Year of Plant Health in 2020.



NAPPO Executive Committee Convened During Annual

This is the third of three meetings the NAPPO Executive Committee (EC) holds every year. Upcoming changes to the membership of the Executive Committee were noted with the announcement that Mr. Greg Wolff would be moving to the Office of the Privy Council on November 16th and the expectation that Ms. Marie-Claude Forest will take over as EC member for Canada. This has since been confirmed.

Discussions were initiated on the preparation of a new Strategic Plan for NAPPO (2016-2020). Preliminary agreement was reached regarding the 2016 NAPPO Work Program. On-going 2015 projects were approved for carry-over into 2016 and a process was set up to achieve final selection of projects by the end of January 2016. In addition, the EC approved the 2016 NAPPO budget, strategized relationships with other RPPOs, and discussed finalizing the NAPPO relocation to Raleigh, NC, US. NAPPO

Industry Advisory Group (IAG) members from the United States, Mexico, and Canada also participated in portions of the EC meeting.

The EC also approved revised standards and other NAPPO documents finalized in time for the Annual Meeting.

The following RSPMs and NAPPO documents were approved by the EC:

- RSPM 18 (revised), *Guidelines for Phytosanitary Action Following Detection of Plum Pox Virus*
- RSPM 26 (revised), *Certification of commercial arthropod biological control agents or non-Apis pollinators moving into NAPPO member countries*
- RSPM 33 (revised), *Guidelines for regulating the movement of vessels from areas infested with the Asian gypsy moth*
- New, NAPPO Emerging pest template
- New ST 06, *Citrus Leprosis Virus report*
- New DD 04, *Wooden and bamboo commodities intended for indoor and outdoor use*
- New DD 05, *Management of Huanglongbing and its Vector, the Asian Citrus Psyllid, Diaphorina citri*

The NAPPO Executive Committee meets at least three times a year. Their next meeting is scheduled for February 2016 to develop the new NAPPO Strategic Plan 2016-2020 with the support of the Industry Advisory Group and Working Group members.

NAPPO Executive Committee members Osama El-Lissy (United States), Greg Wolff (Canada), and Francisco Javier Trujillo Arriaga (Mexico).



Symposium on Innovations in Pest Risk Management at the 39th NAPPO Annual Meeting

Throughout 2015, the NAPPO symposium steering committee (R. deVries and C. Marasas from APHIS-PPQ, M. Wood from CFIA, and A. L. Montealegre from SENASICA) worked closely with the NAPPO Executive Director in putting together an excellent symposium for the 39th NAPPO Annual Meeting. The symposium topic—Innovations in Pest Risk Management—was chosen by the host country for its relevance to NAPPO’s plant protection mission and objectives, and because it highlighted the adoption in 2014 of RSPM 40, Principles of Pest Risk Management for the Import of Commodities, the first conceptual standard on pest risk management in the world.

The event was extremely well received by NAPPO stakeholders—attendance at the morning session was about 75, while the afternoon session had about 60 attendees. Symposium presentations were grouped into three sessions: Foundational Lectures, Case Studies by Country, and Thinking Outside of the Box. NAPPO was fortunate to have Dr. Yim, Chairperson for the International Plant Protection Convention Commission on Phytosanitary Measures (IPPC-CPM), introducing the symposium topic and highlighting the relevance of Pest Risk Management to the IPPC.



Four foundational lectures set the stage for discussion and input by participants. Dr. Yoe, Professor in Economics at Notre Dame of Maryland University in Baltimore, MD was the keynote speaker. His presentation was titled Risk Management: The latest, the greatest and the most interesting innovations and approaches from other fields—what can we learn for plant protection? Dr. Yoe was followed by a presentation on the critical role played by the WTOs Agreement on the Application of Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures (SPS Agreement) in the technically justified application of risk management measures to protect human, animal, and plant life and health. The third lecture focused on the contents and usefulness of RSPM 40 in safeguarding plant health and promoting safe trade in plants and plant products both within and outside of North America. Dr. Burgman, Managing Director of the Centre of

Excellence for Biosecurity Risk Analysis at the University of Melbourne in Australia, presented the last lecture, which connected pest risk management to economic impact models.

In the second session, the three NAPPO member countries delivered combined presentations—by representatives of industry and government—highlighting a particularly successful risk management strategy from their countries. Mexico spoke of their pioneering work on the use of irradiation as a phytosanitary measure for safe trade of fruits and vegetables for consumption and Canada presented on the extremely successful Canadian Heat Treatment Wood Products Certification Program, while the United States presented on their National Clean Plant Network (NCPN)

and some of the advances made by the NCPN on important commodities such as grapes and berries.

The third session had four speakers that brought additional innovative ideas on how to think about pest risk management, including what can be learned from the way precision agriculture functions in the 21st century, to developing and enacting new initiatives to implement pest risk management options. The symposium incorporated an activity highlighting risk-based sampling as a defensible and transparent way of implementing the most used phytosanitary measure in plant health—inspection.

The NAPPO Secretariat would like to take this opportunity to thank all the excellent speakers for their role in making this symposium such a success.

From left to right: back row - Mekki Chouibani (NEPPPO), Peter Neimanis (Australia), Steve Côté (Canada), Martin Ward (EPPO), Rebecca Lee (NAPPO), Lourdes Fonalleras (IICA), Sarah Brunel (IPPC), Camilo Beltrán (CAN); front row - Jean Gérard Mezui M'ella (IAPSC), Josua Wainqolo (PPPC), Yongfan Piao (APPPC), Kyu-Ock Yim (IPPC), Ana Peralta (IPPC), Jinyuan Xia (IPPC), Efraín Medina (OIRSA), Marco Alencar (COSAVE); sitting - Stephanie Bloem (NAPPO), Pati Abad (United States), Isabel Díaz (Mexico).

The Regional Plant Protection Organizations Meet in Memphis



Representatives from the Regional Plant Protection Organizations (RPPOs) met for the annual Technical Consultation in Memphis, TN, US, from November 2-6, 2015, immediately following the NAPPO Annual Meeting. Topics discussed included an update on international ePhyto work, information exchange among RPPOs, supporting the Caribbean region, ISPM 15 implementation and RPPOs roles and functions.

2015 NAPPO Executive

The NAPPO Executive Chairperson Award is presented each year to individuals whose service has resulted in significant contributions to further the NAPPO mission.

As chair of the Executive Committee of the North American Plant Protection Organization, Mr. Osama El-Lissy presented this special recognition at the 2015 NAPPO Annual Meeting to five individuals who have given their time and talents to support NAPPO and have contributed to the success of complex and significant projects. They are highlighted below in no particular order.

Dr. Eric Allen, from Victoria, British Columbia, Canada

Dr. Allen serves on the NAPPO ISPM 15 and Systems Approach expert groups. He was the lead author for the NAPPO S&T document “Review of heat treatment of wood and wood packaging,” and also conducted some research needed to support this document. This document provides guidance to NPPOs in the use of heat treatment as a phytosanitary measure.

Eric is the chair of the IPPC International Forestry Quarantine Research Group and he also serves on the International Plant Protection Convention (IPPC) technical panel for forestry quarantine. Eric’s scientific expertise has offered valuable insights to both the NAPPO and IPPC. In a publication he authored for the Canadian Forest Service called “Exotic insect interceptions from wooden

dunnage and packing material,” non-traditional pathways were identified for the movement of live wood-boring insects. This outcome resulted in Canadian plant protection officials working with their counterparts from the United States and Mexico to harmonize regulations that support ISPM 15.

Eric’s solid work ethic and the steadfast, patient way in which he gets his work done is highly valued by all of his colleagues.

Dr. Alain Boucher, New Brunswick, Canada

Dr. Boucher has been working on potatoes for 35 years, since the summer of 1980 when he started this work as part of a specialized potato farming unit. He has worked on NAPPO potato projects for at least 15 years. Currently he serves as chair of the NAPPO Potato Expert Group (EG).

With Alain’s leadership, this EG finalized a NAPPO S&T document on potato sprout inhibitors and worked on the alignment of RSPM 3, the NAPPO standard on potatoes, with the international standard, ISPM 33, on micropropagative material and minitubers.

Alain has been with the Canadian Food Inspection Agency since 1997. He began as a program biologist with Seed Potato and Plant Protection, expanded his experience in various assignments from 2001 to 2010, and was Acting Director of both the Ontario

and Atlantic Plant Products Program Networks. Since 2010, Alain has been the CFIA National Manager, Potato Section.

Alain has shown the highest level of diplomacy navigating the perils associated with this complex commodity, and his patience has paid off over the years.

Dr. Robert Krueger, from Riverside, CA, US

Dr. Krueger has served on the NAPPO Citrus Panel, now the Citrus Expert Group, since 2007. He greatly advanced the work of the EG on the five-year revisions of citrus protocols. Robert actively participates in all the activities and projects that the group undertakes, including providing significant input into the discussion document on the Management of Huanglongbing and its vector, and has lent his talents to the Citrus EG international workshop organization committee for four years.

He works for the United States Department of Agriculture, Agricultural Research Service, as a Horticulturist for the National Clonal Germplasm Repository for Citrus and Dates and has also made vast contributions to his field through his many publications, speaking engagements, and participation in outreach activities.

Ms. Ana Lilia Montealegre Lara, from Mexico City, Mexico

Ms. Montealegre is a biologist and has worked for SENASICA in Mexico for more than 20 years. She is currently the Head of the Department of International Plant Protection Organizations at SENASICA. She is

also a member of the IPPC Standards Committee, representing the Latin American and Caribbean Countries.

Ana Lilia is the Mexican representative on the NAPPO Working Group (WG) and the Phytosanitary Alert Systems Expert Group. In the past, Ana Lilia was also active in the NAPPO Transit and Standards Panels.

We are grateful to Ana Lilia for her reliable and steady presence on the NAPPO WG. She has always been friendly, accessible, and responsive in the process of negotiating and addressing NAPPO standards and issues. Mexico can take great pride in the work that Ana Lilia has done in representing Mexico's interests and positions in NAPPO, and always doing this in a constructive and positive fashion.

Dr. Christina Devorshak, from Raleigh, NC, US

After completing her Ph.D. in Entomology, Dr. Devorshak took a position as an Associate Professional Officer working in the Secretariat of the IPPC, where she participated in a wide range of activities dealing with international harmonization of phytosanitary measures.

Christina joined USDA-APHIS-PPQ in 2004 as a Risk Analyst and head of the International and Regional Standards Review Team.

Collaborating with the North Carolina State University Departments of Plant Pathology and Entomology, Christina developed a course and minor on regulatory plant protection. Christina currently provides expertise on commodity pest risk assessments for imports and exports.

In NAPPO, Christina served as a

member of the panel that drafted RSPM 40, “Principles of Pest Risk Management for the Import of Commodities.” During her tenure from 2012 to 2014 as the U.S. NAPPO Working Group member, Christina championed the effort that produced the 2013-2015 NAPPO Strategic Plan. This plan was ground-breaking in that it moved NAPPO from a panel-based

to a project-driven work program. And in 2014, Christina served for four months as Acting Executive Director of NAPPO, providing the NAPPO Secretariat with strong leadership during the transition to the next permanent Executive Director.

On behalf of the North American Plant Protection Organization thanks to all five for their dedication and leadership!

Technical Note

Ecological Networks in Stored Grain: Key Postharvest Nodes for Emerging Pests, Pathogens,

Understanding the structure and dynamics of stored grain networks provides insights into which locations are likely to be important for the spread of pests, pathogens and other contaminants. A new analysis by **Hernandez Nopsa and colleagues**, published in the journal *BioScience*, shows how network analysis can be used to inform strategies for sampling, mitigation, and ongoing Integrated Pest Management (IPM).

Railways distribute the majority of stored wheat in the United States, from local rail-loading elevators to larger regional elevators and ultimately to sites for processing or export. Stored grain offers a unique environment for insect pests and pathogens, including pathogens that produce mycotoxins. These unwanted passengers can move with wheat by

rail among regions separated by thousands of kilometers, potentially spreading new problems in new areas.

Hernandez Nopsa and colleagues used network models to evaluate the structure of wheat rail transport systems in the United States and Queensland, Australia. They identify locations that are key for sampling and mitigating movement of insect pests, pathogens, and mycotoxins.

Understanding of pest and pathogen movement can be especially important when there are quarantines against the movement of particular species, or when pesticide-resistant insects invade new areas and make management more difficult. Management can be prioritized at locations that are important for linking different parts of the system together.

This study shows that U.S. states such

as North Dakota, Illinois, Kansas, and Nebraska networks as hubs that link directly to many other states. These four states also have important roles as bridges linking separate parts of the country, as do Colorado and Idaho. Their roles in rail networks also make these states important locations for sampling and early detection of pests and pathogens.

The U.S. and Australian systems differ in their structures. The central U.S. is a major wheat-producing area, and wheat can move in multiple directions toward processing centers or ports for export. In Australia, wheat production tends to move more directly toward the coast for export, and as a result, the central region is less complex and potentially easier to manage for pests.

This study illustrates how network analysis can be applied to identify key locations for management and control of emergent and re-emergent pests and pathogens. In the new Institute for Sustainable Food Systems and the Plant Pathology Department at the University of Florida, the Garrett Lab is developing a framework to apply this management prioritization approach to other postharvest networks, seed systems, and field production systems.

The original paper “Ecological Networks in Stored Grain: Key Postharvest Nodes for Emerging Pests, Pathogens, and Mycotoxins” is available open access at the following link:

bioscience.oxfordjournals.org/content/65/10/985.full.pdf+html

News from the International

The 2nd edition of International Plant Protection Convention (IPPC) Photo Contest, titled “The Shocking Impacts of Pests,” has been launched.



All information is now available on the Phytosanitary Resources website, <http://www.phytosanitary.info/2016-ippc-photo-contest-shocking-impacts-pests>, as well as on the IPPC website, <https://www.ippc.int/en/calls/2016-ippc-photo-contest-the-shocking-impacts-of-pests-call-for-submissions/>, and on the IPPC Facebook, Twitter, and LinkedIn accounts.

Feel free to share this around!

Faces of NAPPO



Marie-Claude Forest obtained her BSc. in Agriculture Sciences at the MacDonald College Campus of McGill University. Before joining the Canadian federal government, she worked at the private, municipal and provincial level, always in the area of agriculture production and plant protection. She joined Agriculture Canada, Food Production and Inspection Branch, now the Canadian Food Inspection Agency, in 1991 starting as a junior program officer and worked her way up in the Plant Health

Program to her current position as the International Standards Adviser and National Manager, International Phytosanitary Standards Section in the Plant Protection Division. She is also the official IPPC Contact Point for Canada. She has been actively involved in NAPPO and IPPC activities as a member of the NAPPO Working Group and of the IPPC Standards Committee. Since October 2015, she represents Canada on the NAPPO Executive Committee.



Katharine Church has been working at the CFIA for ten years. While working in the Horticulture Section, her focus has been on fruit trees, grapevines and soil-free growing media. Katharine has a background in agricultural business and environmental studies, which has led to her developing an active interest in the social and environmental aspects of agriculture. It is with these factors in

mind that Katharine addresses the challenges of her job. Katharine has joined the NAPPO team as Canadian member of the Working Group with great enthusiasm and is eager to learn more about the international facets of plant protection and trade.



Patricia Abad is the new USDA/APHIS/PPQ Technical Director for NAPPO, and new NAPPO Working Group member, representing the US. She has over 13 years of professional experience on international, trade policy, and sanitary and phytosanitary (SPS) issues. She previously served for 7 years as an International Trade Specialist with APHIS/International Services (IS) Trade Support Team (TST) in Washington, DC, as the lead for several Western Hemisphere countries and provisionally on

Australia and New Zealand. While in TST, she coordinated on SPS policy/trade issues with other APHIS and inter-agency counterparts; briefed executive-level officials; served on USAG delegations negotiating in Consultative Committees of Agriculture, Free Trade Agreement SPS Committee meetings, and bilateral meetings; and served as APHIS' lead for WTO notifications.

From June-August 2015, Ms. Abad served on a detail as the Acting Confidential Assistant for USDA

Marketing and Regulatory Programs' Under Secretary Avalos. In September 2012, she was the Acting APHIS/IS Foreign Service Attaché in Costa Rica overseeing staff in Central American and Caribbean countries and in June 2011, temporarily served as an Assistant Trade Director for the Americas/Caribbean within APHIS/PPQ Phytosanitary Issues Management Team.

Ms. Abad previously worked for the Organization of American States and

the Inter-American Development Bank. She holds a B.S. degree in Business Management (Finance concentration) from North Carolina State University and an M.A. in International Affairs (International Economic Affairs/ International Law concentrations) from The George Washington University's Elliott School of International Affairs. Ms. Abad studied abroad in Brazil's Fundação Getulio Vargas/Escola de Administração de Empresas and at the Instituto Tecnológico de Monterrey in Mexico.

Events

2016

Canadian Horticultural Council Annual General Meeting

March 8–10, 2016
Ottawa, Canada

www.hortcouncil.ca/annual-general-meeting/ottawa_2016.aspx

Cultivate '16

July 9–12, 2016
Columbus, OH, US

AmericanHort.org/events

AmericanHort's annual event features keynote presentations, educational workshops and sessions, and the largest horticultural trade show of its type in North America.

2016 APS Annual Meeting

July 30–August 3, 2016
Tampa, FL, US

www.apsnet.org/meet

XXV International Congress of Entomology

Co-location of Annual Meetings of:
Entomological Society of America,
Entomological Society of Canada and
other national societies.

Join us for the NAPPO-USDA ARS joint symposium on: *The Role of National, Regional and International Plant Protection Organizations to Prevent the Introduction and Spread of Plant Pests*

Orlando, Florida, US

September 25–30, 2016

www.ice2016orlando.org

Convention on Biological Diversity - Conference of the Parties – COP 13

December 4–17

Cancun, Mexico

www.cbd.int/cop/

www.youtube.com/watch?v=Dv6h-C3MqWg

Beyond 2016

11th International Congress of Plant Pathology. Celebrating 50 years.

Boston, MA, US

July 29–August 3, 2018

www.isppweb.org/

XXX International Horticulture Congress

August 12–16, 2018

Istanbul, Turkey

www.ihc2018.org/