



# NAPPO

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

## NAPPO Expert Group Meeting Report

REPORT		
Tuta absoluta Discussion Document Expert Group		
Video Conference – Zoom		
2:00 to 3:00 pm EST, Tuesday May 27, 2025		
Expert Group:	Tuta absoluta Discussion Document	
Location:	Zoom video conference	
Chair:	N/A	
Participants		
Maria Guadalupe Chávez Sánchez (SENASICA)	Timothy Westbrook (APHIS PPQ)	Carlos Lázaro Castellanos (SENASICA)
Mélanie Gauthier (CFIA)	Julie Paillat (Canadian industry)	Nedelka Marín-Martínez (NAPPO)
Tanya Staffen (CFIA and NAPPO AMC member)	Hoffmann Blassio (SENASICA)	Eutychus Kariuki (APHIS PPQ)
Alonso Suazo (NAPPO)	Javier Trujillo (NAPPO)	Javier Maldonado (CFIA)
Paul Lewis (US industry)		
Summary		
General comments	The NAPPO Technical Director welcomed the expert group (EG) and expressed gratitude for their participation in the video conference. New EG members were introduced to the group.  The expert group: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Adopted a simultaneous interpretation format for the meetings.</li><li>• Established a three-week meeting interval.</li><li>• Set a one-hour duration for each meeting.</li><li>• Confirmed MS Teams as the primary platform to exchange information and collaborate on the discussion document.</li><li>• Agreed to have a draft document ready for country consultation by December 2025.</li></ul>	
Item 1:	Updates on the expert group membership	
Consensus:	The TD: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Welcomed the new expert group members: Javier Maldonado (CFIA); Carlos Lázaro Castellanos, and María Guadalupe Chávez Sánchez (SENASICA).</li><li>• Informed the expert group that Ignacio Báez was transferred to another NAPPO expert group and thanked him for his contributions to the project.</li></ul>	
Item 2:	Project status and logistics	

Consensus:	<p>The Technical Director requested feedback from the expert group on the logistical aspects of the expert group meetings to enhance the flow and effectiveness of discussions. The following points were discussed:</p> <p><b>Meeting Length and Interpretation.</b> Meetings with the expert group have been organized for one hour with consecutive interpretation. The technical director proposed two options to improve the flow of discussions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• 1.5-hour meetings with consecutive interpretation and a 10-minute break.</li><li>• 1.0-hour meetings with simultaneous interpretation.</li></ul> <p>The expert group agreed that a 1-hour meeting with simultaneous interpretation is more appropriate. The NAPPO Secretariat will make the necessary adjustments for the next meeting.</p> <p><b>Meeting frequency.</b> The Technical Director suggested holding meetings every three weeks to prepare a draft document for country consultation by December 2025 and to have materials ready for the NAPPO Annual Meeting in October 2025. The expert group agreed.</p> <p><b>Working platform.</b> The expert group uses MS Teams. The Technical Director noted that some members experienced difficulties accessing and using the platform but mentioned that MS Teams has been successfully utilized for other expert group projects. The expert group requested that the links be shared again. The Technical Director indicated that all the information for this project will be stored in a designated folder. A notification will be sent to the expert group when the work is completed.</p>	
Item 3:	Next steps and other business	
Consensus:	The Technical Director encouraged the members of the expert group to choose a chairperson either by volunteering or by nominating someone within the group.	
Item 4:	Next meeting	
Consensus:	The Technical Director will send a poll for the next meeting. Recurring meetings will be scheduled every three weeks thereafter.	
Next Steps		
Responsible person	Action	Date
NAPPO Secretariat	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Implement simultaneous interpretation for future meetings.</li><li>• Schedule recurring meetings every 3 weeks.</li><li>• Send calendar invites for recurring meetings.</li><li>• Send MS Teams invitations to all group members, especially new members.</li><li>• Reorganize and update the MS Teams channel with all relevant information, including the project proposal, expert group roles, and previous presentations.</li></ul>	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Upload all information received from expert group members to the MS Teams channel.</li></ul>	
EG members	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Confirm access to the MS Teams channel and the ability to open/work with documents</li><li>• Consider volunteering or nominating someone for the chairperson’s role</li><li>• Aim for a draft document ready for country consultation before the end of the year</li><li>• Send their email addresses to Alonso for MS Teams invitation (new members).</li></ul>	
Melanie Gautier	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Resend flowcharts to Alonso if needed</li></ul>	
María Guadalupe and Carlos Lázaro	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Send their document and preliminary diagram to Alonso via email</li></ul>	
Next Meeting		
Location:	Zoom Meeting	
Date:	TBD. The Secretariat will send a poll.	
Proposed agenda		
<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Welcome remarks</li><li>2. Approve/amend agenda</li><li>3. Updates on the discussion document</li><li>4. Follow-up discussions on harmonization of measures to mitigate the impact of <i>Tuta absoluta</i> in the NAPPO region.</li></ol>		