

Progress Report 2017 Seed Expert Group Developing harmonized criteria for evaluating phytosanitary seed treatments

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Objectives and Deliverables

Objectives

- Develop a science and technology document providing a list of criteria for evaluating phytosanitary seed treatments AND
- Facilitate identification of data gaps and research needs

Deliverables

- Development of a list of criteria for evaluating phytosanitary seed treatments
- Identification of data gaps and research needs where they may exist

Progress during 2017

- Work done "virtually"
- Document completed by early spring 2017
- Document sent for country consultation (April-May, 2017)
- Comments received from industry and academia
- Document revised to incorporate comments
- Document finalized September 2017

Phytosanitary treatments for seeds questions

- IPPC standard on phytosanitary treatments (PTs) ISPM 28
 - provides general guidance on how PTs are developed, types of information needed and other information on how a PT can be considered (for example, feasibility and impacts on the commodity)
 - BUT guidance is more applicable to arthropod pests
 - Seeds are NOT THE SAME as other commodities (like fruit for consumption);
 - AND the types of pests most commonly associated with seeds are PATHOGENS

Content highlights - Phytosanitary treatments for seeds

- What constitutes an effective phytosanitary treatment (PTs);
- When should PTs be applied;
- How would countries agree that a PT is (or is not) sufficient for managing risk;
- When (or if) verification through testing is justified;
- When (or if) additional testing after a PT is appropriate;
- Whether seed is an epidemiologically significant pathway (what is the likelihood of pathogen introduction) after the PT; and,
- What impacts do the PT have on the commodity

Conclusions, next steps for 2017

- NAPPO Executive Committee will approved the document (signature at the Annual Meeting)
- Publish document to NAPPO website as an information document
- Promote the document with interested stakeholders