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## 42<sup>nd</sup> Annual Meeting Highlights

The 42<sup>nd</sup> NAPPO Annual Meeting concluded on October 26, 2018. The meeting was extremely well attended with more than 140 participants. The industry was represented by 29 organizations from the U.S., Mexico and Canada including the Canadian Lumber Standards Accreditation Board, Natl. Wooden Pallet and Container Association, Canada Wood Group, American Lumber Standard Committee, BRAMBLES CHEP, Prince Edward Island Potato Board, Canadian Potato Council, Oregon Potato Commission, Canadian Nursery Landscape Association, American Hort, Flowers Canada Growers, Canadian Hort Council, Asociación Mexicana de Semilleros, HM Clause Inc., Canadian Seed Trade Association, CITRISON SA de CV, California Citrus Quality Council, California Fresh Fruit Association, North American Export Grain Association, International Grain Trade Coalition, Phytelligence, M3 Consulting Group, Cordts Consulting LLC, Original Food Co., Science Illustration/Visualization and Crowe and Dunlevy. We also welcomed representatives from the global shipping industry including Global Shippers Forum, Cofindustria Ceramica, and the World Shipping Council. Also represented were the phytosanitary committees from the states of Nuevo Leon and Sonora, Mexico. Highlights from the meeting included four knowledge topics, 1. Plant Health and Trade Facilitation: the



Photo by Samuel Morse - Courtesy of USDA

WTO Trade Facilitation Agreement, 2. e-Commerce: The Emergence of New Commercial Pathways and the Challenges this poses for Plant Protection Organizations, 3. Sea Containers: North American and International Efforts to Address this Important Pest Pathway, and 4. the History of the International Regulatory Framework. The one-day symposium was on “**Precision Safeguarding**”. Face to face meetings between government and industry of the three member countries followed by combined meetings of these groups provided opportunities for networking and information exchange.

General meeting information as well as presentations given at the 42<sup>nd</sup> Annual Meeting will soon be available on the NAPPO website.

The NAPPO Secretariat would like to take this opportunity to thank industry partners that attended the meeting and all those who in any way contributed to the success of the event. The 43<sup>rd</sup> NAPPO Annual Meeting will be hosted by Canada and held in Montreal, Canada October 28-31, 2019. Check the NAPPO website ([www.nappo.org](http://www.nappo.org)) for updates and don't forget to mark your calendars.

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## NAPPO Participates in the International Congress of Plant Pathology



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NAPPO partnered with the American Phytopathological Society and with USDA-APHIS-PPQ International Phytosanitary Standards to organize a session entitled Plant Health in a Global Economy: **Mobilizing Global Support for a Healthy Planet**. The session, held on Monday, July 30 from 2:00-4:00 pm had six speakers.

Bob Griffin from USDA-APHIS-PPQ introduced the audience to the International Plant Protection Convention (IPPC) and its role in the protection of the world's plant resources over the last six decades. NAPPO highlighted the role of the ten Regional Plant Protection Organizations (RPPOs) in achieving the objectives of the IPPC. Clemente Garcia-Avila, from SENASICA-DGSV, Mexico, spoke about the importance of regular communication between scientists and the IPPC. Ralf Lopian from the Finland Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry, Animal and Plant Health Unit, Food Department spoke about the initiative to declare the year 2020 as the **International Year of Plant Health (IYPH)** to raise public awareness about plant health and its benefits to global society. Prior to his presentation, Ralf showed the promotional video developed for the IYPH – you can see the video by clicking this link – <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=v0UXcmxYXI>

Celia Vasimalla and colleagues from ICAR, National Bureau of Plant Genetic Resources in India spoke about the role of quarantine in the exclusion of transboundary plant viruses and Anthony Young from the University of Southern Queensland in Australia spoke about the need for increased communication between policy makers and the scientific community. The session was well attended, having between 80-100 in the audience.



From left to right, Celia Vasimalla, Stephanie Bloem, Ralph Lopian, Andrew Young, Mary Palm, Clemente de Jesús Avila, Robert Griffin and Greg Johnson (President-International Society of Plant Pathology).

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## NAPPO Participates in the 92nd National Plant Board Meeting

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The 2018 National Plant Board Meeting was held from Aug. 12-16 at the Hilton Hotel in downtown Cleveland, Ohio. Kudos and thanks to the Ohio Department of Agriculture and the NBP for organizing such a great meeting! NAPPO provided an update on activities and projects of interest to the NPB members and attendees, which included the State Plant Health Directors of 36 states. The 30-minute NAPPO update was delivered on Tuesday afternoon during a session facilitated by Susan Ehlenbeck from the Missouri Department of Agriculture. The last 10 minutes of NAPPO's time was shared with Marina Zlotina, USDA-APHIS-PPQ IPPC Technical Director for the International Phytosanitary Standards group who updated the NPB on international plant health standard setting activities by the International Plant Protection Convention.

It was gratifying to see that the importance and relevance of NAPPO was mentioned by several other speakers during the meeting – of note, Ann Gibbs, current President of the NPB, who acknowledged the value of attending NAPPO annual meetings, highlighting the excellent and timely topics that are covered each year; Osama El-Lissy, Deputy Administrator for USDA-APHIS-PPQ, who highlighted NAPPO's supporting role in facilitating eradication efforts for Pink Bollworm in the State of Tamaulipas in Mexico as well as NAPPO's role in advancing the strategic initiatives of APHIS-PPQ; Craig Regelbrugge, Vice President of American Hort, who urged NPB members to attend the 2018 NAPPO Annual Meeting in Tucson, AZ; Wendy Beltz, with USDA-APHIS-PPQ Field Operations, who acknowledged NAPPO's role in promoting the North American Sea Container and e-Commerce Initiatives; and Shailaja Rabindran, with the USDA-APHIS-PPQ Plants for Planting Policy Management group, who acknowledged and thanked NAPPO for submitting a proposal to the 2018 IPPC Call for Topics for the development of an Annex to ISPM 38 – International Movement of Seeds – *Design and use of systems approaches for phytosanitary certification of seeds*.



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## NAPPO Participates in INTERPAL

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Dr. Brad Gething, Director of Science & Technology Integration for the National Wooden Pallet and Container Association (NWPCA) invited NAPPO to attend and participate in INTERPAL, the leading international conference, held every four years, for the global wood pallet and packaging industry. NAPPO, alongside Dr. Gething and forestry subject matter experts from the National Plant Protection Organizations of Canada and the United States delivered presentations and answered questions during an educational session entitled **Wood Packaging and Trade Facilitation**, with emphasis on the successes and challenges surrounding implementation of **ISPM 15 – Regulation of Wood Packaging Material in International Trade**. The meeting took place September 18-20 at the Hyatt Regency Minneapolis, MN.

Over 500 wood packaging professionals attended INTERPAL. The meeting was jointly hosted by the Canadian Wood Pallet Container Association (CWPCA) and NWPCA. INTERPAL included a trade show with 50+ exhibitors, educational sessions, site visits and extensive networking. NAPPO thanks the NWPCA for making them part of this important international meeting!

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## NAPPO Attends Bilateral Meeting to Review Trapping and Inspection Data for Asian Gypsy Moth (AGM) Regulated Countries

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On Aug. 8-9, NAPPO attended, as observer, a bilateral meeting – Canada/United States – held at the USDA-APHIS-PPQ laboratory in Buzzards Bay, MA. The objective of the meeting was to review existing trapping and inspection reports from AGM regulated countries to determine if any changes to existing specified risk periods were warranted.

Asian gypsy moth (AGM) is a quarantine pest for North America that can be carried on ships and cargo. If introduced, AGM could have significant negative impacts on the plant resources in North America, commerce that relies on these plant resources, and on market access to countries that are free of AGM. Two of the NAPPO member countries - Canada and the U.S. - are working together to manage AGM risk at origin through a vessel pre-departure certification program that relies on accurately defining specified risk periods for AGM. This program is based on NAPPO Regional Standard for Phytosanitary Measures 33 – *Guidelines for regulating the movement of vessels from areas infested with the Asian Gypsy Moth*.

Although the plant health and agricultural agencies of the U.S. and Canada are independent and have variances in their legislation, AGM risk mitigation and exclusion efforts are harmonized among the two countries and considered high priority for both. Both countries are committed to working with industry partners and with Mexico to support measures that will reduce AGM risk at origin. For vessels which have called on areas regulated for AGM during the specified periods, the U.S. and Canada require the following phytosanitary measures:

- Vessels must be inspected and must obtain pre-departure certification from a recognized certification body. The inspections should be performed as close to vessel departure time from the regulated port as possible. A copy of the certificate, stating that the vessel is free of AGM

life stages, must be provided to Canadian and U.S. officials.

- Masters of vessels must provide two-year port of call data, prior to arrival in a North American port. The port of call data should be provided along with the pre-departure certificate.
- Vessels must arrive in North American ports free from AGM. To avoid facing inspection delays, re-routing and other potential impacts associated with mitigating the risk of entry of AGM to North America, vessel crews should perform intensive vessel self-inspections to look for, remove (scrape off) and properly dispose of or destroy all egg masses and other life stages of AGM prior to entering U.S. and Canadian ports.

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## NAPPO Submission to the 2018 IPPC Call for Topics- Standards and Implementation

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As agreed by the 13<sup>th</sup> session of the IPPC Commission on Phytosanitary Measures (CPM-13), a combined call for topics for international plant health standards and implementation resources was launched in 2018. The call was open from 1 May until 31 August. Topics that could be submitted included the need for a new International Standard for Phytosanitary Measures (ISPMs), new components to existing ISPMs such as Appendices, Annexes or Supplements, revisions to existing ISPMs, pest(s) for which a new Diagnostic Protocol should be developed, new resources destined to improve the implementation of existing ISPMs and revisions to existing implementation resources. Contracting parties (countries that are signatories to the IPPC) as well as Regional Plant Protection Organizations were requested to submit topics following/using the instructions provided by the IPPC Secretariat.

NAPPO, on behalf of its three-member countries, submitted a proposal to develop an **Annex** to the recently adopted *ISPM 38- International movement of seeds* entitled ***Design and use of systems approaches for phytosanitary certification of seeds***. The systems approach for phytosanitary certification of seeds, as described in the NAPPO submission, is intended to be applicable across all seed sectors (vegetable, cereal, row crop, farm and lawn, flower), all seed importing and exporting countries and all sizes of seed production entities. Systems approaches offer more flexibility and more opportunities to employ equivalent measures as alternatives to single phytosanitary measures (e.g., fumigation) or where single measures may not exist. The proposed systems approach framework includes measures for all classes of pests including pathogens, arthropods and weed seeds. Since the system contains measures for all classes of pests it has the potential for proactively managing new and emerging pests that may occupy the same or similar ecological niches.

In addition to unanimous support from Canada, the United States and Mexico, the NAPPO submission for an Annex to ISPM 38 received strong support from countries like Australia, South Africa and Chile, Regional Plant Protection Organizations like OIRSA and CAHFSA, and seed trade/industry associations such as the International Seed Federation (ISF), the American Seed Trade Association (ASTA), the Canadian Seed Trade Association (CSTA) and the Seed Society of the Americas (SAA).

The submissions will be screened by the IPPCs Task Force on Topics (TFT) against established criteria for topic justification and prioritization and develop recommendations to the Standards and Implementation and Capacity Development Committee. They, in turn, will review and provide their analysis to the TFT who will prepare and present recommendations to CPM-14 for adoption. All

told, the IPPC Secretariat received **36 submissions** to the call for topics. The submissions can be found here:

<https://www.ippc.int/en/core-activities/standards-and-implementation/call-for-topics-standards-and-implementation/>

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## **NAPPO Executive Committee Meets in Raleigh, NC in July and in Tucson, AZ on the Margins of the 42nd Annual Meeting**

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On July 24 and 25 the NAPPO Management Team - Executive Committee (EC), Industry Advisory Group (IAG) and the Advisory and Management Committee (AMC) held meetings in Raleigh, NC. Key government and industry updates, updates on the 2018 NAPPO work program, budget and the organizational and logistic aspects of the 42<sup>nd</sup> annual meeting were discussed.

At their October meetings in Tucson, AZ the NAPPO EC adopted and signed the new NAPPO *Regional Standard of Phytosanitary Measures 41 (RSPM 41): Use of Systems Approaches to Manage Pest Risks Associated with the Movement of Forest Products*.

They also discussed next steps on the khapra beetle Discussion Document: *North American Approach to Preventing Introduction and Spread of Khapra Beetle (Trogoderma granarium, Coleoptera: Dermestidae) in different pathways*. Both documents were sent for a 60-day country consultation on August 1, 2018.

The next NAPPO Management Team is scheduled for mid-February, 2019, in Washington DC.

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## **New Regional Standard for Phytosanitary Measures Approved by the NAPPO Executive Committee**

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As indicated above, the NAPPO Executive Committee officially adopted and signed a new Regional Standard (RSPM 41): *Use of Systems Approaches to Manage Pest Risks Associated with the Movement of Forest Products* at their meeting on the margins of the 42<sup>nd</sup> NAPPO annual meeting.

The standard, which includes an extensive explanatory Appendix, was developed by the NAPPO Forestry Expert Group.

The NAPPO Secretariat would like to take this opportunity to congratulate all EG members (Eric Allen - Chairperson, Tyrone Jones, Steve Côté, Nancy Furness, Meghan Noseworthy, Scott Myers, Paul Chaloux, Gustavo Gonzales, Sara Cabrera, Norma Patricia Miranda Gonzáles, Barry Ford, Chuck Dentelbeck, Russell Reck, Dave Kretschmann, Brad Gething and Faith Campbell).

RSPM 41 will soon be available online on the NAPPO website at [www.nappo.org](http://www.nappo.org)

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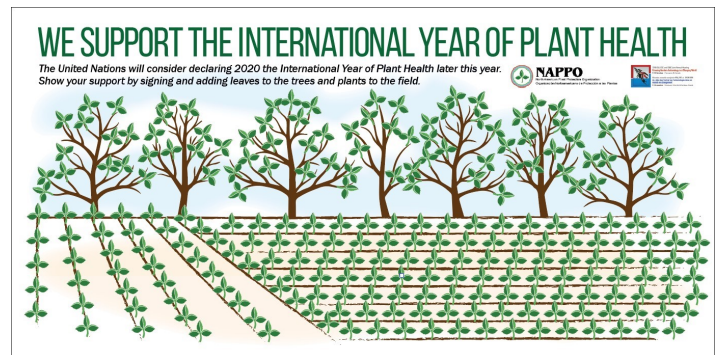
## **NAPPO promotes the International Year of Plant Health (IYPH) at the joint ESA, ESC and ESBC meetings in Vancouver, BC, Canada**

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NAPPO developed an “IYPH support poster” that will be displayed at the meeting in Vancouver, scheduled from November 10-14. The poster has a silhouette of an agricultural field and a defoliated forest. Stickers shaped like the NAPPO tri foliated leaf logo will be available for people to sign and either attach them on the trees and/or plant them in the field to show support for the IYPH initiative. Handouts and a promotional IYPH video will be also available on site for people to learn more about this initiative.



Poster before “support signatures”



Poster after “support signatures”

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## **NAPPO Corner**

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### **Welcome to Maribel Hurtado - New RBS Manual Project Manager**

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Maribel Hurtado Sepúlveda is an Agronomist with a Masters in Development and Integrated Project Management. She worked for two years at the Center for Phytosanitary Excellence in Colombia with an agreement among ICA, IICA, USDA-APHIS-PPQ and USAID in the fields of quarantine treatments, research and phytosanitary protection. She then worked for three years at USDA APHIS in Colombia as an expert in quarantine treatments.

From 2012 to 2017 Maribel worked at the Colombian NPPO, the Colombian Agricultural Institute (ICA) in the Epidemiology and Phytosanitary Surveillance sections. She works at the Rural Development Agency on investment projects and she is a consultant with the Risk-Based Sampling Project for the North American Plant Protection Organization – NAPPO.





# 2018 NAPPO Awardees

NAPPO would like to congratulate the following award recipients:

[1] and [2]; Ignacio Baez from the Phytosanitary Alert System Expert Group and Wendy Asbil from the AGM and khapra beetle Expert Groups for their outstanding contributions and work on behalf of their expert groups.

[3]; The NAPPO Industry Advisory Group. Craig Regelbrugge, U.S. industry; Andrew Morse, Canada Industry and Mario Puente Raya, Mexico Industry) for their efforts promoting industry participation in NAPPO.

[4] Jean François Bolduc (CFIA) for his outstanding contributions to NAPPO as Facilitator and Master of Ceremonies “extraordinaire”

[5]; John Greifer for his contributions to NAPPO as an alternate member of the NAPPO Executive Committee.

[6]; Phil Berger for his leadership and support of NAPPO as Executive Director of the APHIS-PPQ Science and Technology group.

[7]; Bob Griffin in recognition of his lifetime achievements and contributions to NAPPO.

[8]; Jorge Donnadiu for his invaluable tenure as a promoter of the Mexican citrus trade.

[9]; Antonio Obregon Luken recognizing his role in establishing the first pest-free area in the world, a recognition given to him by NAPPO in October 1988.





# News from the NAPPO Expert Groups

**Biological Control.** The NAPPO Secretariat will continue to work on the voiceover of the Spanish version of the RSPM 12 Module. Very soon the Biocontrol EG will begin work on the revision of RSPM 22 - *Construction and operation of containment facilities for BCAs*. The Secretariat would like to welcome Dr. Kirk Martin (USDA-APHIS-PPQ) as a new member of the EG.

**ePhyto.** The project continues to make significant progress with live ePhyto exchanges between countries using the IPPC hub. Christian Dellis, NAPPO EG Chair and Walter Alessandrini from SENASA, Argentina conducted a live ePhyto demo at the NAPPO annual meeting in Tucson. The Secretariat would like to welcome Karthik Sethuraman from USDA-APHIS-PPQ as a new EG member.

**Forestry.** The NAPPO forestry group recently completed the work on RSPM 41, a new regional standard. Soon the group will initiate work on a new project entitled "*Inspection guidance following detection of pests in certified wood packaging material and wood commodities*".

**Khapra beetle.** The EG completed a first draft of the khapra beetle discussion document and submitted the draft for a 60-day country consultation on August 1<sup>st</sup>. The EG will review the comments received in the near future.

**Lymantriids.** This EG has gained a lot of momentum in the second half of 2018 working on risk analyses for additional Lymantriid species and initiating the work on the Science and Technology document entitled "*Risks Associated with Lymantriids of Potential Concern to the NAPPO Region, Identifying Potential Species and Pathways of Concern*". The EG expects to complete this work by mid-2019.

**Risk-Based Sampling.** The RBS Steering Committee was officially disbanded but work on the RBS project continues (coordinated by Bob Griffin, USDA-APHIS-PPQ). Work on the RBS proceedings was completed and copies of the proceedings in English and Spanish are now available on the NAPPO website (See note below).

The NAPPO Secretariat would like to welcome Maribel Hurtado as the new RBS manual project manager and thank Xu Yan for her efforts on the RBS manual. The manual is expected to be completed in mid-2019. The Secretariat also wants to acknowledge and thank the Inter American Institute for Cooperation on Agriculture (IICA) and the USDA for providing technical support, translation services and funding for this project.

**Workshop on the Implementation of ISPM 38 (International movement of seeds).** The EG has agreed to have the workshop at the IICA headquarters in San José, Costa Rica the first week of March 2019. A 3-day agenda for the workshop has been drafted and will be available soon on the NAPPO website.

**Revision of RSPM 35 (Movement of stone and pome fruit and grapevines).** The EG has started to update the pest tables that form part of the RSPM 35 annexes. Several sub-groups have been assigned specific tasks in this respect. Editorial work on the RSPM itself has also started.

**Revision of RSPM 9 (Authorization of laboratories for phytosanitary testing).** EG is making progress with revision and update of the document. The title of the standard was changed to "*Authorization of Laboratories for Phytosanitary Diagnostic Testing*".

**Phytosanitary Alert System.** The EG continues to provide official pest alerts and emerging pest reports for the NAPPO region.

A contract between North Carolina State University and NAPPO was signed to begin modernizing the PAS platform.

**Potato.** An EG face to face meeting took

place on the margins of the NAPPO annual meeting to discuss issues related to updating the potato pest list and other potential project proposals for NAPPO.

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## Upcoming Meetings and Events

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### **ISPM 38-International Movement of Seeds Hemispheric Implementation Workshop**

**By Edward Podleckis, USDA APHIS PPQ**

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NAPPO is pleased to announce that it will be sponsoring a hemispheric workshop on the implementation of International Standard for Phytosanitary Measures No. 38 - *International movement of seeds* March 5-8, 2019 in San Jose, Costa Rica.

The workshop will outline the various aspects of ISPM 38 in a way that aids implementation of the standard in the NAPPO member countries and beyond to include all of the countries of the Americas and the hemisphere. The target audience is NAPPO member country regulatory officials, regulatory officials from other RPPOs in the hemisphere and seed industry representatives from throughout the region.

ISPM 38, adopted in March 2017, was developed in response to rapid expansion of the global seed trade both in volume and in complexity. NAPPO hopes that this workshop will help participants use the insights and tools in ISPM 38 to deal with those changes.

NAPPO has developed an ambitious two and a half day agenda for the workshop. The agenda will be a mix of presentations and interactive discussions. Speakers will include representatives from NPPOs, academia and industry. Day one will provide a general overview of the seed industry and ISPM 38 before moving on to focus on pest risk assessment. Topics include general principles of PRA, seeds as pest pathways, identifying emerging pest risks, seed specific PRA methods among the NAPPO countries and beyond and harmonizing PRA methods.

Day two focuses on pest risk management. Again we start off with the fundamentals of pest risk management then move on to specific measures, for example inspection including a discussion of the particular challenges of sampling and testing small lots of seed. We will also discuss seed treatments, diagnostics, best management practices and finish off with several aspects of systems approaches including the growing international consensus building for the development of a global, multilaterally accepted and implemented systems approach for seed movement.

The workshop wraps up on day three with perspectives from the RPPO, including NAPPO, and industry perspectives on the benefits and challenges of ISPM 38 implementation.

More information will be coming soon on the final agenda, the roster of speakers and registration for the workshop.

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1730 Varsity Drive Suite 145

Raleigh, NC, 27606 USA

Email: [sofia.baez@nappo.org](mailto:sofia.baez@nappo.org)

Visit us on Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/NAPPO-1160576533970672/> or scan the QR code below

