42nd NAPPO Annual Meeting
Oct. 22-25, 2018

NAPPO stakeholders, please save the date!!

Preparations are already underway for the 42nd NAPPO Annual Meeting to be held at the beautiful Westward Look Wyndham Grand Resort and Spa in Tucson, Arizona. The Annual Meeting planning group, including members from the U.S. National Plant Protection Organization (USDA-APHIS-PPQ) and the NAPPO Secretariat, held their first virtual meeting on Jan. 30. Roles, responsibilities and timelines were discussed and assigned to all members. Another call is planned for the end of February. A draft Agenda should be posted to the NAPPO website by the end of March.

Photo from the Westward Look website
CPM-13 – coming in mid-April

The thirteenth session of the Commission on Phytosanitary Measures – the governing body of the International Plant Protection Convention (IPPC) - will be held at the Headquarters of the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) in Rome, Italy, from 16 to 20 April, 2018. Commission meetings are attended by the delegations from the 183 countries (aka contracting parties) that are signatories to the IPPC and by observers from related organizations such as Regional Plant Protection Organizations and other international bodies including industry.

Documents for the meeting are already being posted by the IPPC Secretariat, including a Detailed Agenda. Make sure you periodically check the link below as more documents are posted each week – follow this link to access the documents for CPM-13 – https://www.ippc.int/en/core-activities/governance/cpm/

In line with the 2018 theme year for the IPPC – Plant Health and Environmental Protection – the Commission on Biological Diversity (CBD) will deliver a keynote address on this subject at CPM-13. Furthermore, CPM-13 will have side sessions on next generation sequencing and on research collaboration.

To see a list of the 183 contracting parties that are signatories to the IPPC please follow this link - https://www.ippc.int/en/countries/all/list-countries/

To read the text of the International Plant Protection Convention please follow this link - https://www.ippc.int/static/media/files/publications/en/2013/06/06/1329129099_ippc_2011-12-01_reformatted.pdf

To take a free e-learning course entitled Introduction to the Plant Protection Convention please follow this link - https://www.ippc.int/en/news/e-learning-course-introduction-to-the-
NAPPO website gets a facelift!

To improve/enhance our communication with stakeholders, and better promote our project deliverables and activities, the NAPPO Secretariat has been working with their webmaster on re-organizing and improving the NAPPO website. The home page will be arranged more logically, the home page tabs will focus on documents and deliverables important to our stakeholders, and our leadership and subject matter experts will be move visible to our readers.

See a preview of the new home page look below!

NAPPO announces its 2018 Work Program

During the 2017 call for new NAPPO projects, stakeholders from the region submitted fourteen (14) projects for consideration as possible additions to the 2018 NAPPO Work Program. The projects were first reviewed and prioritized by the NAPPO Advisory and Management Committee (AMC) using the evaluation criteria listed below.

**Strategic Alignment:** Project should be well aligned with both NAPPO and the member country NPPO’s strategic priorities.

**Impact:** Project should have harmonization value for North America.

**Priority Pests:** Project should focus on pests of concern to NAPPO member countries.

**Feasibility - human capital:** Project proposal should clearly indicate availability of technical/scientific expertise from member country NPPOs.

**Strategic Value of similar NAPPO projects:** Likelihood that the new proposed project would be successful/useful based on similar past endeavors.

**Feasibility - resources:**
- Project proposal should present a complete picture of the project and clearly outline the steps/processes and timelines needed to achieve the project objectives.
- Project proposal should include details on human (how many) and financial (how much) resources are needed for the project. Project should be "doable" with current NAPPO Secretariat resources (how many projects can be managed by the NAPPO Secretariat taking into consideration other commitments).

The list of projects was presented to the
NAPPO Executive Committee (EC) during its October 2017 meeting in Merida, Yucatan, Mexico on the margins of the 41st Annual Meeting. Projects were reviewed and discussed by the EC, considering the evaluation criteria as well as ongoing/carryover NAPPO projects.

There was consensus from the NAPPO EC to immediately add three new projects to the 2018 NAPPO work program. These are:

- Revision of Regional Standard for Phytosanitary Measures 9: *Authorization of Laboratories for Phytosanitary Testing*;
- Revision of Regional Standard for Phytosanitary Measures 35: *Guidelines for the movement of Stone and Pome Fruit Trees and Grapevines into a NAPPO Member Country*; and
- Design and deliver a hemispheric (Americas focused) workshop to promote the implementation of ISPM 38: *International Movement of Seeds*.

The NAPPO AMC has identified subject matter experts from each of their NPPOs to conform the Expert Groups (EGs) that will champion the abovenamed projects. Industry is working with the AMC to identify industry representatives to serve on these EGs. More about this below.

The three new projects, alongside ongoing NAPPO projects on (4) Forestry, (5) Lymantriids, (6) Khapra Beetle, (7) Biological Control, (8) Risk-Based Sampling, (9) Asian Gypsy Moth, (10) Phytosanitary Alert System, (11) Electronic Certification and (12) Potato, as well as activities concerning internal governance, stakeholder engagement and regional collaboration round-out the 2018 NAPPO Work Program. For more information about the 2018 Work Program, please visit the NAPPO website.

Please note that several NAPPO ongoing projects have targeted completion dates in 2018. As such, there are three additional new projects that were ranked as priorities by the NAPPO EC and, these have been were added to the queue of new projects that can begin once one of the NAPPO carry-over projects from 2011 are completed. The initiation of the “wait-listed” new projects is dependent on availability of resources and the EC’s concurrence. These projects are:

- Revision of Regional Standard for Phytosanitary Measures 17: *Guidelines for the Establishment, Maintenance and Verification of Fruit Fly Free Areas in North America*;
- Develop a Science and Technology document that provides *Inspection guidance following the detection of pests in certified wood packaging material and wood commodities*; and
- 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*.

Other submitted projects were put on hold pending the outcomes of the thirteenth session of the Commission on Phytosanitary Measures (CPM-13) to be held at FAO in Rome in mid-April. Finally, stakeholders whose projects were not selected are being contacted/informed by the Secretariat via formal correspondence.

The NAPPO Secretariat wants to take this opportunity to thank all stakeholders that submitted new project ideas to NAPPO. *We very much value your interest, insights and suggestions!*

This transparent process makes our Regional Plant Protection Organization relevant to our stakeholders from government and industry alike.
NAPPO Executive Committee meets in Mexico City

The NAPPO Executive Committee (EC), Industry Advisory Group (IAG) and Advisory and Management Committee (AMC) alongside the NAPPO Executive and Technical Directors held face-to-face meetings in Mexico City in mid-February. The USDA Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service International Services Office in Mexico City agreed to host the meetings; we gratefully acknowledge Mr. Lou Vanechanos, North America Regional Director for APHIS and his staff for their generosity and assistance.

Some of the Agenda items discussed included key updates from government and industry from each of the NAPPO member countries, a NAPPO administrative update including budgets for 2017 and 2018, the 2018 NAPPO work program and the 42nd NAPPO Annual Meeting.

Standing, from L to R — Andrew Morse, IAG member from Canada, Pati Abad, AMC member from the U.S, Craig Regelbrugge, IAG from the U.S., Dom Pelletier, AMC from Canada, Greg Wolff, EC member from Canada, Lou Vanechanos, our host, NA Regional Director for APHIS, Mario Puente, IAG from Mexico, Alonso Suazo, NAPPO Technical Director and Rajesh Ramarathnam, AMC from Canada. Sitting, from L to R — John Greifer, alternate EC member from the U.S., Javier Trujillo-Arriaga, EC member from Mexico, Osama El Lissy, EC member from the U.S., Stephanie Bloem, NAPPO Executive Director, Marie-Claude Forest outgoing EC member from Canada and Ana Lilia Montealegre, AMC member from Mexico.
NAPPO attends the meeting of the IPPCs Technical Panel for the Glossary

From Dec. 4-7, 2017 the NAPPO ED participated in the face-to-face meeting of the IPPC Technical Panel for the Glossary of Phytosanitary Terms – TPG. The TPG works on matters related to *International Standard for Phytosanitary Measures (ISPM) 5 – The Glossary of Phytosanitary Terms*, which provides a list of phytosanitary terms and their definitions. The TPG is composed of subject matter experts representing all FAO languages – Arabic, Chinese, English, French, Russian and Spanish. The NAPPO ED represents the English language but also provides input on translation of phytosanitary terms into Spanish.

The TPG …

- Reviews proposals for new or revised terms or definitions
- Reviews comments related to terms or consistency in terminology that arise from country consultation of draft international standards
- Reviews ISPMs themselves for consistency of terms within and between standards
- Use this link to get your personal copy of ISPM 5, but remember, ISPM 5 is reviewed and updated every year! - [https://www.ippc.int/static/media/files/publication/en/2017/05/ISPM_05_2016_En_2017-05-25_PostCPM12_InkAm.pdf](https://www.ippc.int/static/media/files/publication/en/2017/05/ISPM_05_2016_En_2017-05-25_PostCPM12_InkAm.pdf)

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NAPPO represents all Regional Plant Protection Organizations (RPPOs) on the new IPPC Implementation and Capacity Development Committee (IC)

The first meeting the newly formed IPPC IC was held from 11–15 December 2017 at FAO-HQ in Rome, Italy. The new IPPC IC is composed of 12 full members - seven members representing the FAO regions and five subject matter experts on implementation - and one representative each from the Standards Committee and the Regional Plant Protection Organizations. NAPPO was selected by the RPPOs to represent the other nine RPPOs in the IPPC IC for a period of three years. See below for a list of sister-RPPOs and follow the link for additional information on each organization.
Under the guidance of the Commission of Phytosanitary Measures, the new IPPC IC will develop, monitor and oversee an integrated program to strengthen the phytosanitary capacity of contracting parties to implement the IPPC and its objectives.

During this first meeting, the IC 1) reviewed and considered the recommendations made to them by the previous Capacity Development Committee (CDC); 2) set the future implementation and capacity development strategy; 3) established the IC operational framework; 4) discussed several ongoing implementation, capacity development and communication actions; and 5) agreed on the IC bi-annual work program for 2018 and 2019.

### Regional Plant Protection Organizations

- **APPPC**: Asia and Pacific Plant Protection Commission
- **CA**: Comunidad Andina
- **CAHFSA**: Caribbean Agricultural Health and Food Safety Agency
- **COSAVE**: Comité de Sanidad Vegetal del Cono Sur
- **EPPO**: European and Mediterranean Plant Protection Organization
- **IAPSC**: Inter-African Phytosanitary Council
- **NEPPO**: Near East Plant Protection Organization
- **OIRSA**: Organismo Internacional Regional de Sanidad Agropecuaria
- **PPPO**: Pacific Plant Protection Organization

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*The new IPPC-IC. Photo from the FAO website.*
News from the European and Mediterranean Plant Protection Organization (EPPO)

**Workshop on the use of Next Generation Sequencing (NGS) Technologies for Plant Pest Diagnostics in Bari, Italy, 22-23 Nov. 2017**

A workshop on the use of Next Generation Sequencing (NGS) Technologies for Plant Pest Diagnostics was jointly organized by EPPO, the European Cooperation in Science and Technology (COST) and the European Phytosanitary Research Coordination network (Euphresco) and was attended by 147 participants from 45 countries.

The workshop had two plenary sessions. The first introduced NGS and was followed by project presentations on NGS by COST and Euphresco scientists. In addition, NGS initiatives from non EPPO countries (Australia, New Zealand, Canada and the United States) and the view of the International Plant Protection Convention Secretariat were also presented during this plenary. The second plenary highlighted experiences of different laboratories that use NGS.

For more information on the workshop please visit the following link - [http://archives.eppo.int/MEETINGS/2017_conferences/Workshop_NGS.htm](http://archives.eppo.int/MEETINGS/2017_conferences/Workshop_NGS.htm)

The United States Updates its Regulated Plant Pest List

The concept of a regulated plant pest list (RPPL) comes directly from the International Plant Protection Convention (IPPC, Article VII.2i). Each contracting party to the Convention is expected to establish, update, and make available to all other contracting parties their regulated plant pest lists. The main purpose for establishing and sharing these lists are transparency, consistency, predictability, and technical justification.

The Convention and its associated standards refer to regulated pests according to the defining criteria for quarantine pests and regulated non-quarantine pests. Although these are the only categories of pests for which phytosanitary measures (e.g. treatments, less import requirements) may be applied, whether or not measures are justified in any circumstance depends on the risk. Applying phytosanitary measures simply because a pest meets the defining criteria for a regulated pest is inconsistent with the principle of minimal impact. The process and criteria for listing is the key to making the list useful and transparent.

The new list includes specific criteria which are publicly available to all stakeholders that access the list. To be included in the U.S. RPPL, a pest must at least:
• meet the Convention’s definition of a ‘regulated pest’
• be a quarantine pest for all or parts of the United States
• have been detected during port of entry inspections within the last 5 years

The new U. S. RPPL has other important provisions:
• the list may include beneficial organisms that are not present in the United States (e.g. biocontrol agents). The importation of such biological control agents is regulated.
• it does not include any ‘regulated non-quarantine pests’ (pests which are present and may be widely distributed in the United States). The United States does not have programs for these pests.
• under certain circumstances, APHIS may require action against pests not listed. This includes instances when the pest has not been detected before or cannot be adequately identified. APHIS may also choose not take action against a pest included on this list when the risk of establishment is negligible or low.

The list is publicly available to all stakeholders here: [https://www.aphis.usda.gov/aphis/ourfocus/planthealth/import-information/rppl](https://www.aphis.usda.gov/aphis/ourfocus/planthealth/import-information/rppl)

APHIS will update this list on a regular basis.

NAPPO Newsletter Archives

A couple of months ago, the Secretariat started to look-into the history of the NAPPO newsletter. We discovered that no attempt had been made to maintain an archive of the newsletters over the years. As such, the Secretariat embarked on a mini-research project to traceback the beginnings of this small but important part of NAPPO’s history. As you are probably aware, the NAPPO newsletter has been in circulation for many years. But perhaps many of you did not realize that the first volume was printed, yes, printed, because this first volume was issued before computers were mainstream, way back in 1981 - Volume 1, Number 1.

We also discovered that the NAPPO newsletter numbering system continued uninterrupted until 1999, but, for some reason, stopped after that. Going forward, we decided to resurrect the sequential newsletter numbering which brings us to Volume 38, Number 1 – the March issue of the NAPPO newsletter.

Furthermore, starting in 2007, the Secretariat made the decision to save some trees and began publishing the newsletter on the NAPPO website rather than printing and mailing it out to all stakeholders. Unfortunately, and sadly, in that benevolent endeavor, the Secretariat failed to print and save at least one version of the electronic newsletter for posterity. For this reason, we are in search of newsletters published between 2007 and 2014 as well as the issue form September 2005. If by chance you have an old file of NAPPO newsletters we would be forever grateful if you could provide us copies of such newsletter issues for our records.

We hope you find the NAPPO newsletter informative. Please remember that we are always in search of contributing authors that want to inform NAPPO stakeholders of some important plant health issue.
Information on upcoming meetings is also welcomed!

The NAPPO newsletter is published three times a year – March, July and November. We hope we can continue publishing the NAPPO newsletter for many years to come.

The first NAPPO Newsletter.

Expert Groups for New NAPPO Projects

Revision of Regional Standard for Phytosanitary Measures 9: Authorization of Laboratories for Phytosanitary Testing

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Revision of Regional Standard for Phytosanitary Measures 35: **Guidelines for the movement of Stone and Pome Fruit Trees and Grapevines into a NAPPO Member Country**

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Design and deliver a hemispheric (Americas focused) workshop to promote the implementation of ISPM 38: *International Movement of Seeds*

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