Specifications for a Standard on Pest Risk Management

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Proposed title: Guidelines for Pest Risk Management in PRA for NAPPO member countries

Reason for standard:

As stated in ISPM 11:2004, “Pest risk management … is the process of identifying ways to react to a perceived risk”. As such, it is vital that pest risk management is effective in achieving a country’s appropriate level of protection and that there is a rational relationship between the risk and the strength of measures.

Since the risk of introduction and spread of pests always exists when importing plants, plant products and other regulated articles, the concept of pest risk management applies to all traded regulated articles.


This standard will provide a reference for pest risk management, as ISPM 2 has done for stage I, initiation, and ISPM 11 has done for stage II, pest risk assessment.
Relevance to the fulfillment of the NAPPO Strategic Plan:

NAPPO’s mission is to protect agricultural, forest and other plant resources against regulated plant pests, while facilitating trade. The principles of necessity, managed risk, minimal impact, harmonization, non-discrimination, technical justification, cooperation, and equivalence as described in ISPM 1 and the SPS Agreement of the WTO are all essential considerations in pest risk management. Trade disruption and disputes are often linked to perceived violations of these principles in the selection and application of phytosanitary measures.

This standard will address the following objectives under NAPPO’s Strategic Goal No. 1, Protecting Plant Resources and the Environment:
1. Develop and adopt NAPPO Regional Standards for Phytosanitary Measures (RSPMs) which respond to current and emerging pest and trade issues and trends, in a timely manner.
2. Provide guidance on the development and implementation of phytosanitary measures to protect against the introduction and spread of quarantine pests.

Scope and purpose:

Scope: This standard will provide detailed guidance on how to complete the stage III component of pest risk analysis: ‘pest risk management’.

Purpose: ISPM 2 was revised in 2007 to focus on stage I of PRA, initiation, and ISPM 11 focuses primarily on stage II, pest risk assessment. With the ISPM 2 revision now adopted, it has become evident that detailed guidance on the fundamental concepts and approaches to pest risk management is necessary. The purpose of the proposed standard is to provide guidelines to assist NPPOs in identifying, evaluating and selecting appropriate risk management measures following the completion of the pest risk assessment stage of a PRA.

Tasks:

Key areas to be addressed by the standard could include:

- Objectives of Stage III: Pest risk management
- Sources of information (information gathering)
- Relationship of pest risk management assessment to risk assessment
  - Assessment of unmitigated risk to determine if risk management is warranted
- Overview of types of measures
- Identifying potential measures. Considerations (e.g. pest risk, appropriate level of protection, pathways, standard industry practices, etc.)

Evaluating potential measures may include:

- Efficacy:
  - types of required responses (e.g. mortality, sterility, exclusion)
  - evaluating effectiveness of specific measure(s)
- Feasibility:
  - Phytotoxicity
  - Applicability
Availability
- Time to implement
- Resource requirements such as time, labor, and expertise
- Cost (including capital costs; fixed & marginal costs)

- Impacts of their implementation:
  - Impacts to trade
  - Potential externalities (e.g. potential impacts on human health, environment, other industries)
  - Political, social and other indirect economic impacts
- Uncertainty

- Selecting measures to apply
  - Compare efficacy, feasibility, cost, efficiency, and impact of various measures with respect to the appropriate level of protection/ acceptable level of risk
  - Consider WTO SPS Agreement obligations – ie, measures must be least trade restrictive, non-discriminatory and comply with other relevant Agreement principles.
  - Consider lessons learned from past dispute cases (eg., WTO)

- Communicating measures
- Monitoring and evaluating performance of selected measures

Expertise:

The concept of pest risk management is applied by the majority of IPPC contracting parties. Substantial analytical and regulatory expertise exists within the region and globally to develop and implement a NAPPO standard.

Expertise in specific areas could include:
- PRA, in particular, pest risk management
- Phytosanitary treatment and quarantine measures
- Agricultural economics
- Application of WTO SPS agreement provisions and relevant IPPC standards

References:


RSPM 2. 2008. *Guidelines for Pre-clearance Programs*. Ottawa, NAPPO.

RSPM 3. 2007. *Guidelines for Movement of Potatoes into a NAPPO Member Country*. Ottawa, NAPPO.


RSPM 33. 2009. *Guidelines for Regulating the Movement of Ships and Cargo from Areas Infested with the Asian Gypsy Moth*. Ottawa, NAPPO.
Approval:

This Specification was approved by the North American Plant Protection Organization (NAPPO) Executive Committee on February 28, 2012 and is effective from this date.

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