

## Plan for the implementation of NAPPO standards

### 1. Name of Standard

*RSPM No. 27 Guidelines for Importation and Confined Field Release of Transgenic Arthropods in NAPPO Member Countries*

### 2. Country Reporting

United States

### 3. Relevant Authority

#### 3.1 Current Authority

##### 3.1.1. *Plant Protection Act, 2000*

Under the authority of the Plant Protection Act, the US Department of Agriculture (USDA) can implement measures for the detection, control, eradication, suppression, prevention, or retardation of the spread of plant pests or noxious weeds as necessary for the protection of the agriculture, environment, and economy of the United States. Genetically engineered (GE) organisms, including arthropods, are regulated according to 7CFR 340, "Introduction of organisms and products altered or produced through genetic engineering which are plant pests or which there is reason to believe are plant pests." These regulations are implemented by Biotechnology Regulatory Services (BRS) within the Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service. Under 7CFR340, APHIS has oversight for the importation, interstate movement, or environmental release of genetically engineered arthropod plant pests, or genetically engineered arthropods that may present a plant pest risk resulting from the modification.

#### 3.2 Revisions to authority

Revisions to existing authority will not be required in order to comply with the standard.

### 4. Obtaining Authority to Adopt the Standard

N/A

### 5. Implementation of Standard

The United States will be able to implement the standard once it is adopted by NAPPO.

Any importation, interstate movement, or environmental release of GE arthropods requires a permit from BRS. (Note that movement of a regulated article within a state is not subject to APHIS oversight). The permit outlines container requirements (for movement or importation) designed to prevent unauthorized release of these organisms into the environment. Permits for environmental release may be issued following a risk assessment that considers the

biology of the non-transformed and transformed organism, any physical or biological confinement conditions to be imposed on the release, and the environmental consequences of the release with respect to plant health. Conditions must be imposed on the release to prevent establishment and spread of the regulated organism within the environment.

APHIS regulations would also allow for granting of non-regulated status for GE organisms, if a Pest Risk Assessment results in a determination that this organism does not present a greater risk than the non-GE counterpart. However, APHIS policies have not yet clarified whether GE arthropods will be eligible for the deregulation process.