



REPORT

Virtual Meeting
03 February 2015

Technical Panel on Diagnostic Protocols February 2015



Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nation

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CONTENTS

- 1. Opening of the meeting4
- Election of rapporteur4
- 2. 2015 Expert Consultation4
- 3. Review of experts associated with the TPDP work programme5
- 2014 November call for authors5
- Selection of DP authors6
- 4. Updates from other relevant IPPC meetings.....7
- SC e-decisions7
- CPM-10 (2015).....8
- 5. Follow-up actions from the 2014 July TPDP meeting8
- ISO Update8
- 7. Closing of the meeting.....9
- APPENDIX 1: Agenda.....10

1. Opening of the meeting

- [1] The IPPC Secretariat welcomed the participants of the Technical Panel on Diagnostic Protocols (TPDP) to the meeting. In attendance were: Mr Robert TAYLOR (New Zealand), Mr Norman B. BARR (USA), Ms Juliet GOLDSMITH (Jamaica), Mr Johannes de GRUYTER (The Netherlands), Mr Delano JAMES (Canada), Ms Adriana G. MOREIRA (IPPC Secretariat), Mr Nuri NIYAZI (IPPC Secretariat) and Ms Yosra CHABAANE (IPPC Secretariat). The members who did not attend the meeting provided their comments and decisions points via email, before the meeting.
- [2] The IPPC Secretariat welcomed specifically Ms Juliet GOLDSMITH, the new TPDP member for Entomology and wished her best of success with her new assignment.
- [3] The full list of TPDP members and their contact details can be found on the International Phytosanitary Portal (IPP)¹.
- [4] The Secretariat introduced the agenda and it was adopted as presented in Appendix 1 of this report.

Election of rapporteur

- [5] Mr Johannes de GRUYTER was elected as the rapporteur.

2. 2015 Expert Consultation

[6] Draft DPs for 2015 Expert Consultation

- [7] The Secretariat reminded the TPDP members about the process of the expert consultation on draft diagnostic protocols (DPs)² and gave an update on the draft DPs that were foreseen to be ready for the 2015 Expert Consultations, these draft DPs would also be the ones presented at the next TPDP face to face meeting³.
- [8] The Secretariat explained the tentative schedule of this year's Expert Consultations on draft DPs' and the TPDP members emphasized their commitment to try to meet the deadlines. It was also explained by the Secretariat that more precise information on the dates of the expert consultations and which drafts would be subject to this process, would be available on the IPP. The tentative scheduled is as follows:

Expert Consultation from 24 February to 24 April 2015

- *Dendroctonus ponderosae* syn. *Scolytus scolytus* (2006-019)
- *Anguina* spp. (2013-003)
- Deadline to send the drafts to Secretariat: **16 February 2015**

Expert Consultation from 09 March to 24 April 2015

- *Fusarium moniliformis* / *moniforme* syn. *F. circinatum* (2006-021)
- *Phytophthora ramorum* (2004-013)
- *Liberibacter solanacearum* (2013-001)

¹ TPDP membership list: <https://www.ippc.int/core-activities/standards-setting/expert-drafting-groups/technical-panels/technical-panel-diagnostic-protocols>

² Expert Consultation on Draft DPs: <https://www.ippc.int/core-activities/expert-consultation-draft-diagnostic-protocols>

³ 2015 June TPDP meeting: 22 – 26 June 2015 (China)

- Deadline to send the drafts to Secretariat: **2 March 2015**

- [9] The Secretariat thanked the panel and the respective DP drafting groups for their work on the draft DPs. However, she highlighted that the number is still low compared with the first forecast of DPs (14 DPs) intended for the Expert Consultation. As an alternative solution, the Secretariat suggested to open up an additional Expert Consultation starting from 24 March to 24 April 2015. The TPDP agreed. The deadline to send back the draft DPs to the Secretariat is 17 March 2015.
- [10] Regarding the draft DP for *Xyllela fastidiosa* (2004-024), tentatively planned to be submitted to the Expert Consultation, the Bacteriology discipline lead pointed out that the DP drafting group raised the discussion whether the draft DP should focus on the species level or the strain level in the scope. One TPDP member asked whether the diagnostic methods to be included in the protocol may identify specific strains. It was explained that diagnoses can be done on species level, as well as strains can be determined by sequencing and pathogenicity tests. The Secretariat highlighted that the standards committee (SC) agreed that the minimum requirement is to target the species but if the drafting group wants to go further to the strain level, it is still considered to be under the scope. It was agreed that the discipline lead will contact the DP drafting group, forward to them these comments and check if they would be able to prepare the first draft for the Expert Consultation starting on 24 March 2015.
- [11] One TPDP member asked what the deadlines were to submit the revised drafts DPs and the referee's & discipline leads checklist to the 2015 June TPDP meeting, which will be held in China, 22-26 June 2015. The Secretariat reminded members that the deadline to send all draft DPs and the checklist is 15 May 2015.

3. Review of experts associated with the TPDP work programme

2014 November call for authors

- [12] The Secretariat introduced the paper⁴ related to [2014 November Call for authors](#)⁵ for *Puccinia psidii* (2006-018) and *Striga* spp. (2008-009). The Secretariat issued this call on 25 November 2014. The expertise requirements and the selection procedure were outlined in the call letter.
- [13] The IPPC Secretariat received four nominations for *Puccinia psidii* (2006-018) and two nominations for *Striga* spp. (2008-009) in response to the call. One of the nominees for the plant pest *Striga* spp. is Ms Teresa Lilian CORTÉS, who is already co-author for this topic. Therefore her nomination was considered a confirmation of her interest and availability to still be part of the DP drafting group for *Striga* spp. (2008-009).
- [14] The discipline lead for Mycology emphasized that the nominees for *Puccinia psidii* (2006-018) had relevant expertise with the pest and the molecular biology. The panel agreed to select all of the candidates to join the DP drafting groups for *Puccinia psidii* (2006-018):
- Mr Morag GLEN (Australia)
 - Ms Jacqueline EDWARDS (Australia)
 - Ms Jacqueline HUBERT (France)
 - Mr Kazeem SHAKIRU ADEWALE (Nigeria)

⁴ 04_TPDP_2015_Feb

⁵ 2014 November call for authors: <https://www.ippc.int/core-activities/standards-setting/calls/calls-for-experts/call-authors-diagnostic-protocols/2014-nov-call-authors>

- [15] The TPDP agreed to invite Ms Jacqueline EDWARDS to be the lead author for *Puccinia psidii* (2006- 018).
- [16] Regarding the drafting group for *Striga* spp. (2008-009), the panel agreed with the nomination of Ms Wathukarage Jayani NIMANTHIKA from Sri Lanka to join the group as co-author. The TPDP also agreed to invite, as lead author, Mr Lytton John MUSSELMAN (USA), current author of the DP drafting group for *Striga* spp. (2008-009). The Secretariat invited the panel to ask some other experts to be part of this DP drafting group and to present their CVs at the next TPDP virtual meeting, tentatively planned for some time in April 2015. One panel member mentioned that he has already two possible candidates which will be asked and he will do the proper follow-ups.

Selection of DP authors

- [17] The panel discussed the lack of authors for the DP drafting groups for *Anoplophora* spp. (2004-020) and *Conotrachelus nenuphar* (2013-002).
- [18] Regarding *Anoplophora* spp. (2004-020), it was mentioned that the DP drafting group (initially composed of five authors) is not able to continue working on this draft. The referee contacted the authors in this group and noted that the lead author no longer saw a need to develop this draft because there are published diagnostic protocols in scientific journals for this pest. The other authors were not available due to other duties or did not provide any response. One TPDP member pointed out that this was probably a question of miscommunication which could be resolved by explaining to the lead author the importance of the development of this DP for IPPC contracting parties. The Secretariat reminded the panel that this topic was suggested by Bangladesh in 2004 and was also mentioned several times in the IRSS survey⁶ on ISPM 17 (*Pest reporting*) and ISPM 19 (*Guidelines on lists of regulated pests*), in response to the question about the major pests of concerns for each country. Notwithstanding, the TPDP members for Entomology mentioned that they are facing difficulties in handpicking authors for this DP drafting group. The referee emphasized the need for having experts from national plant protection organizations (NPPOs) and regional plant protection organizations (RPPOs) in particular to take part in this drafting group.
- [19] The panel agreed that this subject is still important and that there is need for an international harmonized standard. It was agreed that the referee for this draft DP will try to contact the lead author to inform him on the TPDP discussions, to obtain his agreement for this subject to remain on the TPDP work programme and to ask for his commitment. It was also agreed that most likely the Secretariat will open a second call for authors for *Anoplophora* spp. (2004-020). Once all such efforts are exhausted, the panel indicated that they will probably consider the Secretariat's suggestion to ask the SC to put the subject on hold (i.e. "pending status") or delete it from the work programme.
- [20] Regarding the DP drafting group for *Conotrachelus nenuphar* (2013-002), the Secretariat highlighted that two calls for authors were opened in 2013⁷ and 2014⁸, respectively, and there was a lack of nominations. It was also mentioned that there were four suggested authors that could contribute to draft this DP, but they had not been contacted yet. The TPDP discipline lead for this subject agreed to try contact the suggested experts and ascertain their willingness

⁶ IRSS survey: <https://www.ippc.int/largefiles/2014/Survey-Analysis-NPPOs-17-19.pdf>

⁷ 2013 September call for authors: <https://www.ippc.int/core-activities/standards-setting/call-for-expert/archive/2013-September>

⁸ 2014 January call for authors: <https://www.ippc.int/core-activities/standards-setting/calls/calls-for-experts/call-authors-diagnostic-protocols/2014-January>

to be part of this DP drafting group by 27 February 2015 and consider presenting their CVs at the next TPDP virtual meeting.

4. Updates from other relevant IPPC meetings

SC e-decisions

- [21] The Secretariat updated the panel on the Standards Committee (SC) e-decisions related to draft DPs under different stages. The SC e-decision outcomes are described below.
- [22] Draft DPs approved for 2015 February member consultation: The Secretariat mentioned that in addition to the regular member consultation starting on 1 July 2015, an additional member consultation period for DPs started this year, on 30 January 2015 (called also February member consultation)⁹. Five draft DPs were approved for the 2015 February member consultation: *Genus Liriomyza* (2006-017), *Bursaphelenchus xylophilus* (2004-016), *Xiphinema americanum sensu lato* (2004-025), *Tomato spotted wilt virus* (TSWV), *Impatiens necrotic spot virus* (INSV) and *Watermelon silver mottle virus* (WSMoV) (2004-019) and *Citrus tristeza virus* (2004-021). It was highlighted that the drafts are publicly available on the IPP¹⁰ and contracting parties can submit their comments via the Online Commenting System (OCS)¹¹.
- [23] Adopted DP: the draft DP *Potato spindle tuber viroid* (2006-022) was approved by the SC to for the notification period which started on 15 December 2014 and ended on 30 January 2015. As no formal objections were received, the draft DP was adopted by the SC on behalf of the Commission on Phytosanitary Measures (CPM). This adopted DP (i.e. DP7¹²) will be presented to the CPM-10 (2015) for noting. The Secretariat thanked the discipline lead for virology and the DP drafting group for their hard work on this newly adopted DP.
- [24] SC e-decisions to draft DPs for approval for the July 2015 member consultation (MC): The Secretariat mentioned that two draft DPs (*Aphelenchoides besseyi*, *A. ritzemabosi* and *A. fragariae* (2006-025) and *Xanthomonas fragariae* (2004-012)) are intended to be submitted for SC e-decision for approval for July 2015 MC in early April. The panel members were reminded that prior to this step, the draft DPs needs to be approved by the entire panel. On this, a TPDP via e-decision was tentatively scheduled from 09 to 20 March 2015.
- [25] Regarding the draft DP for *Sorghum halepense* (2006-027), the Secretariat will contact the discipline lead for botany and check if the draft will be ready for the next member consultation starting in July. The panel members were reminded that the TPDP had previously agreed that there is no need for a TPDP e-decision for the draft DP *Sorghum halepense* (2006-027).
- [26] The Secretariat highlighted that the deadline to send the draft DPs to Secretariat is 6 February 2015.
- [27] SC e-decisions for approval for the 45 days notification period (01 July – 15 August 2015): It was mentioned that four draft DPs are intended to be submitted to the 45 days notification period as follows:
- Genus *Anastrepha* (2004-015)

⁹ Member consultation (MC) on draft ISPMs: <https://www.ippc.int/core-activities/standards-setting/member-consultation-draft-ispms>

¹⁰ Member consultation (MC) on draft ISPMs: <https://www.ippc.int/core-activities/standards-setting/member-consultation-draft-ispms>

¹¹ IPPC Online Comment System (OCS): <https://www.ippc.int/node/504>

¹² DP7 - *Potato spindle tuber viroid*: <https://www.ippc.int/publications/dp-07-potato-spindle-tuber-viroid>

- Phytoplasmas (general) (2004-018)
- *Ditylenchus destructor* / *D. dipsaci* (2004-017)
- *Erwinia amylovora* (2004-009): The discipline lead will send a revised version of this draft soon.

[28] The Secretariat highlighted that the deadline to send back to the Secretariat, the draft DPs and the responses to the member comments is 2 March 2015.

CPM-10 (2015)

[29] The Secretariat mentioned that the tenth session of the Commission on Phytosanitary Measures (CPM-10)¹³ will be held from 16 to 20 March 2015 at FAO Headquarters. The Secretariat updated the panel on two points in the CPM agenda related to diagnostic protocols:

- Side session entitled “CPM-10 (2015) Market place on new diagnostic technologies demonstrations”, showcasing some diagnostic techniques presented by Ms Francoise PETTER from the European Plant Protection Organisation (EPPO).
- Special session called “Scientific Session: Special Topics” will be held in the plenary and dealing with three topics:
 - EPPO programme on diagnostics
 - New treatments for phytosanitary applications
 - Risk-based inspection systems

5. Follow-up actions from the 2014 July TPDP meeting

ISO Update

[30] The Secretariat gave an update from the last ISO virtual meeting related to the development of the ISO Plant pathogen standard ISO/TC 34/SC 16. It was noted that the Secretariat has observer status in the working group for this project and that the drafting of this ISO standard is under development.

[31] 6. Other business

[32] The Secretariat informed the panel that the Secretariat has launched a photo contest through its Phytosanitary Resources page¹⁴. The photo should be related to three main thematic areas:

- pests
- the effect of pests on food security and the environment
- pest management measures.

[33] The photo contest is open to anyone above the age of 18 and maximum of five pictures can be submitted, and the deadline is 28-02-2015. The top three images will be awarded prizes consisting of assignments with IPPC for a photographic mission close to the residence of the awardees. The best and most representative photos will receive special recognition during CPM 10 (2015).

[34] The Secretariat invited the panel to consider participating in this initiative and to circulate this information within their professional circles.

¹³ The Commission on Phytosanitary Measures (CPM): <https://www.ippc.int/core-activities/governance/cpm>

¹⁴ Phytosanitary Resources page: <http://www.phytosanitary.info/photo-contest>.

7. Closing of the meeting

[35] The Secretariat thanked the panel members for their work and participation in the meeting and closed the meeting.

APPENDIX 1: Agenda

AGENDA ITEM	DOCUMENT NO.	PRESENTER
1. Opening of the meeting		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Welcome by the IPPC Secretariat and introductions • Adoption of the agenda and election of rapporteur 	02_TPDP_2015_Feb 01_TPDP_2015_Feb	MOREIRA / ALL MOREIRA
2. 2015 Expert Consultation		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Draft DPs for 2015 Expert Consultation 	03_TPDP_2015_Feb	MOREIRA
3. Review of experts associated with the TPDP work programme		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ 2014 November call for authors ❖ Selection of DP authors 	04_TPDP_2015_Feb_Rev1 -	CHABAANE/ALL
4. Updates from other relevant IPPC meetings		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ SC e-decisions ❖ CPM 10 (2015) 	- -	MOREIRA
5. Follow-up actions from the 2014 July TPDP meeting		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ISO update 	-	MOREIRA
6. Other Business	-	MOREIRA
7. Close of the meeting	-	MOREIRA