



NAPPO

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

NAPPO Conference Call Report

Expert Group:	Seeds-ToBRFV	
Location:	Zoom meeting – Video conference	
Date:	November 10, 2020	
Chairperson	Ed Podleckis (APHIS-PPQ)	
Participants:		
Pamela Ross (CFIA)	Ed Podleckis (APHIS-PPQ)	Nancy Osterbauer (APHIS-PPQ)
Vessela Mavrodieva (APHIS PPQ)	Geoffrey Dennis (APHIS-PPQ)	Kevin Ong (Texas A&M)
José Manuel Cambrón Crisantos (SENASICA)	Huimin Xu (CFIA)	Jessica Berenice Valencia (SENASICA)
Daniela Alejandra Bocanegra Flores (SENASICA)	Eduardo Garrido (SENASICA)	Ric Dunkle (US industry)
Marlene Ortiz (Mexico Industry)	Angel Ramírez (SENASICA)	Stephanie Bloem (NAPPO)
Nedelka Marín-Martínez (NAPPO)	Alonso Suazo (NAPPO)	
Summary		
Project:	A pilot for harmonization of diagnostic protocols for seed pests focused on ToBRFV.	
General comments:	<p>The Chairperson:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • welcomed and thanked EG members for joining the call • asked for changes in the agenda. Meeting agenda was approved as presented. <p>The TD agreed to write the conference call report.</p>	
Item 1:	Summary of previous conference call	
Consensus:	<p>The Chairperson provided the following summary:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Subgroup 1 provided a progress report on the work they are conducting narrowing down the list of protocols to consider for the identification of ToBRFV. • Subgroup 2 provided an update on the document the subgroup has developed using international standards for the validation criteria used for the identification protocols and ring tests. 	
Item 2:	Subgroups updates	
Consensus:	<p>Updates from subgroup 1 – <i>Vessela Mavrodieva</i> (APHIS-PPQ):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Subgroup agreed to a final list as follows: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ 2 RT-PCR protocols selected. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ ISHI VEG- Duplex PCR, publication available. ▪ APHIS-PPQ – PCR using primers flanking the movement protein gene. 	

- 3 conventional PCR protocols
 - SENASICA protocol, validated by SENASICA.
 - CDFA protocol validated by CFIA Canada and
 - APHIS-PPQ protocol.
- Canada (CFIA) and the US (APHIS-PPQ) will provide validation data for the CDFA and the PPQ protocols, respectively.
- Subgroup goal has been achieved.

Updates from subgroup 2 – *Geoffrey Dennis* (APHIS-PPQ):

- Subgroup decided to include a glossary section in the document with the validation criteria for the ring tests.
- Document is the precursor for the validation master plan which will be included as appendix to the document.
- Geoff indicated that a membership expansion for subgroup 2 will be necessary in the future as more topics, including materials, will be discussed.
- Subgroup discussed the number of candidate labs to include.
- Subgroup will start working on the validation master plan including the appendixes and annexes.

EG members discussed options for expanding subgroup 2 or adding subgroups to work on:

- material preparations
- laboratory preparation and work on the master plan
- laboratory lists.

Subgroup 2 emphasized the need to have a minimum of 8 labs and inquired about the process the entire group will use to provide a list of the labs required for the ring test. Eight labs with 96 replicates will provide the maximum confidence and reproducibility of the results. Members indicated that the amount of material (RNA extracted from each sample or the number of seeds used for the RNA extraction) is a limiting factor to consider when determining the number of labs to perform the analysis.

EG members agreed that:

- representatives from each NPPO within subgroup 1 will identify and contact diagnostic labs in their countries and share a list with the EG. This initial contact will be followed up with an official letter to candidate labs to participate. The letter will be sent by the NAPPO Secretariat.
- A database with relevant information of candidate laboratories could be established.
- The NAPPO Secretariat with assistance from the EG will draft an official invitation letter to send to candidate labs. The chairperson indicated that it is important to include in

	<p>the official letters:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ an explanation of the pilot project, ○ a general idea of the protocols intended to use and ○ a description of the ring test ○ a brief explanation of how labs will implement the diagnostic procedures (what protocols to use, what primers and/or any other aspect related to the diagnostic process). <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • EG members from subgroup 1 should assist in drafting the sections of the letter that contain this information. • The EG agreed that costs and financial aspects associated with the analyses will be discussed in future conference calls. • Timeline: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Provide a list of candidate labs in each NPPO by the first week of December 2020. ○ Schedule call for first half of December. ○ Work on the invitation letters to have them ready by mid-January.
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Next Steps

Responsible Person	Action	Date
Kevin Ong and Vessela Mavrodieva	Contact candidate labs in the US and share list with the EG.	First week of Dec. 2020
Huimin Xu	Contact candidate labs in Canada and share list with the EG.	First week of Dec. 2020
José Manuel Cambrón and Marlene Ortiz	Contact candidate labs in Mexico and share list with the EG.	First week of Dec. 2020
Subgroup 1 and NAPPO Secretariat	Draft and send letters to candidate diagnostic laboratories.	First half of January 2021
NAPPO Secretariat	Schedule next conference call for December and/or January.	

Next Meeting

Location:	Zoom meeting
Date:	TBD. Doodle poll will be sent by the NAPPO Secretariat.

Proposed Agenda Items

1.	
2.	