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43rd NAPPO Annual Meeting

Time to start making your travel plans! - the 43rd NAPPO Annual Meeting is only 4 months away! The meeting scheduled for Oct. 28 – Nov. 1 2019, will be held in the fabulous city of Montreal at the iconic Marriott Chateau Champlain.

Please take note - the webpages for the Annual Meeting are now active. You can access them by clicking on the 2019 NAPPO Annual Meeting logo on the website carousel - www.NAPPO.org

In addition to the latest version of the Draft Agenda, the webpages contain the invitation letter from our host country – Canada -, information on registering for the meeting, booking your hotel, requesting meeting rooms for side meetings and information to plan your trip including airport, taxis and shuttles, weather and attractions.

The Annual Meeting will feature a one-day symposium on Thursday, Nov. 1 titled “**Evaluation of next steps for an exotic pest once**

its presence has been confirmed in a NAPPO member country”. Determining the appropriate response to a new pest is a complex process for national plant protection organizations (NPPOs). When making that determination, NPPOs need to consider economics, feasibility and tools for eradication, availability of detection and identification tools and capacity to use these tools, as well as stakeholder interests.

The purpose of this symposium is to help NAPPO member countries understand the various internal processes and procedures *when each NPPOs decides whether to eradicate, manage, or deregulate a newly detected pest.* Recent country-specific programs can be used as examples to highlight where determinations made by each NPPO are based on various considerations and have led to different outcomes.

See you there!



Important dates/deadlines to keep in mind for the 2019 NAPPO Annual Meeting

Meeting dates	October 28 - November 1
Side-meeting room reservation deadline	September 1
Early-bird registration available between	July 1 - August 31
Regular meeting registration available between	September 1 - October 28
Online meeting registration deadline	September 30
To receive the preferential rate book your hotel by	September 30

The NAPPO “Americas-focused” workshop on implementation of ISPM 38 (*International Movement of Seeds*) successfully concluded

On March 7, 2019 NAPPO successfully concluded a two and a half-day workshop on the implementation of ISPM 38 at the headquarters of the Interamerican Institute for Cooperation on Agriculture (IICA) in San José, Costa Rica. Fifty-three participants including representatives from thirteen National Plant Protection Organizations, four Regional Plant Protection Organizations (CAN, COSAVE, OIRSA and NAPPO), the International Seed Federation (ISF), six regional and national seed associations (SAA, CSTA, ASTA, AMSAC, ECUASEM and APISEMILLAS), several representatives of global and national seed companies and one member from academia attended the workshop.

The NAPPO Executive Director alongside the Head of the NPPO of Costa Rica (SFE), the Leader of IICAs Agricultural Food Safety and Food Quality and a representative from SENASICA in lieu of the NAPPO EC member for Mexico - welcomed participants to the workshop.

The current state of global and Americas seed industries followed by an overview of ISPM 38 kicked-off the workshop. Presentations on the different sections of ISPM 38 including principles of pest risk analysis, seeds as pests and as pathways for pests, diversion from intended use, sampling and inspection, diagnostic protocols for seed pests, seed treatments and seed systems approaches formed part of the workshop. Discussion sessions were held at the end of each section and an evening brainstorming session and half-day group discussion on the last day provided excellent opportunities for participants to exchange their views on opportunities and challenges of implementing ISPM 38.

The proposed Annex to ISPM 38 submitted to the IPPC by NAPPO (*Design and use of systems approaches for phytosanitary certification of seeds*) was presented during the workshop and was well received by participants.

Importantly, the fifty-three workshop

participants came to a **consensus** on the following:

Complete and successful implementation of ISPM 38 means that ...

Seed is moved between countries

- With managed risk,
- With technically justified and predictable phytosanitary requirements, and
- Without undue phytosanitary restrictions and delays

In addition, two ad-hoc groups were formed to address concrete next steps towards implementation of ISPM 38 including a *Terminology group* whose objective is to improve understanding of industry and government stakeholders through use of harmonized terminology and a *Communications group* that will facilitate information exchange among NPPOs and industry. The NAPPO Secretariat is also working towards assembling an ISPM 38 workshop proceedings.

The NAPPO Secretariat acknowledges the contributions of the ISPM 38 NAPPO Expert Group towards developing the workshop agenda, identifying the speakers and delivering outstanding presentations, IICA for providing the excellent venue and assisting with workshop logistics, and the USDA-APHIS-PPQ as well as the seed trade associations from the NAPPO member countries (Canadian Seed Trade Association (CSTA), American Seed Trade Association (ASTA) and Asociación Mexicana de Semilleros (AMSAC) for their financial contributions in support of the workshop.

For more information, including the workshop agenda, presentations, participant list and additional resources, please visit the ISPM 38 Implementation workshop “Event report” available at:

<http://nappo.org/english/final-report-nappo-ispm-38-implementation-workshop>



ISPM 38 Implementation workshop participants at the IICA headquarters in San José, Costa Rica.

NAPPO welcomes a new NAPPO Executive Committee Member from Mexico

Mr. Francisco Ramirez y Ramirez

Mr. Francisco Ramírez y Ramírez was confirmed as the new Director General for Plant Health on March 21. His predecessor, Dr. Francisco Javier Trujillo Arriaga, now Director of SENASICA, confirmed his appointment and highlighted Francisco's numerous phytosanitary contributions towards preventing, controlling and eradicating plant pests and diseases in Mexico.

Mr. Ramírez y Ramírez is an agronomist specialized in parasitology from Chapingo Autonomous University. He has 37 years of professional experience in phytosanitary issues at the state and federal levels having occupied several high profile positions in the Plant Health General Directorate at SENASICA.

He served as director of the National Phytosanitary Reference Center where he was responsible for the development and deployment of the National System for Phytosanitary Epidemiological Surveillance (SINAVEF); later, he assumed the General Directorate for Agriculture and Livestock in San Luis Potosí.

Most recently, Francisco worked at the Directorate for Domestic Fruit Fly Programs where he focused on implementation of fruit fly-free areas and maintaining Mexico's Mediterranean fruit fly-free status. In 2017, he received the Plant Health National Award for Phytosanitary Merit.

Mr. Ramírez y Ramírez will serve as the new NAPPO Executive Committee member representing Mexico. The NAPPO Secretariat extends him a warm welcome.



NAPPO Discussion Document (DD) 10: North American approach to prevent entry, establishment and spread of khapra beetle (*Trogoderma granarium*) in the NAPPO region now available

In early April, the NAPPO khapra beetle Expert Group successfully completed DD 10: *North American Approach to prevent entry, spread and establishment of khapra beetle (Trogoderma granarium Everts: Coleoptera: Dermestidae) in the NAPPO region.*

In this document the EG identified similarities, differences and gaps among current regulatory programs and practices in the three NAPPO member countries, provided an analysis on the likelihood of entry, establishment and spread of khapra beetle via different pathways, described current inspection and trapping practices and provided short and long-term recommendations for a harmonized North American approach for the prevention, detection and control of khapra beetle in our region.

Collaboration on communication, outreach and research among NPPOs, industry and academia were key components identified for successful harmonization. The document lays the foundation for future project proposals.

The document is available at http://www.nappo.org/files/9315/5561/5467/Khapra_beetle_discussion_document-e.pdf

New NAPPO Projects and the 2019 NAPPO work program

In accordance with the 2019 NAPPO Work Program (http://nappo.org/files/5015/5386/7708/EC-4-2019_NAPPO_Work_Program-with_IYPH-e.pdf), the NAPPO Secretariat with the assistance of the NAPPO Advisory and Management Committee has convened or updated four NAPPO Expert Groups to begin working on the following high priority projects:

- BIOLOGICAL CONTROL EG - Revision of Regional Standard for Phytosanitary Measures 22: ***Guidelines for Construction and Operation of a Containment Facility for Insects and Mites used as Biological Control Agents***
- FRUIT FLY EG - Revision of Regional Standard for Phytosanitary Measures 17: ***Guidelines for the Establishment, Maintenance and Verification of Fruit Fly Free areas in North America***
- FORESTRY EG - Developing a Science and Technology document that provides ***Inspection guidance following the detection of pests in certified wood packaging material and wood commodities***

- INTERNATIONAL YEAR OF PLANT HEALTH (IYPH) EG - Exchange ideas, develop appropriate materials and plan IYPH events in our region.

We take this opportunity to welcome the new or reconvened EGs and look forward to working with them on furthering NAPPO's strategic objectives through the advancement/completion of these projects.

NAPPO supports the IPPC's International Year of Plant Health (IYPH) by forming a new Expert Group as part of the 2019 NAPPO work program

The year 2020 is fast approaching and activities are being planned worldwide to highlight the IYPH, an initiative that raises awareness on plant health and plant health issues of global concern including food insecurity, threats to the environment and climate change.

NAPPO is supporting the IYPH by adding a new EG to its work program. Subject matter experts from the three member countries will come together to identify, plan, develop and deliver IYPH activities in the NAPPO region. The EG will identify activities and projects already underway that could be incorporated into IYPH, define target audiences in the region and identify practical, relevant and impactful ideas and activities to highlight the IYPH. Work is expected to begin in mid-2019. Collaboration with other RPPOs is an important component of the IYPH efforts.

NAPPO supports the North American Sea Container Initiative (NASCI)

NASCI, a joint initiative between the APHIS-PPQ and CFIA, in partnership with border protection agencies, shippers and global shipping companies, has developed guidance for cleaning and inspecting sea containers to prevent the introduction and spread of pests via the container pathway. This guidance complements the International Maritime Organization's Code of Practice for Packing Cargo Transport Units (CTU Code).

Everyone involved in moving containers has an opportunity to protect our crops, forests, and livestock by ensuring that containers and their cargo are free from unwanted plants, plant products, insects, snails, soil, animals and animal droppings. With Mexico joining the group in the near future, NASCI will become a true North American initiative.

To help facilitate the work of NASCI, NAPPO will provide a platform for collaboration and information exchange as well as host the NASCI webpages in the NAPPO website. NASCI webpages can be found at: <http://www.nappo.org/english/nasci/>

The NAPPO Forestry Expert Group develops a promotional handout on the recently approved Forest Products Systems Approach Regional Standard (RSPM 41)

The NAPPO Forest Systems Approach Expert Group developed a promotional two-page handout to promote the recently approved NAPPO Regional Standard for Phytosanitary Measures 41 (RSPM 41) on forest products systems approaches inform stakeholders about the importance and benefits of this important new standard.

The two-pager provides an overview of RSPM 41, an easy to follow explanation of a systems approaches, why systems approaches are useful and additional information on what forms part of the Appendix to RSPM 41. The concept of developing these promotional materials was well received by the NAPPO Management Team and we hope to develop similar materials for other NAPPO standards.

The two-pager can be found on our website. Make sure you check it out!



RSPM 41 - FOREST PRODUCTS SYSTEMS APPROACH (FPSA)

What is RSPM 41?

RSPM 41 (*The use of systems approaches to manage pest risks associated with the movement of forest products*) is a regional plant health standard, which provides NAPPO member countries with guidance on the use of integrated risk management measures to mitigate pest risks associated with the movement of **round wood, sawn wood, wood chips** and various other wood commodities. The standard excludes commodities produced from wood sufficiently processed or treated to meet the phytosanitary import requirements of the NPPO of the importing country, as well as Christmas trees, boughs, wreaths and other non-wood forest products. RSPM 41 was adopted by the North American Plant Protection Organization in October 2018.

What is a systems approach?

A systems approach integrates independent risk management measures, which cumulatively address pest risks that may not be fully managed by a single measure and may provide additional options for facilitating safe trade, which may be impacted by the lack of appropriate phytosanitary measures.

Why use a systems approach?

International trade of wood and wood products provides a pathway for the introduction and spread of pests. A systems approach provides an effective and practical option for risk management when a single risk management measure is not available or practical.

RSPM 41 is an internationally recognized regional standard, which provides a clear framework for importing and exporting countries to establish effective phytosanitary requirements that will minimize pest risk and encourage safe trade.

How are systems approaches developed?

Risk management measures may be implemented anywhere along the forest product production chain (i.e. during pre-harvest production, harvest, post-harvest, production, processing, pre-shipping storage, transport, and/or post-shipping). Specific risk management measures should be negotiated between the NPPOs of the importing and the exporting countries.



What you need to know to design an FPSA

- What is the nature of the pest risk?
- What does the forest product production chain look like?
- Where, when and how can risk management measures be applied?
- How do you verify the effective application of these measures?
- How do you assess the feasibility and impacts?

Need More Help? Check out Appendix 1 of RSPM 41

Here you will find:

- ✓ Detailed list of pest risk management measures to integrate in an FPSA
- ✓ Explanation of the concepts integral to a systems approach
- ✓ Description of the types of pests found in different forest commodities, where they are located and how they can be grouped for effective risk management
- ✓ Descriptions of different forest commodities and risks associated with them
- ✓ Verification and quantification methods & who is responsible for these steps

NAPPO BIOLOGICAL CONTROL EXPERT GROUP: A BRIEF HISTORY

By Hugo Arredondo and Peter Mason

The Biological Control Panel (now Expert Group - EG), originated from the responsibility and activities that the North American Plant Protection Organization (NAPPO) has regarding the harmonization of regulatory and trade aspects in biological control for the three member countries Canada, the United States and Mexico. The EG consists of professionals from the national plant protection organizations of each member country, as well as the research community and industry. Since its inception, the Biological Control EG has developed six Regional Standards on Phytosanitary Measures (RSPMs), held three workshops, developed two on-line training modules, and produced one position paper.

The BC Panel emerged in the 1980s (1984-1986), when a first meeting was held with Gary Cunningham (USA) as chair, Enrique Reyes Domínguez (Mexico), James Kelleher and Fred Benette (Canada) in attendance. Subsequently, Dale Meyerdirk, Richard Soper, John Thaw, Ernie Delfosse, David Robacker, Ray Carruthers and Adelaido Martínez from the USA; Doug Parker and Al Schmidt from Canada; and Hiram Bravo Mojica from México joined the panel. Since that first panel the membership has changed over the years as retirements occurred and individuals with different expertise were engaged to work on the various RSPMs. Industry became part of the panel in 2004 to contribute to the work required.

The first tasks of the BC Panel were related to the biological control of weeds; a Technical Consultant Group was formed for the analysis of import requests of herbivores used as biological control agents (this group later became independent) and the mission to develop guidelines for the importation of exotic phytophages for weed control. From this last task, development of RSPM 7, *Guidelines for Petition for First Release of non-indigenous Phytophagous or Phytopathogenic Biological Control Agents* was initiated. The development of RSPM 7 required an exhaustive review of scientific and technical information taking into account all considerations for decision-making related to the import and release of exotic phytophagous agents for the biological control of weeds in North America. Although discussions for this RSPM took years, in 2001 RSPM 7 was approved by the NAPPO Executive Committee (EC).

In response to the need for other RSPMs to cover biological control agents addressed in International Standard for Phytosanitary Measures - ISPM 3 - *Guidelines for the Export, Shipment, Import and Release of Biological Control Agents and other Beneficial Organisms* - and responding to increased pressure from conservationists to regulate entomophagous biological control agents, work was initiated in 1999 on RSPM 12 (*Guidelines for Petition for First Release of non-indigenous Entomophagous Biological Control Agents*). RSPM 12 was approved by the NAPPO EC in 2001. Initially, RSPM 12 did not include sections on host-range

testing and post-release monitoring because, unlike phytophagous biological control agents, formal methods for conducting such studies on entomophagous agents did not exist. The sections were added to RSPM 12 when it was last updated in 2015.

To further implement the requirements of [ISPM 3](#), work began in 2001 on RSPM 22 (*Guidelines for Construction and Operation of a Containment Facility for Insect and Mite Biological Control Agents*). RSPM 22 was approved by the NAPPO EC in 2004.

In 2004, industry raised the need for long-term solutions to address difficulties created by implementation of the US Homeland Security Act for trans-border shipment of commercial biological control agents. In response, the BC Panel suggested that standard guidelines relating to practices used to certify shipments of biological control agents that cross international borders were needed. In 2005 work began on RSPM 26 (*Guidelines for Certification of Commercial Arthropod Biological Control Agents moving into NAPPO Member Countries*). RSPM 26 was approved by the NAPPO EC in 2006. Appendix 2 of RSPM 26 contains a list of approved commercial biological control agents which is updated on an annual basis to include newly approved agents and ensure that the taxonomic names are up to date.

In 2007, a need was identified for new guidelines for importation of non-*Apis* pollinators. Movement of pollinating insects for use in greenhouse crop production was increasing and concerns were raised about escape into the environment of non-native species being used. Work began in 2008 on RSPM 29 (*Guidelines for the Petition for Import and Release of non-Apis Pollinating Insects into NAPPO Countries*). This standard was approved by the NAPPO EC in 2008.

In 2009, concerns were raised about live insect shipments being refused by commercial shipping companies because of inconsistent policies on the containers used. The BC Panel responded by initiating work in 2010 on RSPM 39 (*Packaging for the International Shipment of Live Invertebrates used as Biological Control Agents*). This standard was approved by the NAPPO EC in 2011.

In addition to developing RSPMs, through the BC Panel, NAPPO provides training opportunities for its stakeholders. One of these was carried out in 2000 in Colima, Mexico, on the Transfer of Technology of Pink Hibiscus mealybug – PHM - *Maconellicoccus hirsutus* (Hemiptera: Pseudococcidae), a quarantine pest that affects more than 200 plant species. Due to the importance that *M. hirsutus* represented for the American continent, Mexico, as part of the panel, raised the need for and relevance of organizing this event, with the assistance of the United States Department of Agriculture and the Mexican Biological Control Society as co-organizers. Instructors included Dale Meyerdirck (chair of the BC Panel and leader of the program for PHM biocontrol in the USA), Michael Schauff (expert in taxonomy of parasitic hymenoptera), Douglas Miller (expert in taxonomy of mealybugs) and Hugo Arredondo (National Center for Biological Control in Mexico). Sixty professionals and agricultural producers from different Mexican institutions were trained, in attendance were

also researchers and phytosanitary regulators from Canada and the USA. The workshop made possible the implementation of phytosanitary measures for a PHM outbreak in Mexico in 2004, with its basis being biological control using the Asian parasitoid *Anagyrus kamali* (Hymenoptera: Encyrtidae) and the Australian predator *Cryptoalemus montrouzieri* (Coleoptera: Coccinellidae). The campaign against this pest in Mexico is still ongoing. Also, Mexico has a mass-rearing facility for these beneficial species that are released in infested areas and keep PHM populations under control.

The NAPPO BC Panel and the National Biological Control Institute (USDA, APHIS) co-sponsored a *NAPPO Biocontrol Panel Taxonomy Workshop* in Ottawa, Ontario, in 2001 to address concerns about the decline in taxonomic expertise in the region. Fourteen participants representing the research and plant protection regulatory communities of Canada, Mexico, and the United States were assembled to identify critical gaps in taxonomic expertise for biological control in North America and determine how to best fill these gaps, with the objective of revising important taxa and obtaining timely identifications. An important outcome of the workshop was a white paper *NAPPO Position paper on taxonomic resources* approved by the NAPPO EC in 2007.

The BC EG conducted a workshop in 2015 in Ottawa, Ontario, Canada to provide training on preparing a *Petition for First Release of an Entomophagous Biological Control Agent* according to requirements outlined in RSPM 12. Understanding by individuals/companies of the information required for a petition to release an exotic biological control agent as outlined in RSPM 12 is important to the regulatory process in all NAPPO countries to ensure that fair and thorough risk assessment can be made. Petitioners are frequently not aware of the appropriate level of detail that is required, nor of the type of work that is required to generate this information. Addressing these aspects was essential to improving the quality of submissions, enabling regulators in Canada, Mexico and the United States to make approval decisions that are highly informed and based on harmonized information. Through the presentations by EG members and invited experts, participants gained a better knowledge of the regulatory requirements in each NAPPO country as well as in the UK and they became more familiar with the level of information required for each section of RSPM 12. Discussions after each presentation led to a better appreciation of the challenges faced by industry, regulators, and researchers. Issues and follow-up actions were identified, including that the workshop presentations might also serve as an online training module. Training modules in English and Spanish were completed in 2018 and these are now available on the NAPPO website at – <http://www.nappo.org/english/tools>.

The BC EG uses two approaches to discuss and advance the projects prioritized by the NAPPO EC: (1) virtual meetings; and (2) face-to-face meetings. Meeting agendas include the exchange of information about BC programs and regulations in each NAPPO member country; the revision or development of draft RSPMs regarding biological control; establishment of possible biological control strategies for pests; review and update of implementation plans for RSPMs; identification of follow-up activities and new tasks. An important component of face-to-face meetings are the tours or technical visits which provide

participants with on-site perspectives on the workings and challenges of implementing biological control.

Acknowledgments

RSPM 7 participants – CANADA: Peter Mason, Thierry Poiré, Bruno Gallant, Barbara Peterson, Doug Parker, MEXICO: Hugo Arredondo, José Gustavo Torres, Juan José Acevedo, Martin Aluja, Patricia Espinoza, UNITED STATES: Robert Tichenor, Ken Bloem, Walker Jones, Mike Oraze, Joseph Vorgetts, Robert Pfannenstiel, A.J. Martínez, Dale Meyerdirk, Ray Carruthers, INDUSTRY: Brian Spencer, Rene Ruiters.

RSPM 12 participants – CANADA: Peter Mason, Thierry Poiré, Bruno Gallant, Barbara Peterson, Doug Parker, MEXICO: Hugo Arredondo, José Gustavo Torres, Juan José Acevedo, Martin Aluja, Patricia Espinoza, UNITED STATES: Robert Tichenor, Ken Bloem, John A. Goolsby, Walker Jones, Mike Oraze, Joseph Vorgetts, Robert Pfannenstiel, A. J. Martinez, Dale Meyerdirk, Ray Carruthers, INDUSTRY: Brian Spencer, Rene Ruiters.

RSPM 22 participants – CANADA: Barbara Peterson, Peter Mason, Doug Parker, Brian Spencer, MEXICO: Hugo Arredondo, Martin Aluja, Patricia Espinoza, UNITED STATES: John A. Goolsby, Ken Bloem, Robert Tichenor, Walker Jones, Mike Oraze, Joseph Vorgetts, Robert Pfannenstiel, A.J. Martínez, Dale Meyerdirk, Ray Carruthers. INDUSTRY: Michel-Antoine Renaud.

RSPM 26 participants – CANADA: Peter Mason, Thierry Poiré, Bruno Gallant, Barbara Peterson, Doug Parker, Sarah Davis, Tanya Fielding, MEXICO: Hugo Arredondo, José Gustavo Torres, Juan José Acevedo, UNITED STATES: Robert Tichenor, Ken Bloem, John A. Goolsby, Colin Stewart, Rosalind James, Joseph Vorgetts, INDUSTRY: Brian Spencer, Rene Ruiters, Richard Ward.

RSPM 29 participants – CANADA: Barbara Peterson, Peter Mason, Doug Parker, MEXICO: Hugo Arredondo, UNITED STATES: John A. Goolsby, Ken Bloem, Robert Tichenor. INDUSTRY: Brian Spencer, Michel-Antoine Renaud.

RSPM 39 participants – Peter Mason, Thierry Poiré, Bruno Gallant, Barbara Peterson, Doug Parker, Sarah Davis, Tanya Fielding, MEXICO: Hugo Arredondo, Jose Gustavo Torres, Juan José Acevedo, UNITED STATES: Robert Tichenor, Ken Bloem, John A. Goolsby, Rosalind James, Colin Stewart, INDUSTRY: Brian Spencer, Rene Ruiters, Richard Ward.

Biological Control Panel (Expert Group) Chairs through the ages

Gary Cunningham

Enrique Reyes - 1993

Dale Meyerdirk - 2002

Joe Voergetts 2002-2005

Hugo Arredondo 2006-2013

Peter Mason 2014-present

Congratulations to Osama El-Lissy on his nomination and finalist status for the 2019 Samuel J. Heyman Service to America Medal

Join us in congratulating Mr. Osama El-Lissy (Deputy Administrator for APHIS-PPQ and NAPPO Executive Committee member representing the US) on his nomination as a finalist to the 2019 Samuel J. Heyman Service to America Medal.

This award recognizes individuals or teams of federal employees for their significant accomplishments that exemplify efficient, effective and results-oriented government.

Osama's nomination focuses on his leadership and vision in the management and control of the cotton boll weevil and the recent eradication of pink bollworm, two important pests of cotton in the US, saving cotton farmers millions of dollars, protecting the US cotton exports and safeguarding the environment.

With the use of scientifically sound and environmentally friendly strategies, the pink bollworm was officially eradicated from the US in 2018 saving the cotton industry in the US an estimated \$32 million in control costs and removing millions of pounds of pesticides from the environment.

NAPPO encourages stakeholders to show their support and vote for Mr. El-Lissy. To learn more about the 2019 finalists and to access the voting link please visit:

<https://servicetoamericamedals.org/peoples-choice-award/>

Important dates to remember:

- Top 4 finalist will be announced on June 19.
- Voting closes on July 8.
- Winner announced on July 18.



NAPPO Attends the 14th Commission on Phytosanitary Measures (CPM-14)

The International Plant Protection Convention (IPPC) Commission on Phytosanitary Measures (CPM) established under Article XII of the IPPC (1997) serves as the Convention's governing body. The CPM meets each year at FAO headquarters in Rome, Italy, to promote cooperation to help implement the objectives of the Convention.

The members of CPM are the contracting parties to the Convention (currently 183 countries). CPM is also attended by observers from organizations such as the Regional Plant Protection Organizations, the WTO Sanitary and Phytosanitary Committee, the Standards and Trade Development Facility, and the Convention on Biological Diversity.

During CPM-14 contracting parties...

- reviewed the latest draft of the IPPC Strategic Framework 2020-2030 and endorsed the content in advance of its formal adoption during CPM-15 (2020);
- adopted several International Standards for Phytosanitary Measures;
- discussed the transition plan for the ePhyto solution from a project to a sustainable, business as usual, operation;
- listened to reports from the CPM Chairperson and the Secretary of the IPPC;
- received updates from the Standards Committee, Implementation and Capacity Development Committee, and International Year of Plant Health Steering Committee;
- discussed the financial report from the IPPC Secretariat as well as the future work plan and budget for the Secretariat into 2020.

The IPPC Standards Committee Working Group approves four draft standards for second consultation - July 1 to Sept. 30, 2019

The Standards Committee working group met 05/13/19 to 05/17/19 at FAO HQ in Rome. They approved the following draft standards for submission to the 2nd consultation period.

- **2018 Draft amendments to ISPM 5: *Glossary of Phytosanitary Terms*** – ISPM 5 is revised yearly to ensure clear definitions and improved understanding of phytosanitary terms.
- **Revision of ISPM 8: *Determination of Pest Status in an Area*** – The revision addresses

the quality of information used in determining pest status and harmonizes guidance contained in other related ISPMs.

- **Requirements for NPPOs if/when authorizing entities to perform phytosanitary actions** - The standard provides a framework that enables NPPOs to develop and implement programs for authorization of entities to perform specific phytosanitary actions such as inspection, testing or surveillance.
- **Requirements for the use of modified atmosphere treatments as a phytosanitary measure** - The standard will provide NPPOs with technical guidance on procedures for applying modified atmosphere treatments as phytosanitary measures for regulated pests or articles.

News on ongoing NAPPO Projects

Biological Control. The EG officially started working on the revision of RSPM 22 (*Guidelines for Construction and Operation of a Containment Facility for Insects and Mites Used as Biological Control Agents*). The Secretariat would like to welcome Mrs. Melisa Tacolla as a new industry EG member from the US.

ePhyto. The EG continues to support the progress of the worldwide IPPC ePhyto solution. The US is actively exchanging ePhytos via the hub with four trading partners. Piloting of the generic system (GeNS) continues in three countries. Case studies with the seed and grain industries will provide feedback to the system.

Khapra beetle. The EG was officially disbanded after completion of the Khapra beetle discussion document 10: *North American Approach to Prevent Entry, Establishment and Spread of khapra Beetle in the NAPPO region*. The NAPPO Secretariat would like to acknowledge all EG members who contributed to this document. See more detailed information in this issue of the NAPPO newsletter.

Risk-Based Sampling. The RBS Project Manager continues to make good progress towards the completion of the Risk-Based Sampling multiauthored manual. Furthermore, a new tool (Sample size calculator) is available on the NAPPO website (<http://www.nappo.org/index.php?cID=963>) to assist those interested in determining what sample size they should consider at a stated level of confidence.

Forestry. The EG responsible for drafting RSPM 41 was disbanded early this year and new EG membership was confirmed to begin working on the Science and Technology document that provides "*Inspection Guidance following the Detection of Pests in Certified Wood Packaging Material and Wood Commodities*".

The Secretariat would like to thank Scott Myers from APHIS-PPQ and Nancy Furness and Steve Cote from CFIA for their excellent contributions towards developing RSPM 41. We warmly welcome Ron Mack and Tyrone Jones from APHIS-PPQ to the new Forestry EG. Finally, we gratefully acknowledge and bid farewell to our friend and colleague Sara Cabrera (SEMARNAT, Mexico) who was part of the EG that developed RSPM 41 and has recently left her post at SEMARNAT.

Revision of RSPM 9 (*Authorization of Laboratories for Phytosanitary Testing*). The EG is making good progress. We have re-scheduled the face-to-face meeting for June 26-27 in Raleigh, NC during which the revision will be completed and the updated RSPM prepared for country consultation. The Secretariat welcomes Sharon Berthelet (CFIA) as a new EG member and acknowledges the contributions of Stephanie Morrow (CFIA), who recently left the group.

Revision of RSPM 35 (*Movement of stone and pome fruit and grapevines*). As part of the revision process the EG continues to make progress towards updating existing and adding new pest tables to the RSPM. Work on updating the body of the standard is also in process. The Secretariat wants to welcome Yilmaz Balci (APHIS-PPQ) to the EG and acknowledges the contributions of Margarita Bateman (APHIS-PPQ), who recently left the EG.

Phytosanitary Alert System. Update of the PAS platform is progressing, as the EG continues to provide official pest alerts and emerging pest reports for the NAPPO region.

IPPC Announces Workbook Developed by NAPPO and Partners to Estimate Sample Sizes Based on



During CPM-14 the North American Plant Protection Organization (NAPPO) delivered a presentation on the importance of using Risk-Based Sampling (RBS) in order for phytosanitary inspections and the measures that are put in place based on inspection results are technically justified. After the presentation some contracting parties (CPs) emphasized that sharing views and experiences with CPs would contribute to a better understanding of the conceptual foundation and the operational and regulatory considerations when implementing RBS. In response to this suggestion NAPPO and its partners developed a **free downloadable Excel workbook (in English and Spanish)** to assist CPs in organizing data derived from inspections conducted at ports, airports and border points. The formulae contained in the workbook can be used to estimate sample sizes based on Risk-Based Sampling concepts. The free downloadable tool is available at – www.NAPPO.org – by clicking **Sample Size Calculator** on the English side or **Calculadora para el tamaño de muestra** on the Spanish side.

A brief summary of Bob Griffin's Contributions to NAPPO

Throughout the years, the North American Plant Protection Organization was extremely lucky to have Bob Griffin as United States National Plant Protection Organization (NPPO) subject matter expert in several NAPPO Expert Groups (known, in the “olden” days, as NAPPO panels). Among his many important contributions was the leading role he played in the development of USDA-APHIS-PPQ and NAPPO policies concerning the use of irradiation as phytosanitary treatment.



Bob temporarily left USDA-APHIS-PPQ in 1997 to become part of the IPPC Secretariat in Rome. Nevertheless, his strategic collaboration with NAPPO continued and grew. Despite his responsibilities as IPPC Secretariat Coordinator, Bob returned to North America in 1997 to participate in the NAPPO Annual Meeting (Seattle, Washington, USA) and shared his knowledge and experiences in the area of quarantine research protocols and alternatives for quarantine security. It goes without saying that the topic was a highlight of this meeting.

NAPPO invited Bob to attend our Annual Meeting almost every year so he could update NAPPO stakeholders on the latest standard setting efforts at the level of the IPPC. His previous expertise as a member of several NAPPO panels helped him focus his presentations in a way that made sense to all meeting participants. For example, at the 1999 Annual Meeting (Cancun, Quintana Roo, Mexico), his presentation on Initiatives around Risk Management and Risk Communication was the best presentation that year.

Bob was always generous and strategic in suggesting topics and focus areas for the NAPPO Annual Meeting Symposium. As you well know, the NAPPO Symposium tries to focus on specific subjects that are important, timely and relevant to our stakeholders. Bob's suggested topics included the International Plant Protection Convention Dispute Settlement Process (1999, Cancun, Quintana Roo, Mexico), International Trade in Seeds (2011, Merida, Yucatan, Mexico), Risk Management (2015; Memphis, Tennessee, USA) and Precision Safeguarding (2018; Tucson, Arizona, USA).

Bob was a key figure in helping NAPPO organize an International Symposium on Pest Risk Analysis (2002, Puerto Vallarta, Jalisco, Mexico) where he presented an overview of pest risk analysis and its growth/evolution at the level of the International Plant Protection Convention, in particular, the accomplishments and challenges of global harmonization.

In 2017, Bob was the main force behind the NAPPO effort to organize the first ever International Symposium for Risk Based Sampling (RBS) sponsored jointly with USDA-APHIS

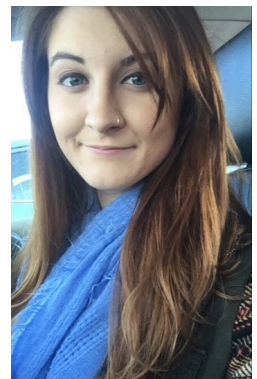
-PPQ (Baltimore, Maryland, USA). The Symposium brought together 122 participants from 27 countries around the world. Symposium speakers and participants included professionals representing 31 government agencies, 4 academic institutions, 15 industries and 3 international organizations. The Symposium's impact around the world will continue for many decades to come.

At last year's meeting in Tucson, AZ Bob spoke on such important topics such as the Trade Facilitation Agreement alongside Kevin Harriger from DHS-CBP and the History of the IPPC together with his long-time colleague John Hedley from New Zealand. Fittingly, at the 2018 meeting, the year before his retirement, Bob was recognized for his unparalleled lifetime contributions to global plant protection by the IPPC, the USDA-APHIS-PPQ and NAPPO.

The NAPPO Executive Committee, Advisory and Management Committee, Industry Advisory Group and Secretariat are forever indebted to Bob for his insightful contributions and years of support, for selflessly sharing his international and national phytosanitary experiences and for superbly communicating this knowledge to the NAPPO stakeholders. Some of us thought Bob was a shy person, some of us thought he was a curmudgeon, but all of us, without fail, greatly respected, appreciated and benefitted from his generosity and willingness to always lend a helping hand.

NAPPO Welcomes Allison Buys, a summer intern from NC State University/Meredith College

Allison Buys is a senior at Meredith College, in Raleigh North Carolina, majoring in Environmental Sustainability. She also participates in the Sustainable Bioproducts and Bioenergy Program at North Carolina State University. Allison has experience in data entry, GIS, research in both biological and environmental issues, and knowledge of invasive species and their environmental impacts. Allison began her internship with NAPPO in early May and she will continue working with us until the end of August. The NAPPO Secretariat welcomes Allison. She will be assisting some Expert Groups with different projects while learning about NAPPOs work harmonizing plant protection activities for its three member countries.



Welcome to new NAPPO Expert Groups members

Sharon Berthelet (*Expert Group: Revision of RSPM 9*). Sharon Berthelet (M.Sc. Honors Biochemistry) joined the Canadian Food Inspection Agency in 2009, with experience in potato cyst nematology, plant pathology and nematology laboratories, primarily in the field of molecular biology. Sharon commenced her role in laboratory quality management in 2012. As a Senior Laboratory Accreditation Officer in CFIA's Science Branch her primary responsibilities are providing advice and guidance on the application and interpretation of ISO/IEC 17025 and other quality management standards to the 13 CFIA laboratories across the country. Further, she provides information and guidance to external laboratories, other government departments and organizations in support of CFIA programs.



Mireille Marcotte (*Expert Group: Revision of RSPM 17*). Mireille Marcotte obtained her Ph.D. in Biology from the Université Laval in Québec City in 2005. She started with the Canadian Food Inspection Agency in January 2007, working in the Forestry Section in the Policy and Programs Branch. In May 2014, she joined the Science Branch as the National Manager of the Plant Health Surveillance Unit, leading a team of survey biologists located across the country.



Walter P. Gould (*Expert Group: Revision of RSPM 17*). Walter P. Gould is a Senior Risk Manager with USDA-APHIS-PPQ in Riverdale, Maryland. He has a B.S. in Biology (1980), University of Wisconsin-Green Bay, followed by both a M.S. (1982) and Ph.D. degree (1986) in Entomology from the University of Wisconsin-Madison. In 1986 he joined USDA-ARS as a Research Entomologist in Miami developing commodity treatments for insect pests. In 2001 he joined the USDA-APHIS-PPQ as the Entomologist with oversight for containment facilities for exotic pest insects. Since 2006 he has been Senior Risk Manager – Entomology determining pest mitigations for safe importation of fruits and vegetables into the United States.



Sarah A. Marnell (*Expert Group: Revision of RSPM 17*). Sarah Marnell was born in Alabama, and received her B.S. in Biology from Spring Hill College. She obtained her M.S. from the University of Rhode Island before joining USDA-PPQ in 2008 as a biological science technician. She has supported various programs during her time with Plant Protection and Quarantine but has been working almost exclusively with the fruit fly program for the last 6 years. Sarah primarily focuses on data management and analysis and is excited to serve as a subject matter expert for this NAPPO project.

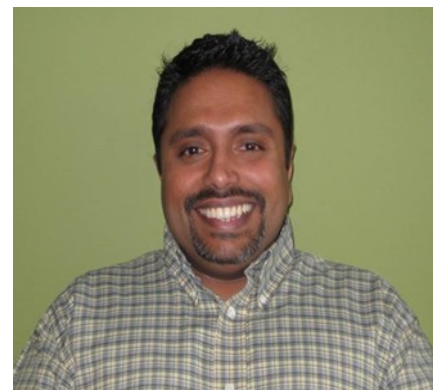


Scott Geffros (*Expert Group: Forestry*). After a lengthy career in the wood packaging manufacturing sector, Scott transitioned to employment with the Canadian Wood Pallet and Container Association four years ago. He currently leads the association as General Manager and oversees the HT Program Inspections Division, which administers inspections under a third-party service provider arrangement with the Canadian Food Inspection Agency.

Scott currently serves on the Canadian Forest Phytosanitary Working Group as well as the Canadian Forest Products Advisory Committee and is excited to bring his wood packaging industry and quality systems knowledge and experience to the NAPPO forum.



Arvind Vasudevan (*Expert Group: Forest Products*). Arvind Vasudevan is currently the A/Senior Specialist for the Forestry program at the Canadian Food Inspection Agency (CFIA), he has over 10 years of experience with the Plant Health Program at the CFIA in various roles. Prior to joining the Federal Government he worked as a research coordinator with the Lake Abitibi Model Forest in Cochrane, Ontario. Arvind has Master's Degree in Science from the University of Madras, India and a Masters in Natural Resource Management from the University of Manitoba, Canada.



Heather Curlett *(Expert Group: International Year of Plant Health).*

Heather Curlett serves as the Communications Manager for USDA's Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, Plant Protection and Quarantine program. Heather has more than 20 years' experience in federal sector communications, specializing in strategic communications planning, risk and crisis communications, and visual communication. Heather is a graduate of the University of Maryland and holds a Master's Degree in English. She lives near Annapolis, MD, with her husband, Ed and her sons, Will and Ryan.



Ifi Chafy *(Expert Group: International Year of Plant Health).*

Ifi Chafy is a fluently bilingual (English, French) communications professional in the Government of Canada. With 20 years' experience, she is well versed in all areas of communications, including external and internal communications, issues management, crisis communications, advertising and stakeholder engagement. A former teacher, she is strongly motivated by continuous learning in all its forms. She is particularly interested in exploring how government and non-government organizations can work together to extend the reach and increase the effectiveness of communications on shared priorities.



Lisa Lafontaine *(Expert Group: International Year of Plant Health).*

An affinity for nature brought Lisa to work at the Canadian Food Inspection Agency where her passion for plant protection shines. Her portfolio includes such files as forestry and international phytosanitary standards, and of course, the International Year of Plant Health 2020. Lisa is an award-winning communications specialist with nearly 30 years of experience. A former radio, television and print journalist, Lisa uses strategic thinking and creativity to execute effective communications activities. In her off time, Lisa can be found sailing, kite-surfing or practicing yoga (sometimes all on the same day) on the Ottawa River.



Upcoming meeting announcements

Registration for IPPC International Symposium on Pest Free-Areas and Surveillance now open

The **IPPC International Symposium on Pest Free Areas and Surveillance**, hosted by the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries of Japan and organized by the Secretariat of the International Plant Protection Convention (IPPC) with the financial support from Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada (AAFC), the European Commission (EC) and the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries of Japan (MAFF) will be held from Oct. 28 to Nov. 1 2019 at the Hotel Associa in Shizuoka, Japan. Deadline for registration to attend the Symposium is **July 31, 2019**.

The Symposium will bring together representatives from IPPC contracting parties, Regional Plant Protection Organizations, FAO Regional and Sub-regional offices, international inter-governmental, educational and scientific organizations, and private sector/service providers involved in phytosanitary activities and trade in order to share information and discuss good practices, successes and challenges in developing and maintaining pest free areas and surveillance phytosanitary systems. Additional details on the event can be found here - <https://www.ippc.int/en/core-activities/capacity-development/symposia/symposium-on-pfas-and-surveillance/>

Forty second National Congress on Biological Control Veracruz, Mexico

We announce the 42.º National Congress on Biological Control to be held in Mexico, on November 4-8 in Boca del Río, Veracruz. During this event, the 30.º National Course on Biological Control will take place which is usually an event offered before the congress. The following workshops will also be offered:

- Biological control of plant pathogens
- Mass-rearing beneficial insects
- Management of entomopathogen fungi
- Collection and preservation methods for beneficial insects
- Development of plant extracts



In addition to keynote speakers, there will presentations and posters, as well as the following symposia:

- Biological control of citrus integrated pest management
- Biological control of sugar cane integrated pest management
- Biological control of coffee integrated pest management

For further information, please visit this link: <https://www.smcb-mx.org>

NAPPO Newsletter

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