**European and Mediterranean Plant Protection Organization**

**Organisation Européenne et Méditerranéenne pour la Protection des Plantes**

**Annual Report 2014**

*“Our crops, forests, landscapes and gardens are under threat from a wide range of pests. New and faster trade pathways move more species around the world, increasing the likelihood of biological invasions. With few natural enemies and limited host plant resistance these new arrivals can spread fast and cause serious damage to economic production and to biodiversity.*

*There are physiological limits to potential crop yields, and recent signs in some areas that new varieties and agronomic practices are approaching those limits. Minimizing losses due to pest damage, diseases and weed competition therefore remains critical for future food security. At the same time tightening regulation of plant protection products tends to reduce the availability of effective controls. Biological control and IPM approaches are increasingly advocated.*

*National Plant Protection Organizations need advice on well targeted phytosanitary measures to reduce the risks from movement of pests into new areas, without unnecessary restriction of trade. For the pests which are already present, regulatory authorities and growers need good evidence of efficacy so they know which products and approaches can be most efficiently and sustainably used for control.*

*Co-ordination of technical advice by the European and Mediterranean Plant Protection Organization helps our member countries to address these problems across the region.”*

Introduction to EPPO Strategy 2015-2020, agreed by EPPO Council 2014

**Foreword from Director-General**

There were significant changes in EPPO during 2014; a new strategy, new projects and my appointment as head of the Secretariat. I spent much of the year increasing my understanding of what EPPO does, how we do it, and why. This confirmed my earlier impression of a dedicated and knowledgeable team working closely with networks of experts around the region to develop technical standards and improve co-ordination of measures to protect plant health.

The new strategy for 2015-2020 includes a substantial degree of continuity from the previous strategy.

It also ensures that evolutionary change is possible where this is required by changes in the countries and sectors we serve, or is made possible by improvements in the tools available. One request from our member countries is that the Secretariat continues to explore alternative sources of funding through projects which are closely aligned with EPPO’s objectives and capabilities. An exciting development in that respect is that EPPO is now hosting the Euphresco network of research funders and managers. We are pleased that we have been able to move quickly from appointing a co-ordinator in June 2014 to launching a new round of calls for topics before the end of the year.

One area where we are open to suggestions for change is in the format of our reporting to member countries and stakeholders. Many of our meetings and other activities are summarised on the website [www.eppo.int](http://www.eppo.int) soon after they happen but there will continue to be a need for a more formal annual report to summarise our work and demonstrate accountability to our members. Finding appropriate measures of success in plant quarantine continues to be a challenge. Awareness of plant health and plant protection is highest when pests are spreading and causing damage, as in the current case of *Xylella fastidiosa* on olive trees in south Italy, for example. Successful exclusion of a pest from the region, because of good horizon scanning and timely risk analysis by EPPO and effective risk management measures by our members, gets no publicity. Somehow we need to get better at quantifying and promoting these successes.

Finally I would like to offer some thanks. Colleagues in the Secretariat have been patient in answering my questions at the same time as delivering the ongoing technical work of the organisation. My three predecessors as Director-General have all provided invaluable advice during the year. Our member countries have continued to support EPPO with their financial contributions and just as importantly by making available their experts in plant health and plant protection to participate in our panels and networks. The Secretariat will continue to ensure that EPPO’s technical standards, information services, workshops and other outputs more than justify that investment by our members.

Martin Ward

7th April 2015

**Membership and Governance**

Fifty countries were members of EPPO in 2014: European countries (almost all of them), and countries around the Mediterranean and in Central Asia. Membership has been stable for some years. The Secretariat continues to make contact with new potential members as opportunities arise. Council in 2014 agreed that Georgia could pay a reduced contribution in their first year of membership, and we are hoping that they will become EPPO’s 51st member during 2015.

Representatives of seven EPPO countries serve on the Executive Committee for a three year term, under a chair and vice-chair who are appointed in a personal capacity. At the Council in 2014 we thanked Hungary, Malta and Tunisia at the end of their period of service and appointed onto the committee representatives of Algeria, Bosnia Herzegovina and Switzerland. Discussions on the possibility of creating a category of Associate Membership continued during 2014. For the time being it was decided not to change the Convention to create a generic category of associate status suitable for all possible candidates but to pursue the possibility of tailored agreements on a case by case basis. The Secretariat continued to collaborate with a wide range of international organisations active in the field of plant health, and a number of examples are given below under point 12 of the Strategy.

A new Strategy for the period 2015-2020 was agreed, following a special Open Working Group in April, extensive discussions in the two Working Parties in May and June, and some further amendments during the Council session itself. Members asked for an implementation plan to be presented to the Executive Committee in April 2015.

Other items on the Council agenda included the approval of Standards, updates on projects for which EPPO is in discussion with potential funders, and agreement of the budget for 2015.

**Staff**

The permanent EPPO team of twelve provides the continuity of the organisation, but a number of people on fixed term appointments also made a valuable contribution to the work in 2014, including providing cover for a period of maternity leave and for a period of long term sick leave. This section just gives a brief indication of each person’s main role and responsibilities during the year.

**Martin Ward**,Director-General, was responsible to the Council for the overall direction of EPPO, chaired the two Working Parties and several Panels, and led on development of the new Strategy.

**Françoise Petter**,Assistant Director, led the programme of the Working Party on Phytosanitary Regulations, including work on Pest Risk Analysis and Diagnostics, and chaired the Panel on Phytosanitary Measures and the six Diagnostics Panels.

**Vlasta Zlof**,Scientific Officer, led the programme of the Working Party on Plant Protection Products, and chaired the Panels on Efficacy Evaluation of Insecticides and Fungicides and on Efficacy Evaluation of Herbicides and Plant Growth Regulators.

**Anne-Sophie Roy**,Information Officer, led the work on horizon scanning and the EPPO Alert List, produced the monthly EPPO Reporting Service, maintained and edited the EPPO website and databases and maintained EPPO Codes.

**Andrei Orlinski**,Scientific Officer, led the programmes of work on quarantine pests for forestry and biological control agents, and led on communications with Russian speaking experts in the EPPO region.

**Eliane Madène**,Administrator, was responsible for all aspects of administration and financial record keeping and worked with EPPO’s chartered accountant to produce the annual accounts.

**Damien Griessinger**,IT Officer, kept EPPO’s IT systems running, worked with the Information Officer to develop databases and web services, and helped migrate Euphresco systems into EPPO infrastructure.

**Muriel Suffert**,Scientific Officer, led the programme of work for the Panel on Phytosanitary Measures for Potatoes, supported the Panel on Phytosanitary Measures and carried out pest risk analysis.

**Madeleine McMullen**,Managing Editor, managed the production of the EPPO Bulletin, edited EPPO’s outputs in English, and supported EPPO’s Diagnostics Panels.

**Sarah Brunel**,Scientific Officer, led the programme of work on Invasive Alien Plants. Sarah was successful in securing a one year appointment with the Secretariat of the International Plant Protection Convention in Rome, which started in December 2014.

**Marie-Christine Ozanon**,provided administrative support for the Director-General, for EPPO’s administrative meetings and for technical meetings on phytosanitary regulations.

**Jocelyne Cesari**, provided administrative support for technical meetings on forestry pests, diagnostics and plant protection products, and translated administrative documents into French.

**Valerio Lucchesi**,Scientific Officer on a fixed term appointment, supported the plant protection products programme and projects within that programme such as development of more extrapolation tables for minor uses.

**Baldissera Giovani** started work with EPPO in June 2014 on a fixed term appointment as the Co-ordinator of the Euphresco research funders’ network.

**Fabienne Grousset**,Scientific Officer and previous EPPO staff member, took up a fixed term appointment during 2014 to carry out work on specific research projects and provide cover for a period of maternity leave.

**Cintia Alaguirissamy** provided administrative support cover when required, through short term appointments.

**Jean Perchet** continued a three year period of secondment to EPPO supporting in particular the work of the EPPO Panels on CPM[[1]](#footnote-2) Affairs and Phytosanitary Inspections and translating some technical documents into French. EPPO is grateful to the French Ministry of Agriculture for funding and facilitating this secondment.

**Programme of Meetings**

The programme of administrative and technical meetings organised by EPPO is shown in Appendix 1. Appendix 4 lists the other meetings attended by EPPO staff. These lists do not include the increasing number of telephone conferences and video conferences in which EPPO staff participate. For most EPPO meetings a short summary report is posted on the website shortly after the event.

Much of the formal work of EPPO consists of the preparation of draft Standards which are prepared by specialist Panels. These are reviewed by the relevant Working Party and then approved and adopted by the Council. A short report of the two Working Parties is given below, followed by the resulting recommendations from Council.

Conclusions from Workshops and Conferences have no formal status within EPPO, but reflect the content of the discussion and any consensus which emerged among those who were present. Along with other forms of consultation they may be taken into account by EPPO when setting priorities for further work. Reports of the workshops held in 2014 are presented in Appendix 3 and links are provided to conclusions and recommendations arising.

**Working Parties**

Working Party on Plant Protection Products

The 44th Meeting of the Working Party on Plant Protection Products took place in Budapest on 2014-05-21/23, hosted by the Hungarian Ministry of Rural Development. There were 23 participants from 16 EPPO countries and a member of ECPA[[2]](#footnote-3) as an observer. The Working Party approved two new EPPO Specific Standards and revised two General Standards in series PP1 *Efficacy Evaluation of Plant Protection Products* for submission to Council. Details are given under the section of the report on Recommendations from EPPO. The other main outcomes of the meeting are presented below.

Examples of zonal efficacy evaluation

Two new examples of zonal efficacy evaluation to accompany EPPO Standard PP 1/278 *Principles of zonal data production and evaluation* were approved and added on the EPPO website: one on insecticides for use against aphids, thrips and whiteflies in ornamental plants in greenhouses and the other on fungicides for the control of yellow rust on wheat in the European Central authorization zone.

Extrapolation tables

The Working Party analysed extrapolation tables for minor uses which are being developed to complement EPPO Standard PP 1/257 *Efficacy and crop safety extrapolations for minor uses*. The following new and revised extrapolation tables were approved and added to the EPPO website:

* Revised tables for efficacy of fungicides: vegetable brassicas, pome fruit, stone fruit, fruiting vegetables of Solanaceae, Allium vegetables, Cucurbitaceae, leafy vegetables, tree nuts, bulb and tuber flower crops;
* Revised tables for efficacy of insecticides: vegetable brassicas and bulb and tuber flower crops;
* New tables both for efficacy of fungicides and insecticides: Strawberry and Umbelliferous crops.

Other topics

The Working Party also discussed future activities and priorities. In addition to proposals for new Standards or revision of existing ones, future activities included development of the EPPO codes to describe uses of plant protection products, Good Experimental Practice and initiatives related to Integrated Pest Management. The Working Party also supported the idea of carrying out surveys on how doses for seed treatments are expressed and dose expression in general. Furthermore, the Working Party discussed the future EPPO strategy and made several recommendations which were presented to the EPPO Council.

The next Working Party on Plant Protection Products is due to convene in York, UK on 2015-05-27/29.

Working Party on Phytosanitary Regulations

The 52nd meeting of the Working Party on Phytosanitary Regulations took place in Costesti, Moldova on 2014-06-17/20 at the kind invitation of the NPPO of Moldova. There were 28 participants from 17 EPPO countries and five observers from the European Commission, the Eurasian Economic Commission, the North American Plant Protection Organization and APHIS/United States Department of Agriculture.

A summary of the different Panel meetings and Workshop which took place since the last meeting was presented to the Working Party. The Working Party also discussed future activities and priorities and made several recommendations on the future EPPO Strategy which were presented to the EPPO Council.

The main formal outcomes of the meeting are presented in the section of the report on Recommendations from EPPO. Others issues covered are described here.

International phytosanitary issues

Mr Horn (NL), chair of the IPPC Steering Group on e-Phyto presented an update on Electronic certification. It was noted that support from experts from EPPO countries in codes, terminology, harmonization and business rules would be welcomed to participate in this work.

Mr Nordbo (DK), member of the IPPC Standards Committee, presented an update of its activities including specifications for new international standards and a review of those currently in preparation including drafts to be sent to countries for the substantial concerns commenting period.

Ms Lee, Technical Director of NAPPO, presented NAPPO activities, in particular the Standards approved in 2012-2013 and the new strategic plan.

Relationship between EPPO and other regional bodies

Mr Arijs (European Commission) updated the Working Party on the proposal for the new EU Regulation on plant health and underlined the main points of interest for the Working Party. The Working Party was informed of discussions on EPPO’s possible roles in the facilitation of the implementation of the EU regulation on invasive alien species. Mr Tryakhov (Eurasian Economic Commission - EEC) updated the Working Party on the activities of the EEC.

Pest reporting activities and communication

The Working Party recommended that EPPO member countries should be encouraged to use the EPPO online pest reporting system and to notify new pest statuses as well as all interceptions (including interceptions of non-regulated pests). The Working Party took note of recent developments in communication (in particular the ‘Don't risk it’ campaign) and commented that EPPO should take account of developments in the IPPC communication strategy.

Pest Risk Analysis activities

The Working Party discussed the current EPPO PRA process and how it could be improved. It was agreed that the Decision Support Scheme for an Express PRA (PM 5/5) should normally be used by EPPO Expert Working Groups unless there are specific reasons for the use of the full EPPO Decision Support Scheme for PRA (PM 5/3) or sections of it. The Working Party recommended that the Secretariat draw up draft descriptions of circumstances for use of different levels of PRA (or equivalent) which may be required either at EPPO or national level. It also recommended that a survey on the use of the different schemes should be organized. The need to revise or prepare new PRA Standards will then be evaluated. The Working Party supported the approach proposed by the Panel on Phytosanitary Measures for the recommendations of Pest Free Areas in risk management options.

The Working Party recommended that Expert Working Groups (EWGs) for PRA should be organized in 2014-2015 for *Heterobasidion irregulare* and for two invasive plants (to be selected by the Secretariat). It approved the decision made by the Panel on Phytosanitary Measures to organize an EWG on thousand cankers disease (caused by *Geosmithia morbida* and *Pityophthorus juglandis*).

The pathway study prepared on tomato fruits was presented and the Working Party welcomed its results. It noted that the study provides sufficient evidence to recommend that a phytosanitary certificate (PC) should be required for the import of tomato fruits into the region, while recognising that more in-depth study may be needed for some pests. The EPPO Secretariat was invited to prepare a summary document based on the outcome of the study to justify this horizontal requirement for a PC. The Working Party noted that a study on non-manufactured wood commodities had started in 2014 and that an EWG would be organized to discuss its results in autumn.

Activities on Diagnostics

In addition to the regular programme of preparation and revision of diagnostic protocols, specifications for two new Standards were approved. These Standards should be developed in 2015-2016 (Guidelines for the authorization of laboratories and Guidelines on national reference laboratories).

Other topics

The Working Party proposed that an EWG should be organized to prepare a pest-specific contingency plan. The Working Party revised the Terms Of Reference of several Panels working under its supervision (Panel on Phytosanitary Measures, Panel on Phytosanitary Inspections, Panel on Diagnostics in Mycology) and considered a possible extension of the TOR of the Joint EPPO/IOBC Panel on Biological Control Agents, from safety of IBCAs to their efficacy and possibilities in the control of quarantine pests. This will be further discussed.

The Working Party was informed of the involvement of EPPO in different projects (Testa, Invasive Plants, Q-collect, Euphresco, EPPO codes, Regulated Non-Quarantine Pests), as well as in potential future projects of EU horizon 2020. The Working Party was informed that discussions continue on the possibility for EPPO to host the Q-bank database. It was noted that Q-bank can only be hosted by EPPO if external funding becomes available.

The next Working Party on Phytosanitary Regulations is due to convene in Larnaca, Cyprus, on 2015-06-16/19.

**EPPO Information Services**

Bulletin OEPP/EPPO Bulletin

Three issues of the EPPO Bulletin were published in 2014. The EPPO Bulletin is available in a paper and online version. The top 10 downloads from the Wiley-Bulletin website in 2014 were as follows:

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Rank** | **Article Title** | **Volume** | **Issue** | **No. of Accesses** |
| 1 | PM 7/119 (1) Nematode extraction | 43 | 3 | 2511 |
| 2 | PM 7/42 (2) *Clavibacter michiganensis* subsp*. michiganensis* | 43 | 1 | 2217 |
| 3 | PM 7/102 (1) *Curtobacterium flaccumfaciens* pv*. flaccumfaciens* | 41 | 3 | 1405 |
| 4 | PM 7/20 (2) *Erwinia amylovora* | 43 | 1 | 1399 |
| 5 | PM 7/40 (3) *Globodera rostochiensis* and *G. pallida* | 43 | 1 | 1359 |
| 6 | PM 7/98 (2) Specific requirements for laboratories preparing accreditation for a plant pest diagnostic activity | 44 | 2 | 1130 |
| 7 | PM 7/110 (1) *Xanthomonas* spp*. (Xanthomonas euvesicatoria, X. gardneri, X. perforans, X. vesicatoria)* causing bacterial spot of tomato and sweet pepper  | 43 | 1 | 1123 |
| 8 | PM 7/98 (1): Specific requirements for laboratories preparing accreditation for a plant pest diagnostic activity | 40 | 1 | 1078 |
| 9 | PM 7/4 (3) *Bursaphelenchus xylophilus* | 43 | 1 | 924 |
| 10 | PM 9/9 (1) *Heracleum mantegazzianum, H. sosnowskyi* and *H. persicum* | 39 | 3 | 865 |

The number of traditional (title by title) subscriptions to the printed Bulletin continued to fall from 31 in 2012 to 23 in 2014. The number of online subscriptions specifically to the EPPO Bulletin rose from 50 to 51 in the same period. However, taking into account the packages of subscriptions to multiple journals sold by Wiley, 4,188 institutions purchased access to EPPO Bulletin in 2014. In addition, the publishers provided low-cost or free access to 5,246 developing country institutions via philanthropic initiatives. By the end of 2014, 518 individuals were registered to receive automatic alerts from Wiley when new content appears. This reflects 2.6% growth in registrants over the course of last year. The number of unique visitors to the online Bulletin ranged from under 5000 to just over 7000 per month. A limited number of paper copies and online access licences for the Bulletin are provided free to NPPOs by EPPO.

EPPO Reporting Service

In 2014, the EPPO Secretariat prepared 226 short articles for the EPPO Reporting Service on new events of phytosanitary concern, such as new geographical records, new host plants, and new pests (including invasive alien plants). The Reporting Service was sent by e-mail to more than 2500 registered readers of the English version and more than 1000 registered readers of the French version.

Poster and leaflet (communication material)

In 2013, EPPO published a poster 'Don't Risk It' together with an accompanying leaflet to raise public awareness about the risks of moving plants and their associated pests during international travel. This poster was endorsed officially by the EPPO Executive Committee in April 2013 and circulated to all EPPO member countries in May 2013. The necessary files may be downloaded from the EPPO website: [http://www.eppo.int/PUBLICATIONS/poster/poster&leaflet.htm](http://www.eppo.int/PUBLICATIONS/poster/poster%26leaflet.htm) and adapted and translated by NPPOs into material for display in airports or any other sites where international travellers will see it.
The Secretariat has received feedback during 2014 on how this publicity material is being used in a number of member countries. It has been translated into at least Bulgarian, Estonian, German, Maltese, Russian and Turkish, and pictures have been provided of it in use at several airports.

EPPO computerized system for pest reports

According to the obligations stated in the EPPO Convention (articles V, VI), EPPO member countries report new pest introductions, new outbreaks and eradication to the EPPO Secretariat. This information is then circulated among the members via the EPPO Reporting Service and PQR. In 2011, a new EPPO Standard PM 1/5(1*) Format for pest reports* was adopted, and in 2012 the EPPO Secretariat initiated the development of an online system for pest reports based on this Standard. A prototype was presented to the EPPO Council in 2012, and then tested by a small group of users. In July 2013, the new system for pest reports was officially launched <http://www.eppo.int/DATABASES/pest_reporting/pest_reporting.htm>. Nine countries had signed up to the system by the end of 2014 and 27 reports were submitted during the year from the following countries: Belgium (7), Cyprus (2), Czech Republic (3), Denmark (1), Italy (4), Norway (2), Poland (2), Slovakia (2), and Slovenia (4).

EPPO Global Database

In September 2014 the EPPO Global Database was launched to bring together all of the information held by EPPO on specific pests, including information previously held on the PQR database. All content of the EPPO Plant Protection Thesaurus has been transferred to EPPO Global Database (86 074 codes for 67 931 species). All functionalities of PQR have been transferred, except for the search facility for pathways. All EPPO Standards have been linked to relevant organisms, as have all Reporting Service articles back to 1995. Datasheets from 1997 have been added, but some more recent datasheets have yet to be included. 2354 pictures have been added for 395 organisms. A special tool was developed to enable uploading of pictures over the website for those experts who are able to help fill gaps in the collection. The EPPO Global Database contains over 155 500 web pages and there have been more than 1 140 000 page views. 395 users of Global Database have registered for updates.

EPPO website

The EPPO Website (other than Global Database) received over 130 000 visits in 2014, and over 400 000 page views.

Russian translation programme

In 2014, the EPPO programme of Russian translations continued. Six EPPO Standards were translated: EPPO Standard PM 3/66 (2) *Phytosanitary procedures: Guidelines for the management of plant health risks of biowaste of plant origin*, EPPO Standard PM 5/5 (1) *Pest Risk Analysis: Decision-Support Scheme for an Express Pest Risk Analysis*, EPPO Standard PM 8/1 (1) *Commodity-specific phytosanitary measures: Potato*, EPPO Standard PM 3/37 (2) *Phytosanitary procedures: Tilletia indica: inspection for wheat seeds*, EPPO Standard PM 9/15 (1) *National regulatory control system for* Anoplophora glabripennis, and EPPO Standard PM 3/70 (1) *Phytosanitary procedures: Export certification and import compliance checking for potato tubers*. In addition, many administrative documents were translated into Russian. Many bilingual (English/Russian) letters as well as letters in Russian, mainly addressing technical issues, were prepared by the Secretariat for Russian-speaking experts.

**Implementation of EPPO Strategy for 2010-2014**

2014 was the final year for implementation of the Strategy agreed by Council in 2009. Key achievements against the different points in the Strategy are listed here, but in many cases more detail is provided elsewhere in the report.

*1. EPPO should develop guidance in regard to comparative assessment in the framework of substitution of plant protection products. The EPPO Secretariat should consider whether an effective exchange of information on Integrated Pest Management takes shape in the region.*

The Standard PP 1/271 *Guidance on comparative assessment* was published in 2011.

Examples of zonal efficacy evaluation were selected and published (see Working Party report, above)

An EWG was convened in 2014 to consider whether Standards on Good Plant Protection Practice could usefully be adapted to provide guidance on IPM approaches, given the needs of member countries and the work being done on this subject by other organisations and projects. The General Standard on *Principles of Good Plant Protection Practice* PP2/1 was reviewed, and a specific example, *Maize* (PP2/17), was amended by the EWG as an example of what could be done. A report will be provided to the Working Party in 2015.

*2. EPPO will continue to support its members by using a risk-based approach in justifying phytosanitary management and regulation. EPPO should do this by organizing the production of PRAs, cooperating with EFSA and providing training to national experts. PRA tools should be improved and EPPO may become involved with PRA related projects, provided that relevant opportunities arise.*

The EPPO Secretariat organized three expert working groups to perform PRAs on thousand cankers (a disease of walnut trees caused by *Geosmithia morbida* and *Pityophthorus juglandis*), *Microstegium vimineum* (an invasive plant) and *Heterobasidion irregulare* (a disease of pine trees). A study to produce lists of pests associated with the pathway of tomatoes (fruit of *Solanum lycopersicum*) was continued and methodology for preparing pest lists from different pathway studies was developed. The EPPO Secretariat is also involved in an EU research project “Dropsa”, with the objective of preparing such lists for selected fruit species. The study of non-processed wood commodities was started and an Expert Working Group was convened to validate the initial results of what had become the “EPPO Study on wood commodities other than round wood, sawn wood and manufactured items”. The Panel on Phytosanitary Measures began development of a Standard to provide guidance on the types of physical isolation according to the types of pest.

A review of the PRA process was initiated in 2014 in order to better answer the need of NPPOs for a quicker response to the risks posed by emerging pests.

EFSA and EPPO continued to coordinate their work to avoid duplication. A “road map” for collaboration has been prepared and will be presented to the Executive Committee in 2015.

*3. EPPO will continue its role in addressing diagnostic needs by supporting diagnostic laboratories, leading to the introduction of quality assurance systems and/or accreditation and maintaining a database of diagnostic expertise in the member countries. In particular EPPO will provide support for laboratories in the framework of accreditation by preparing appropriate Standards and organizing training Workshops.*

Further diagnostic protocols were agreed and recommended (see EPPO Recommendations, above).

The Database on Diagnostic expertise in the member countries is now well established. The number of laboratories and experts is stable as compared to 2013. 86 laboratories from 35 countries, corresponding to approximately 500 experts have entered data and each laboratory should confirm its data on an annual basis to ensure that the database remains up-to-date. New validation data on diagnostic tests has been added to the database in 2014. The database is freely accessible on the EPPO Website. - http://dc.eppo.int/.

In order to support laboratories in implementing accreditation a workshop was organised in February 2014. A report is included at Appendix 3. Specific contact was made with European Accreditation in order to develop a harmonised approach to implementing a flexible scope for accreditation in plant health diagnostics. Development started of a Standard providing guidance for the authorisation of non-NPPO laboratories to ensure harmonisation across the region.

EPPO participation in TESTA and Q-collect (see section on Additional Projects) linked closely to the programme of diagnostic work.

*4. EPPO will continue to provide guidance on eradication and containment (official control Standards for major quarantine pests).* *EPPO will accelerate and prioritize work on the Standard series PM 9* National regulatory control systems *and develop tools and training programmes to address eradication.*

Standards were agreed on prioritizing action during outbreaks, and on management of invasive alien plants in aquatic environments (see EPPO Recommendations, above).

An Inspectors Workshop was held on the subject of contingency planning and exercising of contingency plans (see Appendix 3).

*5. EPPO will continue to increase its role regarding minor uses. In particular EPPO will expand harmonization work on schemes for crop safety and efficacy extrapolation and identify new possible extrapolations. EPPO will continue work on analyzing risks of resistance in Plant Protection Products.*

Work on the preparation of extrapolation tables for minor uses continues. 18 tables were revised in 2014 and 4 new tables were produced. A total of 50 extrapolation tables are now available.

The Secretariat follows international developments on minor uses. EPPO is an active participant at the EU Technical Group on Minor Uses and OECD Expert Group on Minor Uses (EGMU). OECD has now adopted two EPPO Standards, PP 1/224 *Principles of efficacy evaluation for minor uses* and PP 1/257 *Efficacy and crop safety extrapolations for minor uses* as OECD Standards with no change.

EPPO responded positively during 2014 to a request by three member countries to consider hosting a new EU Minor Uses Co-ordination Facility, to be jointly funded by the three countries and the European Commission.

EPPO work on analyzing risks of resistance to plant protection products continued. A report of the 2014 Panel meeting is available on the website.

*6. EPPO will continue to assist members in establishing collective views on issues discussed at a global level in relation to the IPPC and to the SPS agreement.*

EPPO member countries were well represented at the 2014 meeting of the Commission on Phytosanitary Measures, and in the activities of the CPM subsidiary bodies. Co-ordinated positions were developed on draft specifications for ISPMs, notably for international movement of grain, and for revision of ISPM6 on Surveillance, and on draft standards, notably those for international movement of (i) seed, (ii) used vehicles, machinery and equipment, (iii) sea containers, (iv) wood and (v) growing media associated with plants for planting.

A paper on the importance of access to diagnostic capability was prepared by members of the EPPO CPM Affairs Panel for submission to the CPM by the EU. Alignment of EPPO and EU co-ordination processes continued to be facilitated by participation in EPPO’s CPM Affairs Panel of experts from the European Commission and from the country holding the EU Presidency at the following CPM.

EPPO continued to act as the nominating body for representatives of the European region on CPM bodies.

EPPO organised jointly with the FAO regional office in Budapest, the IPPC Secretariat and the All Russian Plant Quarantine Centre a meeting at which draft ISPMs could be reviewed in translation by Russian speaking experts. Comments from that meeting were then considered by the subsequent meeting of the EPPO Panel on CPM Affairs.

EPPO hosted a meeting of the IPPC Technical Panel on Diagnostic Protocols (TPDP) in 2014.

*7. EPPO will continue to assist members in the prevention of introduction, establishment and spread of Invasive Alien Plants by providing documentation, recommending action and providing guidance on measures.*

A new Standard was agreed on management of invasive exotic aquatic plants and *Parthenium hysterophorus* was added to the EPPO A2 list (see EPPO Recommendations).

Further work was carried out on pest risk analysis and prioritization for possible invasive alien plants.

A report of the Invasive Alien Plants Panel meeting in 2014 is available on the website.

*8. EPPO will continue to provide selected, reviewed or validated documentation on pests to members, supporting them in assuring plant health* *(EPPO databases, EPPO Reporting Service, EPPO Bulletin, EPPO Website). EPPO will continue to recommend actions based on Pest Risk Analysis (PRA) for new phytosanitary risks.*

Five pests were added to the EPPO A1 or A2 lists in 2014 (see EPPO Recommendations)

A separate section of this report summarises work of EPPO Information Services during 2014.

*9. EPPO will continue to develop Standards for efficacy evaluations of Plant Protection Products.*

Two new specific Standards and two revised specific Standards were agreed in 2014. The database of PP1 Standards for Efficacy Evaluation was maintained and updated.

*10. EPPO will develop harmonized phytosanitary procedures.*

The Panel on Phytosanitary Procedures was renamed the Panel on Phytosanitary Inspections. Revised Instructions to Authors were agreed and the Panel continued to work on drafts on:

* Consignment inspection of grain and seeds of cereals,
* Inspection of places of production of plants for planting of fruit trees,
* Consignment inspection of plants of palms for *Rhyncophorus ferrugineus,*
* Consignment inspection of seeds of tomatoes,
* Consignment inspection for *Anoplophora* spp.,
* Inspection of places of production of plants for planting of species of vegetables.

*11. EPPO will help members with implementation of International Standards for Phytosanitary Measures (ISPM) by organizing practical Workshops for NPPO heads based on reported implementation difficulties.*

A workshop in Bishkek was organised jointly with the FAO regional office in Budapest, on the theme of “Commodity-associated phytosanitary risk, its analysis and management”. There were 32 participants from 15 countries and English - Russian interpretation was provided. A report of the workshop is included at Appendix 3.

A workshop on electronic phytosanitary certificates (e-Phyto) was held in Baku, with English - Russian interpretation funded by the Government of Azerbaijan. A report of the workshop is included at Appendix 3.

*12. EPPO should collaborate with international organizations involved in plant health and plant protection products areas*

Discussions continued during 2014 with the European Commission and with the Eurasian Economic Commission on possible joint projects and programmes of work.

In April 2014 a Workshop was held jointly by EFSA and EPPO on “Data collection and information sharing in plant health”. A report of the Workshop is at Appendix 3.

Since September 2012 EPPO has been granted observer status in the EFSA’s Plant Health Panel Plenary meetings and members of the Plant Health Unit participated in EPPO Panels. This allowed plans to be made for collaboration and to avoid duplication of work.

**Additional Projects**

Discussion continued during 2014 regarding the possible hosting by EPPO of the Q-bank database of sequence data and other information on pests continued. While most technical issues have been resolved, the question of funding for integration of Q-bank into EPPO systems, and long term maintenance remains to be resolved.

Euphresco was relaunched during 2014 as a long term network hosted by EPPO, with funding provided by contributions from partners who are owners or funders of plant health research programmes. A new call for topics was started before end of 2014. Contact is being maintained with the European Commission and member countries to ensure that Euphresco retains its status under the new funding model. A continuing contribution to funding is being sought from the EU, in recognition of the importance of the EU as a funder of plant health research in Europe. Interest has also been shown by other funders from outside the region in joining the network, or projects initiated by the network. More information is available on www.euphresco.net.

EPPO continued to collaborate on a number of EU funded research projects during 2014, including TESTA (development of seed treatment methods, evidence for seed transmission and assessment of seed health), Dropsa (control of pests and pathogens affecting fruit crops) and Q-collect (improved coordination and collaboration for EU Plant Health reference collections). Criteria for participation in such research projects were agreed by Council, and included the following:

• Objectives of the project are in line with the EPPO strategy and work programme

• Outcomes of the project are relevant for EPPO Standards or recommendations

• Secretariat has capacity to work on a project

It was agreed that the Secretariat should take account of impacts of integrating outputs of a project into EPPO standards or recommendations, or carrying out dissemination activities. If EPPO is not a partner in a project these additional activities, if required, have to be funded from the main EPPO budget.

**EPPO Finances**

EPPO’s main source of income is annual contributions from its 50 member countries, payable under Article 18 of the Convention by which EPPO was established. In 2014 income from contributions amounted to 2.1 million EUR. There is some additional income from sale of publications (though most of EPPO’s outputs are freely available) and from participation in funded projects. The main cost is staff salaries and associated expenditure which in 2014 amounted to 1.6 million EUR. Other costs include the maintenance of the headquarters in Paris and payment of expenses for expert working groups to carry out pest risk analyses. The overall result from 2014 was a small positive balance. Subject to approval of Council this will be used to increase the Special Reserve to cover 3 months normal expenditure as recommended by the Auditor. A detailed financial report produced and audited according to IPSAS standards is distributed to member countries for their approval at the Council meeting.

**EPPO Recommendations in 2014**

**By Council on advice of the Working Party on Plant Protection Products**

**EPPO Standards PP 1: Efficacy evaluation of plant protection products**

To Member Governments to use the four following EPPO Standards in connection with the evaluation of the efficacy of plant protection products for the purposes of registration:

New Standards: PP 1/283(1) *Psylliodes attenuata* on hop and PP 1/284 (1) *Rhynchophorus ferrugineus*.

Revised Standards: PP 1/214(3) Principles of acceptable efficacy and PP 1/135 (4) Phytotoxicity assessment.

The following Standards were republished due to minor amendments to update references to EU legislation: PP 1/224(2) *Principles of efficacy evaluation for minor uses*, PP 1/241(2) *Guidance on comparable climates*, PP 1/242(2) Taint test, PP 1/243(2) *Effects of plant protection products on transformation processes*, PP 1/248(2) *Harmonized classification and coding of the uses of plant protection products*, PP 1/257(2) *Efficacy and crop safety of extrapolations for minor uses*.

These Standards are published in *EPPO Bulletin* **44** (3).

**By Council on advice of the Working Party on Phytosanitary Regulations**

**EPPO Standards PM 1: General Phytosanitary Measures**

To Member Governments to take account, in their national phytosanitary regulations, of the addition of *Neoleucinodes elegantalis, Aromia bungii* and *Acidovorax citrulli* to the A1 List and the addition of *Polygraphus proximus* and *Parthenium hysterophorus* to the A2 List. EPPO Standard PM 1/2 (23) EPPO A1 and A2 Lists of pests recommended for regulation as quarantine pests (2014 version) is published on the EPPO website (<http://www.eppo.int>).

**EPPO Standards PM 3: Phytosanitary Procedures**

### To Member Governments to take account, in their national phytosanitary regulations, of the following revised EPPO Standards: PM 3/60(1) Testing growing medium and plants in growing medium[[3]](#footnote-4) and PM 3/75(1) *Globodera rostochiensis* and *G. pallida*: sampling soil attached to ware potato tubers for detection prior to export and at import. These Standards are published in *EPPO Bulletin* 44 (1) and 44 (3) respectively.

**EPPO Standards PM 6: Safe use of Biological Control**

To Member Governments to take account in their arrangements for the import of exotic biological agents of the following two revised EPPO Standards: PM 6/2(3) *Import and release of non-indigenous biological control agents* and PM 6/3(4) *List of biological agents widely used in the EPPO region* (version 2014). PM 6/2 (3) is published in *EPPO Bulletin* **44** (3). PM 6/3(4) is published on the EPPO website.

**EPPO Standards PM 7: Diagnostic protocols for regulated pests**

To Member Governments to use the following new EPPO diagnostic Standards: PM 7/120(1) *Pseudomonas syringae* pv. *actinidiae*, PM 7/121(1) ‘*Candidatus* Liberibacter africanus’, ‘*Candidatus* Liberibacter americanus’ and ‘*Candidatus* Liberibacter asiaticus’, PM 7/122(1) Guidelines for the organization of interlaboratory comparisons by plant pest diagnostic laboratories and the following revised EPPO diagnostic Standard PM 7/76(3) *Use of EPPO diagnostic protocols*. These Standards are published in *EPPO Bulletin* **44** (2) and **44** (3).

To Member Governments to use the following revised Standards which were approved by the fast track approval procedure: PM 7/98 (2) *Specific requirements for laboratories preparing accreditation for a plant pest diagnostic activity,* PM 7/14 (2) *Ceratocystis platani* and PM 7/85 (2) *Plasmopara halstedii*. These Standards are published in *EPPO Bulletin* **44** (2)for PM 7/98 and **44** (3) for PM 7/14 (2) and PM 7/85 (2).

**EPPO Standards PM 8: Commodity-Specific Phytosanitary measures**

To Member Governments to take account in their national phytosanitary measures which they use or require for plants and plant products moving in international trade, the following revised EPPO Standard: PM 8/2(2) Coniferae. This Standard is published in *EPPO Bulletin* **44** (3).

**EPPO Standards PM 9: National regulatory systems**

To Member Governments, when applying official procedures for official control for pests recommended for regulation, to use the following EPPO Standards:PM 9/18(1) *Decision-Support Scheme for prioritizing action during outbreaks* and PM 9/19(1) *Invasive alien aquatic plants*. These Standards are published in *EPPO Bulletin* **44** (3).

**Withdrawal of Standards**

The following Standard was withdrawn: PM 3/53 *Fermenting (composting) of bark of conifers*. Expert advice was that efficacy of treatment depends on the time temperature combination achieved throughout the bulk rather than the means of heating, and resources required to update the Standard with recent data could not be justified.

**Appendix 1 - EPPO Calendar 2014**

**I Executive Committee / Comité Exécutif**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| 1 | Executive Committee/Comité Exécutif | 04-15/16 | Paris |
| 2 | Executive Committee/Comité Exécutif | 09-22 | Paris |

**II Council/ Conseil**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| 1 | Council/Conseil | 09-23/24 | Paris |

**III Workshops and Conferences / Ateliers et Conférences**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| 1 | Workshop on accreditation and quality assurance for laboratories/Atelier sur l'accréditation et l'assurance qualité pour les laboratoires | 02-18/20 | York (GB) |
| 2 | Colloquium on data collection and information sharing in plant health/Colloque sur la collecte des données et sur le partage d'information en santé des végétaux | 04-01/03 | Parma (IT) |
| 3 | Workshop on Electronic Certificate/ Atelier sur le certificat électronique | 04-29/30 | Baku |
| 4 | EPPO/FAO/IPPC Regional Workshop on draft ISPM/ Atelier regional OEPP/FAO/CIPV sur les projets NIMP | 07-28/31 | Moscow |
| 5 | Workshop for Phytosanitary Inspectors on contingency planning/ Atelier pour inspecteurs phytosanitaires sur les plans d’urgence | 11-18/20 | London |

**IV Working Parties/ Groupes de travail**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| 1 | Plant Protection Products / Produits phytosanitaires | 05-21/23 | Budapest |
| 2 | Phytosanitary Regulations / Réglementation phytosanitaire | 06-17/20 | Moldova |

**V Panels and Expert Working Groups/ Panels et groupes d'experts**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| 1 | Joint NAPPO-EPPO meeting & CPM Affairs / Réunion conjointe NAPPO-OEPP Relations avec la CMP | 02-03/06 | Montreal (CA) |
| 2 | Phytosanitary measures for potato / Mesures phytosanitaires pour la pomme de terre | 02-11/13 | Lille (FR) |
| 3 | General Standards/ Normes générales pour l’évaluation biologique | 02-25/26 | Paris |
| 4 | Ad Hoc Panel on Harmonisation of Data on Plant Protection Products /Panel ad hoc sur l’Harmonisation des données sur les produits phytosanitaires | 02-26/27 | Paris |
| 5 | Phytosanitary measures / Mesures phytosanitaires | 03-04/06 | Paris |
| 6 | Quarantine Pests for Forestry / Organismes de quarantaine forestiers | 03-11/13 | Vienna |
| 7 | Diagnostics in Bacteriology / Diagnostic en bactériologie | 03-18/21 | Wageningen(NL) |
| 8 | Herbicides-PGRs / Herbicides-Régulateurs de croissance | 04-09/11 | Milan (IT) |
| 9 | CPM Affairs / Relations avec la CMP | 04-22/24 | Paris |
| 10 | EWG on extrapolation tables/ Groupe d'experts sur les tableaux d’extrapolation | 04-28/30 | Avignon (FR) |
| 11 | European Mycology Network / Réseau européen de mycologie | 05-06/09 | Budapest |
| 12 | Panel on Invasive Alien Plants / Panel sur les plantes exotiques envahissantes | 05-13/15 | Irkutsk (RU) |
| 13 | Core members to review PRAs/ membre du groupe noyau pour l'examen des ARPs | 07-01/03 | Paris  |
| 14 | EWG for PRA / Groupe d'experts pour l'ARP “Thousand Cankers Disease” | 08-26/29 | Paris |
| 15 | CPM Affairs / Relations avec la CMP | 09-02/05 | Tallin |
| 16 | Resistance to PPPs / Resistance concernant les produits phytosanitaires | 09-17/19 | Paris |
| 17 | EWG for PRA - wood commodities study / Groupe d'experts pour l'ARP | 10-07/10 | Paris |
| 18 | Diagnostics in virology / Diagnostic en virologie  | 10-14/16 | Rome |
| 19 | Biological control agents (EPPO/OIBC) / Agents de lutte biologique (OEPP/OILB) | 10-14/15 | Paris |
| 20 | EWG for PRA / Groupe d’experts pour l’ARP *Microstegium vimineum* | 10-21/24 | Paris |
| 21 | Phytosanitary measures / Mesures phytosanitaires | 10-28/30 | Antalya (TR) |
| 22 | EWG on Integrated pest management / Groupe d’experts sur la lutte intégrée | 10-28/30 | Paris |
| 23 | Fungicides-Insecticides / Fongicides Insecticides | 11-25/27 | Paris |
| 24 | Diagnostics and Quality Assurance / Diagnostics et assurance qualité | 11-25/27 | Kleinmachnow (DE) |
| 25 | EWG for PRA / Groupe d'experts pour l'ARP *Heterobasidion irregulare* | 12-01/04 | Paris |
| 26 | Colorado beetle/ Doryphore | 12-02/03 | Caen (FR) |
| 27 | Phytosanitary Procedures / Procédures phytosanitaires | 12-09/10 | Paris |

**Appendix 2 - EPPO Publications in 2014**

1. *Bulletin OEPP/EPPO Bulletin* **44** (1) (2014-04), pp. 1-108, including an Editorial, 1 Datasheet, 1 Standard, reports on 2 EPPO Workshops on *Experiences with implementation of Zonal evaluation of plant protection products* and on *Management of* Globodera rostochiensis *and* G. pallida and 14 original papers.
2. *Bulletin OEPP/EPPO Bulletin* **44** (2) (2014-08), pp. 109-260, including an Editorial, 1 Standard, 3 Datasheets, 1 report on the EPPO Workshop on *Setting Ct cut-off values for real-time PCR*, 6 original papers, the conclusions of the EPPO/CoE/IUCN-ISSG/DGAV/UC/ESAC Workshop on *How to communicate on pests and invasive alien plants* and 7 papers linked to the joint Workshop.
3. *Bulletin OEPP/EPPO Bulletin* **44** (3) (2014-12), pp. 261-564, including an Editorial, 21 Standards, 1 Datasheet, 6 original papers and the recommendations made by Council in 2013 and the Annual Report for 2013.

**Appendix 3 - Reports on EPPO Workshops in 2014**

**Workshop on phytosanitary risks associated with soil attached to potato tubers and potato waste**

**Lille, France, 2014-02-11/12**

The EPPO Secretariat organized a short Workshop back-to-back with the Panel on Phytosanitary Measures for Potato. For the last three years similar Workshops have brought together the members of the Panel and additional experts on a specific topic. In 2014, the Workshop addressed the phytosanitary risks associated with soil attached to potato tubers and potato waste. 14 Panel members and 22 additional experts from 16 EPPO countries took part in the Workshop. Several experts also attended the Panel meeting as observers.

The main objectives were to raise awareness on the risk of spreading pests with soil attached to potato tubers and potato waste, and to share experiences on possible management options both in outbreak situations for quarantine pests, and as general good practice to prevent spread of pests and diseases.

A technical visit was organized in a potato processing factory with soil and waste management facilities.

The participants recognized the importance of raising awareness on the potential risks associated with the movement of soil, including the not-yet identified risks. The NPPOs should be helped to raise awareness in the whole potato supply chain (and possibly for other root crops). As a first step, the different types of risks should be described with examples in an EPPO guidance document.

Recent results of research on treatments to remove infested soil from tubers and to disinfest soil and waste contaminated with quarantine organisms were presented. They included washing tubers, heat treatment, anaerobic processes, composting, inundation, storage and dumping. The participants recommended that all these mitigation methods are described and their effectiveness estimated, focusing on the treatments that are likely to be feasible in practice. It would also be useful to have guidance of the possibility to combine their effect. This should finally provide guidance for facilities processing or packing potatoes to help them reduce the risk associated with soil and waste. The Panel considered the conclusions for its working programme and agreed to develop guidance to address risks posed by soil in the potato chain.

**EPPO Workshop on Accreditation for plant pest diagnostic laboratories**

**York, UK, 2014-02-18/20**

The EPPO Workshop on Accreditation for plant pest diagnostic laboratories was organized in York at the invitation of the Food and Environmental Research Agency. It was attended by over 70 participants from 23 countries. This Workshop followed in the sequence of EPPO Workshops on quality assurance, previously held in Denmark (2007) and York (2009). Most participants were experts from official national laboratories in the field of diagnosis of plant pests and representatives of private companies were also present.

The Workshop was opened by Mr Robert Edwards, Chief Scientist in Fera, who presented the activities of the agency. He explained that 2014 marks the centenary of the formation of the first organisations that have evolved into what is known today as The Food and Environment Research Agency (Fera).

Presentations, conclusions and recommendations are available from the EPPO website at

<http://archives.eppo.int/MEETINGS/2014_conferences/lab-accreditation.htm>.

**Joint EFSA-EPPO Workshop on ‘Data collection and information sharing in plant health’**

**Parma, Italy, 1-3 April 2014**

A joint EFSA/EPPO Workshop took place at EFSA headquarters in Parma, from 1-3 April to discuss ‘Data collection and information sharing in plant health’. More than 130 participants from national plant protection organizations, research institutes, universities, international organizations, and stakeholders from agriculture and industry participated in the workshop. More than 35 lectures were delivered and 40 posters presented.

From the discussions, it was clear that data collection and information sharing is a key issue in plant health, as central activities such as surveillance, pest risk assessment, and policy-making, rely on the availability of valid and sound data. Many challenges were identified, such as the availability and reliability of data, harmonization of data, the rapid development of new communication tools, and data sharing not only between IT systems but among stakeholders. However, it was also noted that much progress is taking place in the field of data collection and sharing, and that new tools (models, media monitoring, citizen science) are being developed and should be further explored, as these are likely to open new avenues for improvement. This was the first joint meeting between EPPO and EFSA. Both organizations considered the workshop a success and agreed to work closely together.

Conclusions are at <http://archives.eppo.int/MEETINGS/2014_conferences/efsa-eppo_information.htm>.

**Workshop on Electronic Certificates and associated IT Systems**

**Baku, Azerbaijan, 2014-04-29/30**

The EPPO Workshop on ‘Electronic Certificates and associated IT Systems’ took place in Baku, Azerbaijan, from the 29th to 30th of April. More than 30 experts from 14 countries, the European Commission and the Eurasian Economic Commission participated in this Workshop.

The aim of this Workshop was to exchange experience and views about the current and future implementation of electronic phytosanitary certificates and their associated IT systems. All participants presented the existing systems that are in place in their respective countries to manage phytosanitary certificates and elaborated on how these could relate to electronic certificates (at present or in the future). The IPPC activities on the harmonization of format, content and exchange mechanisms of ePhytos were presented by Mr Horn (Chair of the IPPC steering group on ePhyto) and the participants discussed the advantages and challenges associated with the practical implementation of ePhytos. The EPPO Secretariat also presented the EPPO codes and explained how these computer codes could be used in ePhytos.
The EU Trade Control and Expert System (TRACES) which is currently being adapted to plant health was presented by Mr Vagner (European Commission) and discussed.

Conclusions are at <http://archives.eppo.int/MEETINGS/2014_conferences/e_certification_baku.htm>.

**FAO/EPPO Workshop on 'Commodity-associated phytosanitary risk, its analysis and management'**

**Bishkek, Kyrgyzstan, 2014-06-03/06**

The Workshop was attended by 32 participants coming from 15 countries, EPPO and EEC (Eurasian Economic Commission). Eleven presentations from FAO- and EPPO-supported speakers were made, followed by questions and discussions. In addition, 14 presentations were given from participating countries.

The aim of this Workshop was to promote the implementation of ISPMs and EPPO Standards concerning commodity-associated phytosanitary risk, its analysis and management, as well as to provide the opportunity for participants to share experience and views on Pest Risk Analysis (PRA), pest risk specific to different commodities and pest risk management. Participating countries were given the opportunity to present how PRA is carried out and how pest risk is managed at the national level.

The Workshop produced a number of recommendations and observations which are available on the EPPO website at <http://archives.eppo.int/MEETINGS/2014_conferences/eppo_fao_bishkek.htm>.

**EPPO Workshop for Inspectors on Contingency Planning**

**Royal Botanical Gardens, Kew (London), 2014-11-18/20**

The Workshop on contingency planning organized by EPPO with help from the UK Department of Environment, Food and Rural Affairs and the Royal Botanic Gardens, gathered 49 participants from 22 countries for presentations, exchange of experience, a day-long exercise, and visits of the phytosanitary inspectorate for Heathrow Airport.

The Workshop received background information about the UK plant health service, Kew Gardens, EPPO and the principles of contingency planning, before listening to presentations about the experience in Netherlands, Sweden and Germany of learning lessons from outbreaks and developing and testing plans for managing pest outbreaks. On the second day the Workshop split into four groups of about ten to carry out an extended table-top exercise based on the scenario of a finding of *Anoplophora chinensis* in the neighborhood of Kew Gardens.

On the final morning Workshop participants also had the opportunity to visit the plant quarantine facilities and the mycology laboratory at Kew, and to feed in ideas for the development of EPPO Standards for Inspections. In the afternoon most participants took advantage of the optional visit to see the phytosanitary inspection systems and processes at Heathrow airport. Thanks were expressed to the Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew for hosting the event, and to the UK Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs for organising much of the programme and covering the cost of the venue.

Conclusions are at <http://archives.eppo.int/MEETINGS/2014_conferences/inspectors_kew.htm>.

**Q-collect Workshop for collections and users of biological material**

**Kleinmachnow, Germany, 2014-11-27/28**

Q-collect is a EU FP7 funded project which started on the 1st of October 2013 and aims to improve the status of reference collections important to plant health (more information on the project is available on the Q-collect website). In this framework, a Workshop was organized by the EPPO Secretariat (a partner in this project) to present the progress made after 12 months, and gather stakeholder expectations. The meeting took place at the Julius Kühn Institute in Kleinmachnow (DE) on 2014-11-27/28 and 45 participants from 16 countries attended. The audience was composed of collections’ stakeholders (such as experts from plant pest diagnostic laboratories, as users of biological material) and project participants.

The Workshop was organized over one and a half days and consisted of presentations followed by breakout sessions in small groups.

A general overview of the project by the Coordinator (P. Bonants, PRI, Plant Research International, NL) and an introduction on why collections are important by the EPPO Secretariat (F. Petter, EPPO, European and Mediterranean Plant Protection Organization, FR).

Workshop presentations, conclusions and recommendations are available on the EPPO website at <http://archives.eppo.int/MEETINGS/2014_conferences/q-collect_de.htm>.

**Appendix 4**

**Meetings attended by the Secretariat in 2014**

**(other than those in the EPPO Programme or at EPPO headquarters)**

1. 24rd Annual USDA Forum on invasive forest pests (Annapolis, US, 2014-01-06/10), attended by Mr Orlinski.
2. EU FP7 Testa 2nd project meeting (Leiden, NL, 2014-01-14/15), attended by Ms Petter
3. AgroParisTech (Paris, 2014-01-22), attended by Ms Roy.
4. Meeting of the French regional Plant Protection Services (Amiens, FR, 2014-01-23/24), attended by Ms Petter
5. Quality Pest Project meeting, DG Sanco (Brussels, 2014-01-27), attended by Mr Ward
6. EU FP7 DROPSA, Quick-off meeting (York, GB, 2014-01-27/28), attended by Ms Suffert
7. Visit to the Netherlands (Wageningen, NL) 2014-01-28, by Mr Ward
8. EFSA, 47th Plant Health Plenary meeting (Parma, IT, 2014-01-29/30), attended by Ms Petter
9. Horizon 2020 Emphasis Project Proposal (Torino, IT, 2014-02-06), attended by Mr Lucchesi
10. FAO Technical Panel for the Glossary (Rome, 2014-02-10/14), attended by Mr Orlinski
11. International Symposium on Plant Protection / Seminar Zastite bija (Opatija, HR, 2014-02- 11/13), attended by Ms Zlof
12. Bern Convention, Preparatory meeting (Rome, 2014-03-07), attended by Ms Brunel
13. European Cooperation for Accreditation (Valletta, MT, 2014-03-12), attended by Ms Petter
14. Technical group on Minor Uses (Brussels, 2014-03-12/13), attended by Ms Zlof
15. EUPHRESCO annual meeting (Chessy, FR, 2014-03-26/27), attended by Mr Ward and Ms Petter
16. EU Consortium meeting (Brussels, 2014-03-27/28), attented by Ms Brunel
17. CIHEAM Course on Emerging and Quarantine Diseases of Mediterranean Fruits and Vegetable Crop (Saragosse, ES, 2014-03-31/2014-04-02), attended by Ms Suffert (as tutor)
18. OECD Working Group on Pesticides (Paris, 2014-03-31/2014-04-03), attended by Ms Zlof
19. CPM-9 (Roma, 2014-03-31/2014-04-04), attended by Mr Ward and Mr Perchet
20. EFSA/EPPO Conference on data collection and information sharing in plant health (Parma, IT, 2014-04-02/03), attended by Ms Petter and Ms Roy
21. COST ACTION Alien (Rhodes, GR, 2014-04-08/11), attended by Ms Brunel
22. Plant Quarantine Coordinative Council of CIS countries (Yerevan, 2014-04-10/11), attended by Mr Ward and Mr Orlinski
23. OECD Meeting of the Expert Group on Integrated Pest Management (Berlin, 2014-05-04/08)
24. EFSA Working Group on Soil and Growing Media (Brussels, 2014-05-14), attended by Ms Petter
25. The EWRS Herbicide Resistance Workshop (Frankfurt, 2014-05-20/21), attended by Ms Zlof
26. 4th International Symposium on Weeds and Invasive Plants (Montpellier, FR, 2014-05-19/23), attended by Ms Brunel
27. Better Training for Safer Food on Plant Health Risk (Lisboa, 2014-05-26/30), attended by Ms Suffert (as tutor)
28. Standing Committee on Agriculture Research and bilateral meeting with EC (Brussels, 2014-06-11), attended by Mr Ward
29. Testa-ISTA Seed Health symposium (Edinburgh, GB, 2014-06-11/13), attended by Ms Petter
30. Expert Working Group on plant health interception response strategy (Grange, IE, 2014-07-01/02), attended by Ms Roy
31. EFSA, 50th Plant Health Plenary meeting (Parma, IT, 2014-09-02/03), attended by Ms Petter
32. Technical Group on Minor Uses (Brussels, 2014-07-01), attended by Ms Zlof
33. Plant Health Interception Response Strategy/Reduced Frequency (Grange, IE, 2015-07-01/02) attended by Ms Roy
34. EFSA 51st Plant Health Plenary meeting (Parma, 2014-07-02/03), attended by Ms Petter
35. EAPR 19th triennial conference (Brussels, 2014-07-08), attended by Mr Ward
36. Visit to the National Plant Protection Organization (NPPO) of the Netherlands (Wageningen, 2015-07-09), by Mr Lucchesi and Mr Giovani
37. Visit to ANSES (Maisons-Alfort, 2015-07-10), by Mr Lucchesi.
38. International Forest Quarantine Research Group meeting (Roma, 2014-09-08/12), attended by Mr Orlinski
39. South American meeting, INIAs (Guadalajara, MX, 2014-09-08/12), attended by Mr Giovani
40. 50th Anniversary of the Hungarian NPPO (Budapest, 2015-09-16), attended by Mr Ward
41. 12th International Symposium (ICP-PR): Hazards of pesticides to bees (Ghent , BE, 2014-09-15/17, attended by Ms Zlof
42. Testa Meeting (Lyon, FR, 2014-09-19), attended by Ms McMullen
43. EFSA, Meeting on risks associated with forest commodities (Brussels, 2014-09-19), attended by Mr Orlinski
44. Conference on Botanists in the 21st Century (Paris, 2014-09-22), attended by Ms Brunel
45. IUCN (Orléans, FR, 2014-09-24/26), attended by Ms Brunel
46. ISO TC218 Timber (Paris, 2014-09-29 and 2014-10-01), attended by Mr Orlinski
47. Evaluators meeting (Piacenza, IT, 2014-09/30-02/10), attended by Ms Zlof
48. C-IPM Workshop on “Future challenges for IPM in a changing agriculture”, (Berlin, 2014-10-08), attended by Mr Lucchesi
49. 9th Annual Biocontrol Industry Meeting ABIM (Basel, CH, 2014-10-20/21), attended by Mr Ward and Ms Zlof
50. Ravageurs et insectes invasifs et émergents (Montpellier, FR, 2014-10-21), attended by Ms Roy
51. International symposium on the European outbreak of *Xylella fastidiosa* in olive and training workshop (Gallipoli (IT), 2014-10-21/24), attended by Ms Petter
52. OECD Meeting “Global Plant Health Risks and Consequences: linking Science, Economics and Policy” (York, GB, 2014-10-27), attended by Mr Ward
53. Meetingon the management on“*Heterobasidion irregulare*: una nuova minaccia per gli ecosistemi forestali italiani ed europei. Come gestire l’emergenza?” (Torino, IT, 2014-10-27), attended by Ms Grousset
54. Cost Action meeting on Forest Pathways for Pests (Estoril, PT, 2014-10-27/29), attended by Mr Orlinski
55. NEOBIOTA - Alien Plants in Agricultural areas (Antalya, TR, 2014-11-04/05), attended by Ms Brunel
56. Cost Action Meeting (Antalya, TR, 2014-11-02/03), attended by Ms Brunel
57. BAYER - meeting on EPPO codes (Monheim, DE, 2014-11-04), attended by Mr Ward
58. 11th Arab Congress of Plant Protection (Amman, JO, 2015-11-09/10), attended by Ms Petter
59. 26th Technical Consultation among RPPOs (Antigua, GT, 2014-11-10/14), attended by Mr Ward
60. Technical Group on Minor Uses (Brussels, 2014-11-12/13), attended by Ms Zlof
61. EUROPHYT working group (Grange, IE, 2014-11-12/13), attended by Ms Roy
62. EFSA 48th Plant Health Network (Parma, IT, 2014-11-19/21), attended by Ms Petter
63. VII Congress on Plant Protection of Serbia – IOBC/EPRS/WPRS (Zlatibor, RS, 2014-11-24/28), attended by Mr Orlinski
64. Symposium on “Improving the safety of the food chain through risk prevention in plant animal production” (Brussels, 2014-11-28), attended by Mr Ward
65. Risk Reduction Steering group and OECD seminar on risk reduction on non-professional uses (Paris, 2014-12-08/11), attended by Ms Zlof
66. FAO Technical Panel for the Glossary (Rome, 2014-12-08/12), attended by Mr Orlinski
1. Commission on Phytosanitary Measures - the global body established by the International Plant Protection Convention and hosted within the FAO to develop agreed international standards for phytosanitary measures. The EPPO CPM Affairs Panel co-ordinates EPPO region participation in this process. [↑](#footnote-ref-2)
2. European Crop Protection Association [↑](#footnote-ref-3)
3. This Standard was reissued following deletion of a section on extraction to align it with Standard PM7/119, which was approved by Council in 2013 [↑](#footnote-ref-4)