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Organización Norteamericana de Protección a las Plantas

MEXICO - USA - CANADA

“Revision of NAPPO Regional Standard for Phytosanitary Measures 9 (RSPM 9)”

Expert Group (EG) Progress Report

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Objectives and Deliverables

Objectives

- Review RSPM 9: *Authorization of Laboratories for Phytosanitary Testing*. Last revision was in August 2009.
- Ensure the standard is operationally feasible.

Deliverables

- Updated RSPM 9 with compliance requirements more closely aligned with current standards (IPPC, ISO, ISTA, and others).
- Updated RSPM 9 to define specific quality management terms and cross-reference with other NAPPO/IPPC guidance.



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RSPM 9 Importance

Trade

- This regional standard is critical for trade, helping to facilitate certification and shipment of plant products free of quarantine pests.

Accreditation

- RSPM 9 forms a framework for accreditation programs within the NAPPO region, focused on non-NPPO laboratories.



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Progress during 2019

- **Accomplishments:**

- Draft is in the advanced stage of revision by the EG.
 - Definitions unique to the document established.
 - Written in “plain language.”
 - Expanded descriptions regarding evaluation and monitoring.
 - Addressed subcontracting.
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- Face to face meeting June 26 - 27 at the NAPPO Secretariat.
 - Three conference calls held to date.



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Definitions

- Definitions of “shall” and “should” can be found in **IPPC Style Guide CPM-1**.
- **Phytosanitary activities:** Scope of activities for which a laboratory has been authorized which may include but is not limited to diagnostic testing, sampling, inspection, etc.
- **Entity:** Organization that is entering an agreement with the NPPO.
- **Laboratory:** Physical location where phytosanitary activities occur.
- **Audit (modified from ISO 9000:2015):** Systematic, independent and documented process for obtaining evidence and evaluating it objectively to determine the extent to which established criteria are fulfilled.



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Example of Plain Language

Current revision: Authority

- The NPPO has the authority to monitor authorized entities providing phytosanitary activities.

Previous revision: Authority

- The NPPO must have the authority to oversee authorized facilities providing diagnostic services in support of phytosanitary testing. The NPPO may enter into agreements with public or private laboratories for the delivery of diagnostic services in support of phytosanitary testing.



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Example of Expanded Descriptions

Current revision: Facilities

- The facilities and environmental conditions shall be suitable for the phytosanitary activities. This should include:
 - Steps to minimize contamination
 - Steps to protect against insect or animal entry
 - Appropriate lighting, temperature, moisture, ventilation, and noise conditions

Previous revision: Facilities

- Authorized laboratory facilities must be approved by the NPPO, and adhere to standards established and maintained by the NPPO. A comprehensive initial on-site visit and subsequent monitoring visits to authorized laboratories are required to ensure that NPPO standards are met.



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Next steps

- Update supplementary appendix to reflect the current revision.
- Undergo country consultation (public comment period).
- Continue incorporating changes to RSPM 9 as per comments provided by the EG members.



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Thank You!

Questions?