



*REPORT*

# Technical Panel on Diagnostic Protocols March 2016

Virtual Meeting  
16 March



Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nation

The designations employed and the presentation of material in this information product do not imply the expression of any opinion whatsoever on the part of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) concerning the legal or development status of any country, territory, city or area or of its authorities, or concerning the delimitation of its frontiers or boundaries. The mention of specific companies or products of manufacturers, whether or not these have been patented, does not imply that these have been endorsed or recommended by FAO in preference to others of a similar nature that are not mentioned.

The views expressed in this information product are those of the author(s) and do not necessarily reflect the views of FAO.

**CONTENTS**

- 1. Opening of the meeting ..... 4
- Election of rapporteur ..... 4
- 2. Updates ..... 4
  - 2.1 DP 7 Technical revision of adopted DP7: *Potato spindle tuber viroid*..... 4
  - 2.2 General updates from IPPC bodies ..... 5
  - 2.3 Diagnostic Protocols status update..... 6
- 3. TPDP work programme ..... 6
  - 3.1 2016 Expert Consultation on draft diagnostic protocols ..... 6
- 4. Other Business ..... 7
- 5. Closing of the meeting..... 7
- APPENDIX 1 - Agenda..... 8

## 1. Opening of the meeting

[1] The International Plant Protection Convention (IPPC) Secretariat (hereafter referred to as the Secretariat) lead for the Technical Panel on Diagnostic Protocols (TPDP) chaired the meeting and welcomed the following participants:

1. Ms Géraldine ANTHOINE (France)
2. Ms Jane CHARD (United Kingdom, Steward)
3. Ms Juliet GOLDSMITH (Jamaica)
4. Mr Delano JAMES (Canada)
5. Mr Robert TAYLOR (New Zealand)
6. Mr Brendan RODONI (Australia)
7. Ms Adriana G. MOREIRA (IPPC Secretariat lead)
8. Mr Martin FARREN (IPPC Secretariat support)

[2] The full list of TPDP members and their contact details can be found on the International Phytosanitary Portal (IPP)<sup>1</sup>. The Secretariat noted that some members were not present at this meeting, and asked them to send their comments and decision points via email.

[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] Ms Juliet GOLDSMITH was elected as the rapporteur.

## 2. Updates

### 2.1 DP 07 Technical revision of adopted DP7: *Potato spindle tuber viroid*

[6] The TPDP Steward informed the TPDP that the lead author<sup>2</sup> of the diagnostic protocol (DP) for *Potato spindle tuber viroid*<sup>3</sup> contacted the Secretariat enquiring about the possibility of a technical revision for this DP. The panel was informed that a scientist contacted the lead author with regards to a discrepancy in the sequence of the internal primer COX F. This discrepancy was on a three base pair sequence according to the referenced literature, Weller et al. 2000<sup>4</sup>. However, it was acknowledged by the scientist that both sequences do work, but the results using the sequence as described by Weller et al. 2000 is more efficient and it also matches the COX sequences in GenBank. The discrepancy was as follows (in bold and underlined):

- IPPC DP 07: COX-F: 5'-CGT **GCG** ATT CCA GAT TAT CCA-3'
- Weller *et al.* 2000: COX-F: 5'-CGT **CGC** ATT CCA GAT TAT CCA-3'

---

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

<sup>2</sup> IPPC Diagnostic Protocols (DPs) drafting groups: <https://www.ippc.int/en/publications/2582/>

<sup>3</sup> DP 07: Potato spindle tuber viroid: <https://www.ippc.int/en/publications/8073/>

<sup>4</sup> Weller, S.A., Elphinstone, J.G., Smith, N.C., Boonham, N. & Stead, D.E. 2000. Detection of *Ralstonia solanacearum* strains with a quantitative multiplex, real-time, fluorogenic PCR (TaqMan) assay. *Applied and Environmental Microbiology*, 66: 2853–2858. (<http://aem.asm.org/content/66/7/2853.full.pdf+html>)

- [7] The TPDP agreed that this minor revision meet the criteria established by hat the Standards Committee (SC) in May 2013<sup>5</sup> and agreed to invite the SC to approve this technical revision. It was suggested that an erratum should also be issued following procedures from other scientific publications.
- [8] It was pointed out that this error was discovered during the use of a DP and showed that contracting parties are implementing IPPC DPs.
- [9] The TPDP:
- (1) *invited* the SC to make a technical revision to the adopted DP 07: *Potato spindle tuber viroid*, based on “editorials” to adjust the sequence of the internal control primer COX-F from “5′-CGT **GCG** ATT CCA GAT TAT CCA-3′” to “5′-CGT **CGC** ATT CCA GAT TAT CCA-3′”, in accordance with the literature referenced Weller *et al.* 2000.
  - (2) *invited* the Secretariat to present this request to the SC with the suggestion to add a “erratum” to explain the reason for the revision and to point out that both sequences of the internal control primer COX-F work, however better results may be achieved with the adjusted sequence.

## 2.2 General updates

- [10] The Secretariat informed the participants on the following:
- [11] **CPM-11** (04 – 08 April 2016). Members were informed that CPM papers are available at <https://www.ippc.int/en/core-activities/governance/cpm/>. The CPM is invited to note the following adopted DPs:
- DP 08: *Ditylenchus dipsaci* and *Ditylenchus destructor* (2004-017)
  - DP 09: Genus *Anastrepha* Schiner (2004-015)
  - DP 10: *Bursaphelenchus xylophilus* (2004-016)
  - DP 11: *Xiphinema americanum sensu lato* (2004-015)
  - DP 12: Phytoplasmas (2004-018)
1. It was also informed that there will be two side sessions at the CPM of particular interest to the TPDP: Emerging issues in plant health: *Xylella fastidiosa* in the Euro-Mediterranean area: state of the art in Italy and innovations for early surveillance and detection
  2. Diagnostic protocols and surveillance: European Food Safety Authority (EFSA) funded cooperation project “PERSEUS” and experiences on how diagnostic protocols are used for surveillance will be detailed for Chile and Latvia during this side session
- [12] **SC May 2016 meeting** (09 – 13 May 2016). A progress report will be presented to the SC of the activities carried out by the TPDP since the May meeting of SC in 2015. The Secretariat and the Steward thanked all members for their hard work and commitment.
- [13] **IPPC International Workshop on *Xylella fastidiosa* and the Olive Quick Decline Syndrome** (19-22 April 2016, Bari, Italy). Members were informed that this international workshop intends to provide the most recent up to date information on this topic and to demonstrate in the field and in the laboratory innovative and efficient diagnostics, control methods and surveillance. It was mentioned that has been an enormous interest in this event with only sixty places available. Noting that *X. fastidiosa* is under the TPDP work programme and is foreseen to be submitted to the Expert Consultation period soon, TPDP members urged the direct involvement of at least one of the members of the panel, i.e. discipline lead, to participate in this workshop, as any information obtained could prove to be useful when developing

---

<sup>5</sup> IPPC Standard Setting Procedure Manual: <https://www.ippc.int/en/core-activities/ippc-standard-setting-procedure-manual/>

the IPPC protocol for this pest. It was pointed out that this would be an excellent opportunity to showcase the TPDP work programme.

- [14] **EPPO draft standard on DNA barcoding.** The Secretariat informed the panel that the European and Mediterranean Plant Protection Organization (EPPO) draft standard on “DNA barcoding as identification tool for selected regulated pests” is currently under EPPO country consultation. This may be used as reference material for the panel to consider in future discussions.

### 2.3 Diagnostic Protocols status update

- [15] Panel members were informed<sup>6</sup> of the current five TPDP e-decisions in progress four of which are scheduled to be submitted to the SC for approval for adoption, i.e. the DP notification period. the fifth draft DP is scheduled to be approved for the SC member consultation. The drafts include:

- ❖ For approval to submit to the SC for member consultation:
  - *Candidatus Liberibacter solanacearum* (2013-001)
- ❖ For approval to submit to the SC for adoption:
  - *Erwinia amylovora* (2004-009)
  - *Tomato spotted wilt virus* (TSWV), *Impatiens necrotic spot virus* (INSV) and *Watermelon silver mottle virus* (WSMoV) (2004-019)
  - *Aphelenchoides besseyi*, *A. ritzemabosi* and *A. fragariae* (2006-025)
  - *Xanthomonas fragariae* (2004-012)

- [16] The Secretariat expressed gratitude to the experts and acknowledged the sheer volume of DPs in the work plan of the TPDP. Currently, there are over six DPs under evaluation for approval for the notification period as well three DPs for member consultation. The Secretariat also explained that the standard setting procedure will be discussed at CPM-11 (2016) and if the current version is adopted, the length of the consultation step may be shortened to 90 days.

- [17] The panel provided an update on the nine DPs under development. Approximately four draft DPs are foreseen to be discussed at the TPDP face to face meeting.

## 3. TPDP work programme

### 3.1 2016 Expert Consultation on draft diagnostic protocols

- [18] The draft DP for “*Liberibacter* spp. / *Liberobacter* spp on *Citrus* spp. (2004-010)” is expected to be submitted to the Expert Consultation period soon. In order to reflect the current and correct taxonomy, TPDP members agreed to change the name of this DP from “*Liberibacter* spp. / *Liberobacter* spp on *Citrus* spp. (2004-010)” to “*Candidatus Liberibacter* spp. on *Citrus* spp. (2004-010)” and asked the SC to take note of this change. The Secretariat informed the panel that the list of topics will be updated accordingly.<sup>7</sup>

- [19] The TPDP:

- (3) invited the SC to note that the name of the draft DP “*Liberibacter* spp. / *Liberobacter* spp on *Citrus* spp. (2004-010)” was changed to “*Candidatus Liberibacter* spp. on *Citrus* spp. (2004-010)” to reflect the current taxonomy.

### 3.2 Next TPDP face to face meeting (11 – 15 July 2016)

- [20] Members were informed that the next TPDP face to face meeting is confirmed to be held from 11 to 15 July 2016 in Jamaica. Panel members were kindly reminded that Expert Consultation will close on the 20 May leading to a narrow time frame to revise the draft DPs for the face to face meeting. The

<sup>6</sup> <https://www.ippc.int/en/work-area-publications/82236/>

<sup>7</sup> <http://www.bacterio.net/-candidatus.html>

Secretariat asked the members to inform the respective DP drafting groups of this time frame. It was recalled that there are several discussion papers that were assigned at the last face to face meeting in Shanghai<sup>8</sup>. Members were kindly asked to take note of this. The draft agenda and the invitation letters shall be completed soon.

#### **4. Other Business**

- [21] Members were asked to provide feedback to the Secretariat on whether or not they had received their Christmas cards and certificates of recognition for services rendered on adopted DPs in 2015. All members confirmed receipt of the cards and certificates.
- [22] The Secretariat informed panel members that the Technical Panel for the Glossary of phytosanitary terms (TPG) in its December 2015 meeting<sup>9</sup> discussed some draft DPs, as part of their work outlined in the specification TP 5, and general points were made on the use of terms for consistency. One of these points was regarding “Test, method or assay”. It was noted that a TPDP discussion paper on these terms would be presented to the next TPDP face to face meeting. The panel was also informed that the TPG had concluded that DPs are very technical and as a result encounter difficulties in providing sufficient guidance on the terminology and consistency issues in their last meeting, consequently they will ask the SC to consider allowing the TPDP Steward to review the use of terms used in DPs. The TPDP Steward may also liaise with the TPG via the Secretariat for any issues that may arise.

#### **5. Closing of the meeting**

- [23] The Secretariat thanked the panel members for their work and participation in the meeting and the panel members extended their thanks to the Secretariat for liaising with the TPDP and keeping them duly informed on all the procedures and updates from the IPPC community. The Secretariat closed the meeting.

---

<sup>8</sup> <https://www.ippc.int/en/publications/81330/>

<sup>9</sup> 2015-12 TPG Meeting Report: <https://www.ippc.int/en/publications/82218/>

**APPENDIX 1 - Agenda****2016 MARCH VIRTUAL MEETING OF THE TECHNICAL PANEL ON  
DIAGNOSTIC PROTOCOLS (TPDP)****16 March 2016****Time: 20:00 – 22:00 (GMT+1)**

Adobe Connect

**AGENDA**

<b>AGENDA ITEM</b>	<b>DOCUMENT NO.</b>	<b>PRESENTER</b>
<b>1. Opening of the meeting</b>		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Welcome by the IPPC Secretariat and introductions</li> <li>• Adoption of the agenda and election of rapporteur</li> </ul>	<a href="#">Link to the membership list</a>  01_TPDP_2016_Mar	MOREIRA / ALL
<b>2. Updates</b>		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>❖ Technical revision of adopted DP: DP 07: <i>Potato spindle tuber viroid</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ COX-F primer</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<a href="#">Link to DP 07: PSTVd</a>	CHARD / MOREIRA
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>❖ General updates</li> </ul>	-	MOREIRA / CHARD
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>❖ Diagnostic protocols status update</li> </ul>	02_TPDP_2016_Mar	FARREN / ALL
<b>3. TPDP work programme</b>		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>❖ 2016 Expert Consultation on draft diagnostic protocols             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ <i>Liberibacter</i> spp. / <i>Liberobacter</i> spp. on <i>Citrus</i> spp. (2004-010)</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	-	MOREIRA / ALL
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>❖ Next face to face meeting</li> </ul>	-	MOREIRA / CHARD
<b>4. Other Business</b>	-	MOREIRA
<b>5. Closing of the meeting</b>	-	MOREIRA