

CORRIGENDUM 30-July 2009: Under paragraph 2 *Proposed for deletion*, second line, replace the words **and sterile insects** by (ISPM No. 3, 2005)

AMENDMENTS TO ISPM No. 5 (GLOSSARY OF PHYTOSANITARY TERMS)

Members are asked to consider the following proposal made by the Standards Committee following recommendations by the Technical Panel for the Glossary (TPG) in relation to the deletion of the terms and definition of “beneficial organism” from ISPM No. 5 (*Glossary of phytosanitary terms*). A brief explanation is given for this proposal. It is suggested that comments should relate to this change.

1. DELETION OF OLD TERM AND DEFINITION: BENEFICIAL ORGANISM

Background

The consideration of this term began in 2005 when the Glossary Working Group (GWG) was asked by ICPM- 7 to look at the terms and definitions in the revised version of ISPM 3 (see ICPM-7, 2005, para 79.2) taking into account comments made at ICPM- 7. At the 2005 meeting the GWG suggested that “sterile insects” be added to the definition of “biological control” and that the existing definitions of “beneficial organism” and “biological control agent” be retained (see report of GWG, 2005 para 5.6).

During the period between 2005 and 2007, exchanges between the SC and TPG included suggestions of deleting reference to “biological control agents”, “sterile insects”, or both from the definition. If both references were deleted, the definition would not be needed as the definition would be in the general meaning of “beneficial organism”. However, if reference to “sterile insects” was deleted, there would be no change to the existing definition, and this would fail to take account of the intent for ISPM No. 3 to cover sterile insects within the term for beneficial organism.

At the 2006 TPG meeting, discussions of the revision of the definition of “biological control” following CPM-1 (2006) led to the deletion of the term from the Glossary at CPM-2 (2007) and the revision of the definition of “beneficial organisms” to cover sterile insects. This was reiterated at the SC meeting in May 2007.

In its meeting in 2008, CPM-3 requested the Technical Panel for the Glossary to consider further the definition for *beneficial organism* and whether the term should be maintained in the Glossary of Phytosanitary Terms. However, discussions at CPM-3 (2008) indicated that there was still concern over the definition of *beneficial organism* and even the need for the term to be included in the Glossary.

At the TPG meeting in Copenhagen, Denmark in October 2008, there was further discussion of the term “beneficial organism”. The TPG investigated the use of the term in the Convention and found that the text of the IPPC (Article VII 1.d), where it mentions the organisms “of phytosanitary concern claimed to be beneficial”, confusing. The French version of the convention refers to the organisms of phytosanitary importance and the Spanish version refers to organisms of interest.

In the SC meeting of November 2008, the TPG proposed that the term “beneficial organism” be withdrawn from the Glossary. The SC agreed to have a document prepared by the TPG, for review by the SC in May 2009, proposing the deletion of the term and definition of “beneficial organism” from the Glossary. In summary, it is proposed that the term *beneficial organism* and its definition be removed from the Glossary.

[PARAGRAPH 1] AMENDMENTS TO ISPM No. 5 (GLOSSARY OF PHYTOSANITARY TERMS)

[2] Proposed for deletion

beneficial organism	Any organism directly or indirectly advantageous to plants or plant
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	products, including biological control agents (ISPM No. 3, 2005)
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