AMENDMENTS TO ISPM No. 5 (GLOSSARY OF PHYTOSANTIARY TERMS) 2008-2009

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Terms and definitions for 2008-2009

- New terms and definitions
  - incidence (of a pest)
  - tolerance level (of a pest)
  - phytosanitary security (of a consignment)
  - corrective action plan (in an area)

- Revised terms and definitions
  - compliance procedure (for a consignment)
  - intended use
  - reference specimen

Incidence (1)

- The term *incidence* is used to replace *prevalence*

- *prevalence* was withdrawn because:
  - *prevalence* by itself is rarely used in ISPMs, it is used in the context of "area of low pest prevalence"
  - *prevalence* and *incidence* are sometimes used interchangeably but prevalence is applied more to epidemiology and is used more in the areas of human or animal health
  - *incidence* is more appropriate for plant protection – it can be used in relation to sampling and inspection in the field and in consignments. *Prevalence* is usually linked to field situations
  - *incidence* is not linked to a particular moment of time
  - the definition was redrafted several times – but still not found to be satisfactory

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Incidence (2)

Incidence (of a pest)   Proportion or number of units in a sample, consignment, field or other defined population that is affected by a pest

- The "proportion of units" is the most common way of expressing incidence. But to allow other ways the "number of units in a sample…" is added (eg 5 plants in a one hectare field)

- Population is used in a statistical sense. "other defined population" is used to cover other cases than those mentioned in the definition.

Tolerance level

The definition for this term has been redrafted several times over a number of years. The use of the word *prevalence* in the definition has been a problem.

tolerance level (of a pest)   Incidence of a pest that is a threshold for action to control a pest or to prevent its spread or introduction

- this definition applies to pests – this is reflected in the term itself (*of a pest*)
- the term has a wide application – so to keep this broad application the definition uses *pest* (and not *regulated pests*) and *action* (not *phytosanitary action,* which would limit it to regulated pests)
- with the link to "incidence" the definition is applicable to field situation and consignments

Phytosanitary security (of a consignment)

CPM 2 decided that the term and definition should be reconsidered in regard to the relationship with regulated pests and transit. The proposed definition is:

phytosanitary security (of a consignment)

Maintenance of the integrity of a consignment and prevention of its infestation and contamination by regulated pests, through the application of appropriate phytosanitary measures

- the definition is now linked to regulated pests
- as the definition applies to all situations (including transit, shipping etc) there is no need to mention transit or any other situation

Corrective action plan (in an area)

The TPG was asked to consider if a definition was needed. The TPG thought one would be useful…

The definition was proposed to clarify the situation with *emergency action plan* which refers to the finding of pests in consignments. Corrective action refers to maintaining the pest status in an area

corrective action plan (in an area)   Documented plan of phytosanitary action to be implemented if a pest is detected or a specified pest level is exceeded in an area officially delimited for phytosanitary purposes

- the definition applies to areas and this is reflected in the term (*in an area*)
- corrective action plans are linked to "an area officially delimited for phytosanitary purposes" This wording is used in the definition of *buffer zone* and covers pest free area, areas of low pest prevalence, pest free places of production, and pest free production sites
- the definition refers to the detection of a pest or exceeding a specified pest level
- a corrective action plan needs to agreed to by the importing country … and it has to be documented.

Compliance procedure (for a consignment)

- Compliance can refer to adherence to the provisions of a treaty or, in ISPMs, it can refer to the following of phytosanitary import requirements. The latter meaning applies here.

- This definition does not refer to national requirements within a country as these are not relevant to the IPPC

- The definition recognises that compliance procedures apply to imported consignments and consignments in transit

compliance procedure (for a consignment)

Official procedure used to verify that a consignment complies with phytosanitary import requirements or phytosanitary measures related to transit

Intended use

intended use   Declared purpose for which plants, plant products or other articles are imported, produced or used

This definition takes into account that intended use, when considered during a commodity-based PRA, does not necessarily refer to regulated articles (because the PRA sets out to determine if the commodity should be regulated).

It also includes "other articles"

Reference specimen

This definition was originally part of the revised ISOM No. 3. It was revised by the TPG, but comments led to the TPG proposing that there the definition referring to reference specimens relating to biological control agents be deleted or be widened to cover other uses. CPM 2 requested a definition for the wider usage of the term.

reference specimen   Specimen (which may be a culture) from a population of a specific organism conserved in an accessible collection, for the purpose of identification, verification or comparison

This definition refers to only reference specimens and not types specimens or evidence specimens.

It adequately covers the use of the term in ISPM No. 3

A previous definition mentioned "publicly available". This will not be the case for all collections of reference specimens. This definition refers to accessibility to those people that need access.