



REPORT

Technical Panel on Diagnostic Protocols September 2015

Virtual Meeting
17 September



Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nation

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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:

- Ms Jane CHARD (United Kingdom, Steward)
- Mr Norman B. BARR (USA)
- Ms Geraldine ANTHOINE (France)
- Mr Delano JAMES (Canada)
- Mr Robert TAYLOR (New Zealand)
- Mr Johannes de GRUYTER (Netherlands)
- Ms Adriana G. MOREIRA (IPPC Secretariat)
- Mr Martin FARREN (IPPC Secretariat)
- Mr Paul HOWARD (IPPC Secretariat)

[2] The full list of TPDP members and their contact details can be found on the International Phytosanitary Portal (IPP)¹

[3] The Secretariat reminded the participants of the use of the Adobe Connect tool.

[4] The Secretariat introduced the agenda and it was adopted as presented in Appendix 1 of this report.

Election of rapporteur

[5] Mr Norman BARR was elected as the rapporteur.

2. Follow up from TPDP June meeting 2015

Quality Assurance issues

[6] The TPDP member, Mr BARR, introduced the paper² and mentioned that the last update was made at the TPDP June 2015 meeting³. Due to time constraints, the panel agreed that comments and suggestions should be sent to Mr BARR by the 21 October as a deadline to allow for a more thorough discussion at the next virtual meeting, tentatively scheduled for 4 November 2015. The secretariat encouraged members to provide feedback.

Best practices for sequencing

[8] The TPDP member, Mr BARR, introduced the paper⁴ and mentioned that various changes were made to this document considering the comments from the TPDP in its June 2015 meeting. The TPDP agreed that more time was needed in order to allow for a more detailed study of the paper. The TPDP suggested requesting a document that the European and Mediterranean Plant Protection Organization (EPPO) is developing on this theme to add as a reference. The panel stressed once again that this theme is very important and may have several implications for the development of diagnostic protocols. The TPDP welcomed comments and suggestions to be sent to Mr BARR by 30 May 2016 and agreed that this document would be on the agenda for the next face to face meeting for a more thorough discussion.

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

² 03_TPDP_2015_Sep

³ TPDP June 2015 meeting report: <https://www.ippc.int/en/publications/81330/>

⁴ 04_TPDP_2015_Sep

3. Review of experts associated with the TPDP work programme

Anoplophora spp. (2004-020)

- [9] The Secretariat pointed out that the panel agreed in its June 2015 meeting on the need to “hand-pick” some experts to be part of DP drafting group for *Anoplophora* spp. (2004-020) and if any author was identified by panel members this would be reported back on the next virtual meeting.
- [10] The TPDP informed the Secretariat that, up to now, no other authors were identified to be part of the DP drafting group and highlighted the difficulty of finding suitable authors with an expertise in this field. Once again, the panel highlighted the importance of this pest and the development of a diagnostic protocol. The Secretariat mentioned that contact was made with some Standards Committee (SC) members to obtain information on the DP drafting group. It was noted that up to now only one author confirmed his willingness to continue on the DP drafting group. It was pointed out that this subject will be discussed again at the next SC meeting.

4. Update on DPs status

Reports on individual DPs status by discipline leads (scope and status of protocols)

- [11] The Secretariat introduced the document⁵ which summarizes the list of draft DPs that are under the TPDP work programme and their development status. Each discipline lead provided updates on development of individual draft DPs. It was noted that four draft DPs are tentatively planned to be presented to the SC for approval for adoption by the end of 2015.
- [12] Regarding the draft DP for Tephritidae: Identification of immature stages of fruit flies of economic importance by molecular techniques (2006-028), the TPDP agreed to discuss this further in their next virtual meeting (see section 5.2 of the TPDP June 2015 meeting report).

5. Updates

Formal objection received on the draft DP for *Phytoplasma* (2004-018)

- [13] The Secretariat reminded the panel of the formal objection received on the draft DP for *Phytoplasma* (2004-018)⁶ on the last DP notification period, which closed on 15 August 2015. It was mentioned that the formal objection has been forwarded to the discipline lead and the DP drafting group for their first consideration and then it will be forwarded to the panel via e-decision.
- [14] The steward provided an overview of the formal objection pointing out that this subject on “controls for molecular tests” was raised in other occasions, such as the expert consultation and the member consultation period. One TPDP member noted that similar comments were received for other draft DPs.
- [15] The panel acknowledged that this point on negative extraction control in which can be a buffer or nucleic acid extracted from uninfected host tissue is a horizontal issue across draft DPs and agreed to work virtually to address the formal objection received for the draft DP for *Phytoplasma*. The panel also agreed that a paper should be developed for the next face to face meeting. For this, they invited Ms ANTHOINE to develop a discussion paper.

Global Taxonomy Initiative

- [16] The TPDP member, Mr BARR, informed that contact was made with the Global Taxonomy Initiative (GTI) and discussed the mutual interest expressed by both parties in DNA barcoding. Various points were raised, such as similar constraints in budgets. It was mentioned that the GTI is eager to work and

⁵ 05_TPDP_2015_Sep

⁶ Link to formal objection received for *Phytoplasma* (2004-018): <https://www.ippc.int/en/publications/81394/>

establish links with the IPPC. It was agreed to share lists of topics for IPPC standards and Experts contributing to the GTI through the Expertise Centre for Taxonomic Identification (ETI).

- [17] The panel acknowledged the latest progress achieved with this liaison with the GTI. The panel raised concerns on validation and verification data and highlighted that this is essential and would like to see it move forward in DNA barcoding. It was pointed out that this issue has also arisen from member consultations on draft DPs.
- [18] The panel recalled that the relationship between the TPDP and the GTI was to be based on building synergies and asked Mr BARR to continue contact with the GTI.

CPM draft recommendation on the importance of pest diagnosis for comments

- [19] The Secretariat informed the participants that the draft recommendation on “The importance of pest diagnosis”⁷ is open for comments. Comments should be submitted by contracting parties official contact points via the Online Commenting System (OCS) until the 24 November 2015.

Upcoming Standards Committee (SC) meeting: November 2015

- [20] The Secretariat informed the participants that the next SC meeting will take place from the 16-20 November 2015 and that a provisional agenda is posted on the International Phytosanitary Portal (IPP) calendar⁸.

CPM Bureau June 2015 (Organisation of CPM-11 2016)

- [21] The Secretariat informed the participants that the Commission on Phytosanitary Measures (CPM) Bureau in its June 2015 meeting⁹ agreed that “surveillance” should be the overarching theme for CPM-11 (2016) side events. One side event would be “diagnostic protocols and surveillance”. Additionally, the Bureau asked that the Secretariat demonstrate its work programme on diagnostic protocols in plenary. The CPM-11 is tentatively schedule for 04 – 14 April 2014 in FAO headquarters in Rome, Italy.
- [22] The Steward expressed her appreciation to the work being developed by the TPDP and the DP drafting groups. She mentioned that this is an acknowledgement by the IPPC contracting parties to the work being done.

6. Other business

- [23] No other business was discussed.

7. Closing of the meeting

- [24] Gratitude was expressed to all DP drafting groups, discipline leads and referees for their commendable work and roles on the development of the recent adopted DPs: DP 8- *Ditylenchus destructor* and *Ditylenchus dipsaci*¹⁰ and DP 9 - Genus *Anastrepha* Schiner¹¹. The Secretariat thanked the panel members for their work and closed the meeting.

⁷ IPPC news item: <https://www.ippc.int/en/news/comments-on-proposed-draft-cpm-recommendation-on-the-importance-of-pest-diagnosis-for-comments-to-be-submitted-through-ocs/>

⁸ <https://www.ippc.int/en/year/calendar/>

⁹ 2015-06 CPM Bureau Report: <https://www.ippc.int/en/publications/81307/>

¹⁰ <https://www.ippc.int/en/publications/81501/>

¹¹ <https://www.ippc.int/en/publications/81502/>

Appendix 01 - Agenda**2015 SEPTEMBER VIRTUAL MEETING OF THE TECHNICAL PANEL ON
DIAGNOSTIC PROTOCOLS****17 September 2015****Time: 20:00 – 22:00 Rome time (GMT+1)**

Adobe Connect

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_Sep 01_TPDP_2015_Sep	MOREIRA
2. Follow up from TPDP June meeting 2015		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Quality Assurance issues ❖ Best practices for sequencing 	03_TPDP_2015_Sep 04_TPDP_2015_Sep	BARR
3. Review of experts associated with the TPDP work programme		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ <i>Anoplophora</i> spp. (2004-020) 	-	ALL (BARR)
4. Update on DPs status		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Reports on individual DPs status by discipline leads (scope and status of protocols) 	05_TPDP_2015_Sep	ALL
5. Updates		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Formal objection received on the draft DP for <i>Phytoplasma</i> (2004-018) 	Link to formal objection received for <i>Phytoplasma</i> (20014-018)	MOREIRA / CHARD
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Global Taxonomy Initiative 	-	BARR
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ CPM draft recommendation on the importance of pest diagnosis for comments 	News item on CPM draft recommendation	MOREIRA / CHARD
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Upcoming Standards Committee (SC) meeting: November 2015 	-	MOREIRA
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ CPM Bureau June 2015 (Organisation of CPM-11 2016) 	Link to CPM Bureau report June 2015	MOREIRA / CHARD
6. Other Business	-	MOREIRA
7. Closure of the meeting	-	MOREIRA