



# NAPPO

North American Plant Protection Organization  
Organización Norteamericana de Protección a las Plantas

## NAPPO Conference Call Report

Expert Group:	Biological Control	
Location:	Conference call	
Date:	April 12, 2017	
Chairperson:	Peter Mason (Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada)	
Participants:		
Rosalind James (USDA ARS)	Brian Spencer (Canadian industry)	Ron Weeks (APHIS PPQ)
Robert Tichenor (APHIS PPQ)	Thierry Poirré (CFIA)	Bruno Gallant (CFIA)
Patricia Abad (APHIS PPQ)	Gustavo Torres (SENASICA)	Alonso Suazo (NAPPO secretariat)
Nedelka Martinez (NAPPO secretariat)		
<b>Summary</b>		
Project:	Discuss agenda provided by Peter Mason (Chairperson)	
General comments:	New participants Ron Weeks and Patricia Abad introduced themselves to the EG.	
Item 1:	NAPPO Annual Meeting	
Consensus:	<p>The 2017 Annual Meeting will be held in Merida Mexico 16-19 October.</p> <p>The program will include a training session on national regulatory frameworks, EG reports and a symposium "Agricultural Trade, the Americas Experience."</p>	
Item 2:	Updates on progress of "Online course to provide training on preparing a petition for first release of an entomophagous biological control agent"	
Consensus:	<p>Ashley and Ken have almost finished updating the English version of the training module and the NAPPO Secretariat will work on translating all the slides for the Spanish module. The NAPPO Secretariat will also work with the English module voice-over to write down what needs to be said with each. Ken has recommended that a single person do the voice over. Gustavo indicated that he and Hugo could look into finding someone for this.</p> <p>The BC EG should also prepare an introduction to the English module that can be used in the new webpage created to showcase the module on the NAPPO website.</p>	

Item 3:	Call for Project Proposals
Consensus:	<p>NAPPO will be opening a call for new projects on June 1, 2017. You can find the brief announcement and the new project proposal format is at: <a href="http://www.nappo.org/news/nappo-call-project-proposals-will-open-june-1-2017/">http://www.nappo.org/news/nappo-call-project-proposals-will-open-june-1-2017/</a>. The NAPPO Executive Committee also decided that all RSPMs that are currently up for their 5-year update be considered as possible project suggestions by countries or by Expert Groups.</p> <p>The EG will submit proposals for:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Guidelines for standardization of molecular methods for the detection of pathogens in non-Apis pollinators:</b> The objective of this proposal was to develop a science and technology document and not a RSPM. There is a need to standardize a protocol for NAPPO countries because Mexico already has developed a method and other protocols are also available (two or three) (P. Mason). This proposal will be resubmitted as soon as NAPPO project proposal form is updated (P. Mason).</li> <li>• Review of RSPM 22 (last reviewed in 2011)</li> <li>• Expand RSPM 26 to include nematodes</li> <li>• Update RSPM 26 Appendix II</li> </ul>
Item 4:	Proposed changes to the United States Plant Pest Regulations
Consensus:	<p>Bruno Gallant provided an overview of concerns that would result from the proposed changes. Among these were the effects of removing the import permit requirement for biological control agents that have established in the US and are widely distributed. This action would eliminate the capacity to identify the contents of new shipments of exotic agents to ensure they are the correct species and individuals are not carrying unwanted pathogens or parasites.</p> <p>Canada and Mexico will submit comments individually by the 19<sup>th</sup> of April comment deadline. The BC EG should draft a letter expressing their concern to the NAPPO Executive Committee for follow up.</p>
Item 5:	Country Reports
Consensus:	<p>Peter noted that country reports were included in the agenda of face-to-face meetings and our last one was in 2015. Although NAPPO has gone to a new format EG members stated that country reports on regulatory issues and research projects were of value. It was suggested that these could be prepared at the time of the Annual Meeting and sent to EG members after translation.</p> <p>EG members concluded that templates for writing the reports would be helpful.</p>

Other subjects	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Face to face meeting with EG members.</li> </ul>	
Consensus:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• EG members agreed that a face to face meeting would be needed if the proposals are accepted. The United States is next in the rotation.</li> </ul>	
<b>Next Steps</b>		
<b>Responsible Person</b>	<b>Action</b>	<b>Date</b>
Gustavo Torres and Hugo Arredondo	Determine next steps for Spanish voice over of modules	ASAP
Peter Mason and EG members	Draft introduction to the English module of RSPM 12	ASAP
Rene Ruitter	Resubmit proposal for standardizing molecular methods for pathogen detection	June 2017
Peter Mason and Robert Tichenor	Submit new proposals	June 2017
Canada members and Mexico members	Submit their concerns individually to the APHIS website by 19 April to meet the comment deadline	April 19, 2017
Peter Mason and EG members	Draft a letter expressing their concerns on the proposed changes to United States Plant Pest Regulations to the NAPPO Executive Committee for follow up.	ASAP
Peter Mason and EG members	Draft templates for annual report on regulatory and research updates	ASAP
EG members	Send annual meeting presentation comments to Peter	ASAP
<b>Next Meeting</b>		
Location:	Conference call	
Date:	July 12, 2017 at 2:00pm EDT	
<b>Proposed Agenda Items</b>		
1. The agenda for the next conference call meeting will be provided by the EG Chairperson to all EG members prior to the scheduled conference call date.		