

Overview of NAPPO RSPM 24

Integrated Pest Risk Management Measures for the Importation of Plants for Planting into NAPPO Member Countries

Purpose: RSPM 24 describes the elements of an integrated pest risk management (IPRM) approach for reducing phytosanitary risks associated with the importation of plants for planting (PFP). Prior to the adoption of RSPM 24 in 2013, visual inspection at the point of entry was the primary means for preventing pests on PFP from entering NAPPO member countries. A retrospective analysis concluded that reliance on visual inspection had failed to protect NAPPO member countries from significant pest introductions on PFP and recommended that the NAPPO region develop a standard that focused on integrated pest risk management measures used at the point of production.



Contents: The body of the standard describes the responsibilities of IPRM program participants, including the national plant protection organization (NPPO), the place of production staff, and the plant brokers; considerations for selecting pest risk management measures; training; audits; traceability, program documentation; and non-compliance.

Summary of RSPM 24: The IPRM approach focuses on best industry practices to reduce pest risk to an acceptable level during the plant production process, rather than on final inspection at the point of entry. Its objectives are not only to reduce pest risk, but to minimize trade disruptions

for PFP. IPRM elements include identifying and managing risk, documenting production and pest management practices, auditing and reviewing export programs, and managing pest prevalence during production. Importing country NPPOs are responsible for establishing program requirements, including eligible plant taxa, pests of concern, appropriate level of protection, points of verification, and certification elements. Exporting country NPPOs are responsible for providing the importing country NPPO with specific information relating to commodity, place of production, pest/host relationship, risk management measures, and efficacy data. The place of production is responsible for developing and implementing procedures that meet the requirements of the importing and exporting NPPOs. Plant brokers are responsible for ensuring traceability and preventing re-infestation.

Appendix 1 includes the 2004 concept paper *Risk and Risk Management Associated with the Importation of Plants for Planting into NAPPO Member Countries*. The paper discusses the impacts of many serious pests introduced through PFP, discusses why existing regulatory strategies have failed, and analyzes six regulatory options and 13 available risk management tools. The paper concludes that regulatory agencies should adopt IPRM measures and develop standards to ensure PFPs are grown, commercialized, and transported internationally in a manner that reduces pest risks to agriculture, forestry, and the environment.

Please read RSPM 24 for more guidance on pest risk management measures for plants for planting imported into NAPPO member countries.

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