



## Hello from the New NAPPO Technical Director

I would like to introduce myself as the new NAPPO Technical Director. I am very excited to have joined this prestigious organization and look forward to growing professionally as I learn more about NAPPO and meet those working on the different NAPPO projects.

Prior to joining NAPPO, I worked with the NC Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services (NCDA&CS) coordinating multiple state-wide survey, outreach, and regulatory programs to monitor and control invasive insects and gastropods species in the state. I also have experience in assisting with the development of pest risk analyses and New Pest Response Guidelines for USDA APHIS Plant Protection and Quarantine.

I graduated from the Panamerican School of Agriculture, Zamorano, Honduras, where I earned a degree in general Agronomy, and I have Ph.D. in Entomology/Nematology from the University of Florida.

I am originally from Honduras, where I received early education at the Lycée Franco Hondurien, where I learned French.



Throughout my professional career, I have conducted research on a variety of projects, including the genetic characterization of honey bees, the characterization of chemical attractants of small hive beetles, biological control of the Mexican bromeliad weevils and physiological studies of cockroaches, among others.

I am excited about the professional and personal opportunities this new position offers me, and I am looking forward to meeting and working with you in the future.

*Alonso Suazo*  
NAPPO Technical Director

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# 40<sup>th</sup> NAPPO Annual Meeting Updates

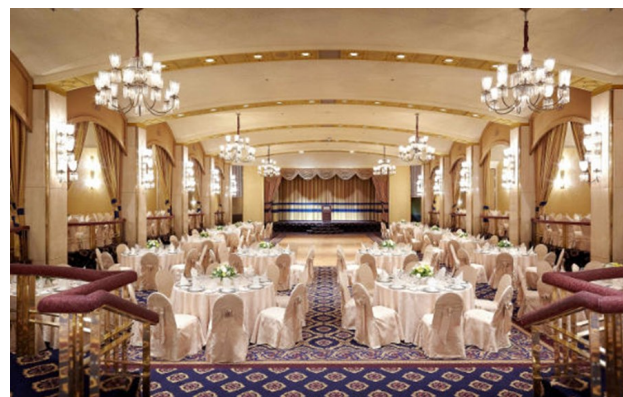
The 40th NAPPO Annual Meeting is only a month away! The NAPPO Secretariat, Advisory and Management Committee and the Canadian Food Inspection Agency (CFIA), in cooperation with USDA APHIS Plant Protection and Quarantine, are working hard on the logistics and last minute details for the meeting. Here are a few updates for your information:

- A News Flash highlighting Annual Meeting activities is available on the NAPPO website and was mailed to industry partners in our three member countries.
- The NAPPO Executive Committee will meet in Montreal just prior to the start of the meeting.
- Several North American and international phytosanitary experts will deliver presentations during the Plenary and the Symposium.
- The fourteen NAPPO Expert Groups are putting the final touches on their project updates, which will be presented during the first day Plenary session.
- An optional side session on the International Plant Protection Convention (IPPC) standard setting activities that will focus on the status of current draft plant health standards and on how to prepare for the 2017 IPPC call for topics will be offered on Tuesday, November 1, during the lunch break.
- The President of CFIA, Dr. Bruce Archibald, will give the opening remarks on Tuesday morning; he has also confirmed his attendance to the welcome reception.
- The welcome reception is scheduled on Halloween—October 31—so consider wearing appropriate attire!
- **Important deadlines:** The deadline for meeting registration, as well as hotel reservations, is **Thursday, September 29, 2016**. For more information, please go to [http://nappo.org/english/nappo\\_annual\\_meeting/](http://nappo.org/english/nappo_annual_meeting/).



## NAPPO 2016

Montreal, Canada • October 31–November 3



- Please note that one-day registration is available for those stakeholders that cannot attend the entire meeting. The cost for one-day registration is \$125.00 and is payable—in cash (USD)—at the meeting registration desk. Please indicate that you are registering for one day when you complete your registration online.

# NAPPO Submits Document on the International Movement of Grains

On August 12, the NAPPO Secretariat submitted a discussion document to the International Plant Protection Convention (IPPC) on the shared perspective of NAPPO member countries (the United States, Mexico and Canada) in preparation for the IPPC Expert Working Group (EWG) tasked with the development of an International Standard for Phytosanitary Measures (ISPM) on the International Movement of Grain. The IPPC EWG

will meet in September 2016 in Melbourne, Australia, to develop a draft international standard. The specification for this standard was approved in 2014. The regional document was developed by a NAPPO Grains Expert Group (EG) including plant health government experts from the National Plant Protection Organizations of the United States, Canada and Mexico, and input from industry partners.

## Travel to the National Plant Board

The NAPPO Executive Director attended the 90<sup>th</sup> National Plant Board (NPB) Annual Meeting (August 1-4, 2016) in Wilmington, Delaware, held at the historic Hotel DuPont. In cooperation with Pati Abad, APHIS PPQ Technical Director for NAPPO, NAPPO presented an update on the Secretariat's relocation, staffing and 2016 work program. NAPPO was invited to attend the NPB members-only General Business Session to discuss how the NPB can more actively participate in Regional as well as International standard setting activities. As a result of NAPPO's attendance and participation at the NPB, we confirmed participation by this organization at the NAPPO Annual Meeting in Montreal and also secured a speaker,



Mr. Julio Vila, from the U.S. Department of Homeland Security Customs and Border Protection for the NAPPO Workshop on the implementation of ISPM 15 in the Americas.

## NAPPO AMC Members Attend 2016 IPPC Regional Workshop in Latin America

During the week of August 22, Ana Lilia Montealegre Lara (SENASICA) participated in the International Plant Protection Convention's (IPPC) Latin America Regional Workshop in Panama City, Panama. Stephanie Dubon (PPQ in-kind) participated as an IPPC Secretariat representative and facilitated the regional workshop. There were plant health officials from 20 countries and two regional plant protection organizations (OIRSA and COSAVE). These workshops are critical in

improving the capacity of developing countries to participate actively in the development of international standards, enhancing their capacity to understand and operationalize IPPC standards and for IPPC members to formulate productive comments on draft standards. The participants reviewed and provided comments on three draft international standards for phytosanitary measures, and received facilitated exercises on import verification, diagnostics tools, and surveillance.



# Update on the 2016-2020 NAPPO Strategic Plan and NAPPO's Constitution and By-Laws

At its July 6 virtual meeting, the NAPPO Executive Committee (EC) approved the new NAPPO 5-year Strategic Plan. The plan details how NAPPO will work regionally, cooperatively and transparently as it faces key challenges and opportunities over the next five years. NAPPO's core strategic goals remain unchanged:

- Protect North American plant resources, including natural ecosystems, from the introduction and spread of regulated plant pests;
- Harmonize plant protection activities designed to facilitate safe trade;
- Maintain active industry/stakeholder engagement in NAPPO activities;
- Contribute leadership in the international phytosanitary community (including engagement with the IPPC, RPPOs and other international organizations) and,
- Promote and maintain the scientific and technical basis of NAPPO plant protection activities.

These goals are reflected in the new Strategic Plan, which explains the deliverables expected from NAPPO in the next five years.

The updated Constitution and By-Laws reflect changes in location and business practices for NAPPO over the last two years. This document was also approved at the July 6 NAPPO EC virtual meeting.

Both approved documents are already on the NAPPO website: [http://nappo.org/files/4014/7337/1915/EC\\_3\\_1\\_Letter\\_of\\_Introduction\\_NAPPO\\_Strategic\\_Plan-e.pdf](http://nappo.org/files/4014/7337/1915/EC_3_1_Letter_of_Introduction_NAPPO_Strategic_Plan-e.pdf); [http://nappo.org/files/3214/7337/2283/EC\\_3\\_2\\_NAPPO\\_Strategic\\_Plan\\_2016-2020-e.pdf](http://nappo.org/files/3214/7337/2283/EC_3_2_NAPPO_Strategic_Plan_2016-2020-e.pdf) and <http://nappo.org/english/official-documents/constitution-and-laws/>; a short signing ceremony for both documents will be held during the Plenary Session at the 40<sup>th</sup> NAPPO Annual Meeting in Montreal.

## 2016 AMSAC Annual Convention

The Annual Convention of the Mexican Seed Association (AMSAC) was successfully held on August 11-12, 2016, in Huatulco, Oaxaca. Participation included 112 members from 57 seed companies, as well as academia, state and federal governments.

Participants heard about the progress on the National Agricultural Planning being developed by SAGARPA, aimed at guaranteeing sustainable food security with a vision towards 2030, in order to establish an agricultural sector with higher growth and profits, while maintaining environmental and social awareness. Relevant Seed National Policies, which ensure the supply of high-quality seeds, were





also highlighted.

Achievements in the precision agriculture model for corn in Mexico were shown. It was recognized that a comprehensive effort can transform possibilities into realities that will allow small growers to have access to improved seeds.

The vision of “Creating new talents for the industry” was shared. Networking opportunities between academia and industry were identified to generate professional profiles required by industry.

The panel on “Technological Innovation” concluded that innovation must be the engine that drives grower productivity, and includes new techniques for crop genetic improvement. Therefore, it is necessary to establish links between public-private sectors to improve the development of genetic resources.

In addition, the panel on “Intellectual Property Rights in Plant Varieties” concluded that there are opportunities in the UPOV regulatory framework to be included in the Plant Varieties Federal Act. It was highlighted that molecular markers can be more precise and therefore can be used as evidence in the misappropriation of genetic materials.

The “Phytosanitary” panel concluded that the seed industry and phytosanitary authorities must work collaboratively to identify appropriate risk management options to facilitate seed movement without phytosanitary risk. For this, it is important to document and demonstrate seed production practices (including quality control systems) and their impact in mitigating the phytosanitary risk in

order for regulatory authorities to have additional elements for decision-making in international trade.

Internationally recognized high-quality standards are routinely used in seed production to reduce the probability of quarantine pest presence in commercial seed lots. Based on this, the seed industry hopes that the strength of phytosanitary measures can be commensurate with the potential risk posed by seeds produced using these quality standards.

The panel on “Seed treatments” concluded that commercially available seed treatments are one of the main factors driving farmer productivity; awareness was raised of the fact that chemical treatments must be applied judiciously, using better management practices for the commodity. In addition, the group considered that alternatives to chemical products must be sought, allowing the usage of these for organic seed production. In general, all agreed on the relevance of training and the awareness concerning the benefits of treatments in order for seeds to realize their full production potential.

For further information, please visit [www.amsac.org.mx](http://www.amsac.org.mx).

## RSPM 13

NAPPO’s Expert Group on Grains, which includes Rajesh Ramarathnam and Alexandra Burch from Canada, Andres Quezada and Marco Antonio Carreón from Mexico and George Galasso, and Lynn Evans-Goldner and Jim Frahm from the United States, recently completed the update of Regional Standard for Phytosanitary Measures (RSPM) 13: Guidelines to Establish, Maintain and Verify Karnal Bunt Pest Free Areas in North America. The updated RSPM 13 was approved by the NAPPO Executive Committee at its July 6 meeting and has been uploaded to the NAPPO website: <http://nappo.org/english/standards-and-protocols/regional-phytosanitary-standards-rspms/rspm-13/>.

# XXV International Congress of Entomology

Nearly 7,000 delegates are expected at the XXV International Congress of Entomology (ICE), scheduled for September 25 to 30 in Orlando, Florida. The Congress will bring together the largest and most diverse gathering of entomologists and related scientists to share the result of their research; the ICE will also include displays of the latest supplies and services for Entomology.

The NAPPO Secretariat, in cooperation with the USDA Agricultural Research Service in Wapato, Washington, organized a Symposium for the ICE titled The Role of National, Regional and International Plant Protection Organizations to Prevent the Introduction and Spread of Plant Pests. The Symposium line-up includes thirteen presentations by experts representing international,

regional and national organizations involved in the protection of plant resources. The Symposium is scheduled for Tuesday, September 27, at 1:30 pm. NAPPO has organized a luncheon to honor and thank the participants for their contribution. The luncheon is scheduled for Wednesday, September 28. For more information on speakers and topics, please go to

<https://esa.confex.com/esa/ice2016/meetingapp.cgi/Session/25744>.



## USDA APHIS Declares Eradication of European Grapevine Moth from United States

The U.S. Department of Agriculture's (USDA) Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) has determined that the European grapevine moth (EGVM) (*Lobesia botrana*) has been eradicated from California and is lifting the Federal quarantine on 446 square miles of Napa and Sonoma Counties that have been under regulation since June 2010. APHIS and the California Department of Food and Agriculture (CDFA) have conducted extensive survey, control, and regulatory efforts for over three years and found no EGVM in this last quarantined area. This means the United States is free from this pest and unrestricted movement of grapes and other host commodities from these areas can resume. This action became effective on August 18, 2016. As background, in October 2009, APHIS confirmed the first detection of EGVM in the United States in major grape production areas of Northern California. In 2010, APHIS took regulatory actions and established quarantine boundaries, ultimately detecting nearly 101,000 moths that year. APHIS

partnered with CDFA and affected counties to work closely with industry, the University of California Cooperative Extension Service, the EGVM Technical Working Group and other stakeholders to eradicate this pest within California. A total of 11 California counties had been quarantined for EGVM since it was detected, with APHIS declaring subsequent EGVM eradication for most of the California counties in 2012. On August 18, APHIS declared the final two counties in the Federal quarantine, Napa and Sonoma, free of EGVM. The EGVM eradication program employed collaborative strategies that can be used as a model to address future pest incursions; industry, state and local officials, growers, university scientists and extension services all invested in finding and implementing the right tools to safeguard California grapes. The U.S. grape industry along with the state, county, university, and Federal cooperators will remain vigilant by continuing to monitor for EGVM and other economic grape pests.



# ISPM 15 Workshop

On September 3, 2016 the NAPPO Secretariat successfully concluded a five-day workshop on the implementation of the International Standard for Phytosanitary Measures 15 (ISPM 15), held at the Inter American Institute for Agricultural Cooperation (IICA in Spanish) in San José, Costa Rica. The workshop was attended by 39 participants from 18 countries from Latin America and the Caribbean and 14 support staff from the United States and Canada including invited speakers, translators and additional personnel from USDA APHIS. Each participant introduced themselves following welcoming remarks by Dr. Marco Vinicio Jimenez, Director for the NPPO of Costa Rica and Miguel Angel Arvelo from IICA. The workshop agenda was a well-balanced sequence of history, background and technical information about ISPM 15, and included regional plant protection organization reports on implementation and non-compliance issues with ISPM 15.

Steve Côté from CFIA presented the background and principles of plant quarantine and basic information on the convention and ISPMs with particular emphasis on ISPM 15. Technical information regarding ISPM 15 was presented by Dr. Eric Allen from the Canadian Forestry Service. Dr. Allen also provided information on fungi



associated with forest products and the regulatory issues with fungi in wood packaging material. Guidance on implementation of ISPM 15 was provided by Tyrone Jones from USDA APHIS PPQ. Dr. Hannah Nadel, also from PPQ, reported on pest interceptions in wood, including identification and origin information, and Dr. Rebecca Lee provided the results of the ISPM15 implementation survey in the Americas. Russell Reck (ALSC) and Chuck Dentelbeck (CLSA) presented information on implementation of treatments, marking systems and controls to reduce fraud. Julio Vila from the U.S. Department of Homeland Security Customs and Border Protection shared experiences and interception data on ISPM 15 at the US/Mexico





border in Laredo, Texas.

NAPPO, OIRSA, CAN, COSAVE and the Caribbean gave regional reports on implementation and non-compliance of ISPM 15. All presentations are available on the NAPPO website at <http://nappo.org/english/nappo-workshop-implementation-isp-15/compiled-presentations/>.

The technical information was complemented with a field trip to a pallet manufacturing facility and to the Juan Santamaria International Airport plant inspection facility. The visits provided a unique opportunity for participants and experts to see the problems associated with the ISPM 15 implementation. Participants and experts very enthusiastically engaged in discussions related to real case scenarios.

Participants were placed into six groups for round-table discussions on ISPM 15 implementation and



non-compliance issues and to provide recommendations for best practices moving forward. A technical expert and an interpreter were assigned to each group. The workshop concluded with a discussion and presentation of recommendations for best practices; these are available at the NAPPO website.

## Thanks to Canada

After a few delays that required the flexibility, kindness and generosity on the part of the Plant Protection Division and the Accommodations Branch at the Canadian Food Inspection Agency, the NAPPO Secretariat transition to the United States is finally complete! After almost 40 years of being in Ottawa, the NAPPO office in Canada permanently closed its doors on Friday, July 29, 2016.



Thank you,  
Canada-you rock!

As most of you know, NAPPO's yearly operating budget comes from yearly contributions from the Governments of its three member countries—Mexico, the United States and Canada. However, during all of its Canadian life, NAPPO also received in-kind support from the Canadian Federal Government, beginning in 1976 with the Plant Quarantine Division, Production and Marketing Branch, Agriculture Canada and ending in 2016 with the Canadian Food Inspection Agency. These in-kind contributions from Canada included the “bricks and mortar” space and most of the necessary office infrastructure—desks, bookcases, computers, IT support, electricity, water, climate control, phone, conferencing services, mail services—for the NAPPO Secretariat to operate smoothly. No one is more aware of the great value that this contribution represented to our organization than the new NAPPO Executive Director! So, my heartfelt thanks go out to The True North strong and free! Merci, mes amis!

*Stephanie Bloem*  
NAPPO Executive Director

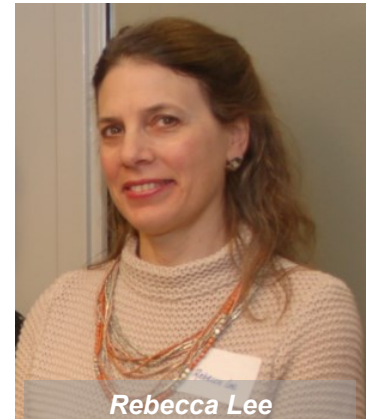


# Thanks to Rebecca Lee and Alba Campos

After approximately six and sixteen years, respectively, Dr. Rebecca Lee, Technical Director, and Ms. Alba Campos, Executive Assistant, ended their employment with NAPPO. The NAPPO Secretariat wishes to thank Rebecca and Alba and acknowledge the significant contributions that both of these employees made to NAPPO over the years. Both of them had exemplary work ethic and attention to customer service which is a legacy that the new NAPPO team is working hard to continue. Alba is currently pursuing a Certificate in Project Management Skills—we wish her all the best in this new endeavor. As many of you know, Rebecca has accepted the position of Executive Director with the Canadian Horticulture Council—heartfelt congratulations to Rebecca—her new position will



Alba Campos



Rebecca Lee

allow Rebecca to continue and perhaps expand collaboration with NAPPO. We look forward to seeing her at the 40<sup>th</sup> NAPPO Annual Meeting in Montreal.

## Welcome to Raleigh, Nedelka!

The NAPPO Secretariat is happy to report that as of August 22, 2016, the entire NAPPO team is working out of the NAPPO office in Raleigh, North Carolina. Mrs. Nedelka Marin-Martinez, NAPPO's translator/interpreter for the last 18 years, made the move to Raleigh with her husband Fernando and their two children, Karissa and Fernie. We warmly welcome Nedelka and her family to their new home!



## Faces of NAPPO

**Amanda Kaye** earned her Ph.D. in Plant Pathology in 2009 from North Carolina State University, where her research focused on the population structure and phylogenetics of *Tomato spotted wilt tospovirus* on peanut. She then worked in crop yield trait development in private industry before coming to work at the USDA. She first joined in 2013 as a state cooperator to work on the Pest Prioritization Model with USDA APHIS PPQ CPHST Plant Epidemiology and Risk Analysis Laboratory. In 2014, she became the Plant Pathologist for



PestLens, the phytosanitary early-warning system for USDA APHIS PPQ. In 2015, she joined the CPHST Director's Office as the Biological Science Technician for Emergency Response. She is currently responsible for providing operational and

**Dominique Pelletier** worked in applied entomology and crop protection for the private sector early on in his career. He joined the Canadian Food Inspection Agency's Horticulture Section in 2003, and has been involved with the development of import requirements for fresh fruits originating from new market sources. He was also the national lead for soil issues, the pre-inspection program for flower bulbs from the Netherlands, *Phytophthora ramorum*, and conducted foreign site audits of systems approaches for fruit production in Asian and European countries. Dom was also involved with the work of the NAPPO Fruit Panel between 2005 and 2011. He recently joined the CFIA's Trade Policy Division as the Senior Plant Standards Officer, responsible of the overall coordination for horizontal

scientific support for research and technology development programs, such as *Phytophthora ramorum*, spotted lanternfly and other exotic pests.

plant protection issues and developing Canadian positions at relevant international fora, such as the IPPC and NAPPO.



**Noé Demetrio Sánchez Isordia** was born in Lomas de Sotelo, Mexico City. He lived the first years of his life in the State of Mexico, where he attended elementary and high school. Later on, he studied Agricultural Engineering at the Mexican Autonomous University (Universidad Autónoma de México, UNAM), Cuautitlán Department of Higher

Education. During his university years, he did his community work and worked in projects related to seeds, at the Grains and Seeds Research Unit (Unigras), also part of the same university. Once he finished his studies as an Agricultural Engineering, he moved to Celaya Guanajuato, where he obtained his Master in Sciences in Seed Production and Technology at the Roque Technological Institute (Instituto Tecnológico de Roque). He was working at the same time at the National Institute for Forestry, Agricultural and Livestock Research (INIFAP), at the Bajío Experimental Campus, where he did some research in corn crop for two years until he concluded his master's degree.

He later moved to Mexico City, where he is currently the Director of the Seeds Department, National Service for Plant Health, Safety and Agri-food Quality (SENASICA) Secretariat of Agriculture, Livestock, Rural Development, Fish and Food (SAGARPA).





# Upcoming Events

## Meeting of Tephritid Workers of the Western Hemisphere

October 16-20, 2016  
Buenos Aires, Argentina

<http://9twwh.senasa.gob.ar/en>

## Technical Consultation Among RPPOs

November 14-18, 2016  
Rabat, Morocco

## IPPC Standards Committee

November 14-18, 2016  
Rome, Italy

<https://www.ippc.int/en/events/event/482/>

## IPPC Commission on Phytosanitary Measures

April 5-11, 2017  
Incheon, Republic of Korea

## Third FAO/IAEA International Conference on Area-wide Management of Insect Pests: Integrating the Sterile Insect and Related Nuclear and Other Techniques

May 22-26, 2017  
Vienna, Austria

<http://www-pub.iaea.org/iaeameetings/50813/Third-FAO-IAEA-International-Conference-on-Area-wide-Management-of-Insect-Pests-Integrating-the-Sterile-Insect-and-Related-Nuclear-and-Other-Techniques>

## Cultivate 17

July 15-18, 2017  
Columbus, OH, USA

<http://americanhort.org>

## 2017 Entomological Society of America

August 6-11, 2017  
Portland, OR, USA

<http://www.esa.org/portland/#.V9b6eoWcGUk>

## 11<sup>th</sup> International Congress of Plant Pathology

Boston, MA, US  
July 29–August 3, 2018

<http://www.icpp2018.org/>

## XXX International Horticulture Congress

August 12–16, 2018  
Istanbul, Turkey

<http://www.ishs.org/symposium/551>