An Overview

RSPM 12: Preparation of Petitions for First Release of Non-indigenous Entomophagous Biological Control Agents

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Ken Bloem, Ph.D.
USDA-APHIS-PPQ Science & Technology
Raleigh, NC
Biological control:

…it’s all about knowing your enemies and squashing them like bugs!

IFA / Phorid Flies

EAB / *Tetrastichus planipennis*
Why are permit petitions necessary?

Allows NPPOs to assess and reduce risks!!

✓ Are you releasing what you say you are releasing and nothing more?
✓ Does the new BC agent only attack what you say it will attack?
✓ Is there any evidence that the new BC agent will actually have a significant impact on the pest?
Scope of RSPM 12:

Guidelines are intended to assist in drafting a petition for release of non-indigenous biological control agents of insect pests.

- identify key information to include in petition
- inform the NPPO of information gaps
- assist reviewers and regulators in assessing the risk of introductions
General information requirements to include in a petition:

1. Proposed Action
2. Target Pest Information
3. Biological Control Agent Information
4. Host-Specificity Testing
5. Environmental and Economic Impacts of the Proposed Release
6. Post-Release Monitoring
7. Pre-Release Compliance
General information requirements to include in a petition:

1. Proposed Action
   ✓ purpose of release
   ✓ need for release
   ✓ who’s going to what, when and where

2. Target Pest Information
   ✓ taxonomy
   ✓ biology
   ✓ impacts
   ✓ distribution

John Goolsby, USDA-ARS, Edinburg, Texas
General information requirements to include in a petition:

3. Biological Control Agent Information
   ✓ where was it collected
   ✓ taxonomy
   ✓ biology, impacts on target pest
   ✓ past uses in BC

John Huber, AAFC, Ottawa, Canada
General information requirements to include in a petition:

4. Host-Specificity Testing
   - selecting non-target list
   - quarantine testing
   - host data from around the world

Peter Mason, AAFC, Ottawa, Canada
Dave Gillespie, AAFC, Agassiz, British Columbia
General information requirements to include in a petition:

5. Environmental and Economic Impacts of the Proposed Release
   - known impacts on pest, related non-targets, environment, humans
   - contingency plans

John Goolsby, USDA-ARS, Edinburg, Texas
General information requirements to include in a petition:

6. Post-Release Monitoring
   ✓ establishment
   ✓ spread
   ✓ impacts- target/non-target

Bruce Gill, CFIA, Ottawa, Canada
General information requirements to include in a petition:

7. Pre-Release Compliance
   ✓ reference specimens
   ✓ anticipated timing and location of first releases

→ Peter Mason, AAFC, Ottawa, Canada
NAPPO BC EG 2014
Puerto Vallarta, Mexico

THANK YOU!
Questions??
¿Preguntas??