



NAPPO

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

NAPPO Conference Call Report

Expert Group:	Revision of RSPM 22 / Biological Control Expert Group	
Location:	Videoconference – Zoom meeting	
Date:	July 29, 2021	
Chairperson	Peter Mason (Agr. Canada)	
Participants:		
Robert Pfannenstiel (USDA-APHIS-PPQ)	Ronald Weeks (USDA-APHIS-PPQ)	Melisa Tacolla (US Industry)
Kirk Martin (USDA-APHIS-PPQ)	Bruno Gallant (CFIA)	Serena Bhardwaj (Canada Industry)
Brian Spencer (Canada Industry)	Stephanie Bloem (NAPPO)	Alonso Suazo (NAPPO)
Summary		
Project:	Revision of RSPM 22 (<i>Guidelines for the construction and containment of biological control facilities for insects and mites used as biological control agents</i>)- Project proposal discussions	
General comments:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The NAPPO TD and the EG chairperson welcomed and thanked all EG members for joining the call. • EG members authorized the Secretariat to record the videoconference for report purposes. • The NAPPO TD agreed to take notes and write the videoconference call report. 	
Item 1:	Agenda	
Consensus:	Ron Weeks requested to add time to discuss RSPM 22. The agenda was approved with the proposed addition.	
Item 2:	EG report for the NAPPO Annual Meeting	
Consensus:	<p>The EG report for the NAPPO Annual Meeting was shared with the EG for the group to review and provide feedback. EG members provided feedback and suggestions including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • adding a slide to outline the changes in the revised RSPM 22. • Indicating the extensive internal consultancy with the industry and regulatory agencies done by the EG before country consultation. • Provide an idea on the comments received during country consultation. This information will be available between August 17 and August 30. <p>Feedback provided by the EG were taken into consideration and will be included in the final version of the EG report.</p>	
Item 3:	Proposals for submission to NAPPO to revise RSPM 26 and RSPM 39	

Consensus:	The chairperson informed that: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • draft project proposals for the revision of RSPM 26 and 39 are available. • EG will send the proposals during the open call for proposal from November 15, 2021 to January 15, 2022. 	
Item 4:	Follow up discussions on laws and processes associated with the conservation of biological control agents.	
Consensus:	<p>EG members indicated that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • This information is not available in the US • No exclusive laws available anywhere in the world. • FAO is preparing a background study document on biological control agents and genetic resources for food in agriculture which will make it available in late September or October. The chairperson indicated the document will provide new perspective for the expert group to consider for discussions. • Laws available are not focused on conservation of biological control agents <p>The TD informed that Mexico indicated that some information is available, and it will be shared with the EG. The chairperson indicated this could be a topic for discussion in the next videoconference with the EG.</p>	
Item 5:	New projects	
Consensus:	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Best practices for production of biological control agents <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Is there a need to develop a regional standard for this topic? <u>The ED indicated that there is only one international standard pertaining to biological control and encouraged the EG to consider developing a regional standard on this topic.</u> She also indicated that a proposal of this nature will be received with great interest by NAPPO. b. Suggested to change the topic title to “<i>Best practices for collection, movement and use of native biological control agents</i>”. This title provides a more focused alternative. c. The EG supports this initiative as a potential topic for project proposals and members indicated this project will be valuable for the industry and the NPPOs. 2. Molecular techniques. Topic will be discussed in the next meeting. 3. Climate change. Topic will be discussed in the next meeting. 	
Other subjects	Comment on RSPM 22: Consider adding a section on decommissioning. This can be revisited by email.	
Next Steps		
Responsible Person	Action	Date
EG members. Robert Pfannenstiel volunteer to start drafting this document.	Draft a proposal for “ <i>Best practices for collection, movement and use of native biological control agents</i> ”. Bring for discussion for the next videoconference.	

NAPPO ED	Share an example of a draft outline for a specification of a regional standard in case the EG decides to pursue this avenue with the proposed best practices document.	Completed
Peter Mason, All	Revise Biological Control Expert Group presentation for NAPPO Annual Meeting.	
EG members	Incorporate country consultation comments into RSPM 22 document and send revised version to NAPPO Executive Committee.	
EG members	Follow up discussion on laws and processes associated with the conservation of biological control agents. Examples from Mexico.	
Next Meeting		
Location:	Videoconference	
Date:	To be determined. The Secretariat will send a poll to the EG.	
Proposed Agenda Items		
1.		
2.		