



SPECIFICATION 61

Revision of ISPM 6 (*Guidelines for surveillance*)

(2014)

Title

Revision of ISPM 6 (*Guidelines for surveillance*).

Reason for the revision of the standard

ISPM 6:1997 describes the components of survey and monitoring systems for the purpose of pest detection and gathering information for use in pest risk analyses, the establishment of pest free areas and, where appropriate, the preparation of pest lists.

A revision was requested by members to take into account the greater knowledge of surveillance methodologies that is now available as well as experiences with implementation of the standard. The revision should also include:

- more guidance on the surveillance methodologies available for different purposes and their reliability
- more information on surveillance of pests that have environmental consequences or cause a reduction in biodiversity.

Purpose

The standard should facilitate the establishment of continuing, dynamic and efficient pest surveillance systems in order to enable the development of actions to be taken by a national plant protection organization for the prevention of pest introduction and spread, pest management and pest reporting.

Scope

This standard describes requirements for surveillance, including the range of methodologies available for different purposes and for specific groups of pests, including pests of wild flora. Technical requirements regarding the reliability of results and the use of new diagnostic techniques and reporting procedures within countries need to be included.

Tasks

The Expert Working Group (EWG) should review information on systems or methodologies of surveillance, including information on related operations and technical support provided by national plant protection organizations (NPPOs).

The EWG should consider whether the use of ISPM 6 over the years since its adoption, the findings from the IPPC's Implementation Review and Support System (IRSS) questionnaire, and the issues

discussed at the Global Symposium on Plant Pest Surveillance indicate a need to change the format and content of this standard.

The EWG should consider including the following in the revised ISPM 6:

- (1) guidance on surveillance methodologies used for different purposes (e.g. early detection, delimiting survey) and for specific groups of pests
- (2) more detail on general surveillance procedures, including guidance on:
 - a. application and scope of general surveillance compared with pest-specific surveillance
 - b. when to use general surveillance (e.g. to which pests general surveillance is more applicable)
 - c. design of general surveillance in order to obtain reliable records on pest presence or absence
 - d. how to use general surveillance to support pest-specific surveillance
- (3) information on procedures for specific surveys (detection, delimiting and monitoring surveys), such as sampling to meet the defined reliability requirements in glasshouse, forest and field situations (including pest and commodity or host surveys), and the tools and methodologies to determine reliability
- (4) good surveillance practices (section 3, ISPM 6) including, if appropriate:
 - a. requirements for staff training on the surveillance system
 - b. priority setting for surveillance programmes
 - c. information management systems for easy data entry, retrieval and analysis
 - d. auditing by NPPOs (e.g. of a survey delivery provider)
 - e. verification of the technical validity of methodologies used
 - f. collection, preservation and storage of specimen material for laboratory submission or reference material
- (5) information on the tools available for surveillance systems, including diagnostic methodologies, sampling procedures, reporting procedures within a country, accreditation of diagnostic laboratories, online diagnostic services and pictorial diagnostic manuals, and when they might be effectively used – this standard would mention these elements but they would be described elsewhere, for example under ISPM 27
- (6) information on ways that NPPOs can cooperate with each other on surveillance; for example, on diagnostic protocols, data banks and surveillance methodologies
- (7) whether harmonized survey protocols should be developed for specific pest groups
- (8) a section that describes components of successful surveillance methodologies, including legislation and policy development; financial mechanisms for funding such methodologies (including information on agreements with stakeholders); training of staff; and advocacy, awareness-raising and communications (particularly with stakeholders and between agencies when more than one agency is involved)
- (9) information on whether the ISPM could affect in a specific way (positively or negatively) the protection of biodiversity and the environment; if this is the case, the impact should be identified, addressed and clarified in the draft ISPM
- (10) consideration of the implementation of the standard by contracting parties and identification of potential operational and technical implementation issues, and provision of information and possible recommendations on these issues to the Standards Committee.

Provision of resources

Funding for the meeting may be provided from sources other than the regular programme of the IPPC (FAO). As recommended by ICPM-2 (1999), whenever possible, those participating in standard setting activities voluntarily fund their travel and subsistence to attend meetings. Participants may

request financial assistance, with the understanding that resources are limited and the priority for financial assistance is given to developing country participants.

Collaborator

To be determined.

Steward

Please refer to the *List of topics for IPPC standards* posted on the IPP (<https://www.ippc.int/core-activities/standards-setting/list-topics-ippc-standards>).

Expertise

An EWG of five to eight phytosanitary experts who among them have practical expertise in designing and undertaking surveillance programmes for quarantine pests; experience with different surveillance methodologies; statistical knowledge of reliability associated with surveillance strategies; and experience in management of surveillance programmes.

Participants

To be determined.

References

The IPPC, relevant ISPMs and other national, regional and international standards and agreements as may be applicable to the tasks, the reports of the IRSS study “Implementation challenges and best practices of ISPM 6”, and discussion papers submitted in relation to this work.

Discussion papers

Participants and interested parties are encouraged to submit discussion papers to the IPPC Secretariat (ippc@fao.org) for consideration by the expert drafting group.

Publication history

This is not an official part of the specification

2009-11 SC introduced topic – Revision of ISPM 6:1997 (*Guidelines for surveillance*) (2009-004)

2010-03 CPM-5 added topic to the list of topics for IPPC standards

2011-05 SC considered draft (no e-decision due to lack of resources)

2012-04 SC considered draft

2013-10-21 Revised by steward

2013-11 SC revised draft

2013-12 Member consultation on draft specification

2014-03 Draft amended by steward following member comments

2014-05 SC revised and approved the specification

2015-07 Secretariat made minor editorial changes

Specification 61. 2014. Revision of ISPM 6:1997 (*Guidelines for surveillance*). Rome, IPPC, FAO.

Publication history last updated: 2015-07