



UPDATE ON ACTIVITIES OF THE TECHNICAL PANEL ON DIAGNOSTIC PROTOCOLS (TPDP) FROM MAY 2018 TO APRIL 2019

(Prepared by the IPPC Secretariat with input from the TPDP Steward)

1. Background

[1] The Stewards for the Technical Panel on Diagnostic Protocols (TPDP) are:

- Ms Janyani Nimanthika WATHUKARAGE (Steward)
- Mr Álvaro SEPULVEDA LUQUE (Assistant Steward)

[2] The IPPC Secretariat support for the TPDP are:

- Ms Adriana G. MOREIRA (lead)
- Ms Sandra GORITSCHNIG (support)

[3] The TPDP membership and contact information can be found on [IPP](#)¹. Table 1 shows a simplified version of the TPDP membership as of April 2019.

Table 1. TPDP membership (as of April 2019) and expertise of its members.

Participant role	Name (country)	Expertise	Term expires
Steward	Ms Janyani Nimanthika WATHUKARAGE (Sri Lanka)		
Assistant steward	Mr Álvaro SEPULVEDA LUQUE (Chile)		
Member	Mr Robert TAYLOR (New Zealand)	Bacteriology (and backup for mycology)	May 2021 (2 nd term)
Member	Ms Liping YIN (China)	Botany	April 2018 (2 nd term)
Member	Mr Norman B. BARR (United States)	Entomology	July 2022 (2 nd term)
Member	Ms Juliet GOLDSMITH (Jamaica /CAHFSA)	Entomology	November 2019 (1 st term)
Member	Ms Géraldine ANTHOINE (France)	Nematology	April 2019 (2 nd term)
Member	Mr Brendan RODONI (Australia)	Virology (and back up for bacteriology)	July 2022 (2 nd term)

[4] It is noted that the terms of Ms Géraldine ANTHOINE (Nematology) and Ms Juliet GOLDSMITH (Entomology) are ending in 2019. Both experts have expressed their willingness to continue as members of the TPDP and submitted statements of commitments to the Secretariat. It is proposed to extend their term for a further five years period, due to their valuable contributions to the panel. (Decision point 1).

[5] It is further noted that Mr Delano JAMES (Virology) has resigned from the TPDP as of April 2019. (Decision point 2). Considering the outcome of the Call for Topics: Standards and Implementation and the addition of Mycology topics to the List of Topics for IPPC Standards, the Standards Committee (SC) may consider asking the Secretariat to issue a call for experts in Mycology and Virology. (Decision point 3).

¹ TPDP main page on IPP: <https://www.ippc.int/en/core-activities/standards-setting/expert-drafting-groups/technical-panels/technical-panel-diagnostic-protocols/>

- [6] According to the TPDP approved Specification TP1², the expertise of the TPDP should be:

Expertise

Members of this panel should primarily have diagnostic expertise (where appropriate taxonomic) with at least one member representing each discipline: entomology, acarology, nematology, mycology, bacteriology, virology (including viroids and phytoplasma) and botany. Between them, participants should have practical expertise in the use of morphological and molecular/biochemical diagnostic techniques, in quality assurance and in phytosanitary procedures.

2. TPDP volume of work

- [7] The TPDP work programme currently comprises 12 diagnostic protocols (DPs) under six disciplines in various stages of development (Figure 1). Seven of these subjects have been submitted during the 2018 Call for Topics and included based on recommendations by the Task Force on Topics (TFT) and the SC November 2018 meeting. Of these, two have already been assessed for technical feasibility by the TPDP, while the remaining five should be evaluated by the TPDP as per recommendation of the TFT before inviting a drafting group. The draft DP “Tephritidae: Identification of immature stages of fruit flies of economic importance by molecular techniques (2006-028)” continues in “pending status”, due to a lack of validated and verified data on molecular methods for identification of fruit fly larvae of all genera³.
- [8] A total of seven draft DPs progressed in the standard setting process in 2018. In 2019, twelve of the 13 draft DPs that are currently on the TPDP work programme are projected to advance through the standard setting process (Figure 2 and TPDP work plan in Figure 4). The timeline of adopted DPs shows the high number of DPs adopted in the recent years, representing the management of over 100 DP authors (Figure 3). To date, there are 29 adopted DPs, published as annexes to ISPM 27 (*Diagnostic protocols for regulated pests*).
- [9] The TPDP work programme is delivered through several activities. Since May 2018, the activities were as follows:
- one expert consultation⁴ (28 November 2018 – 11 January 2019): one draft DP
 - two DP notification periods⁵ (01 July – 15 August 2018): six draft DPs; (05 January – 20 February 2019): one draft DP
 - three TPDP e-decisions on two draft DPs.

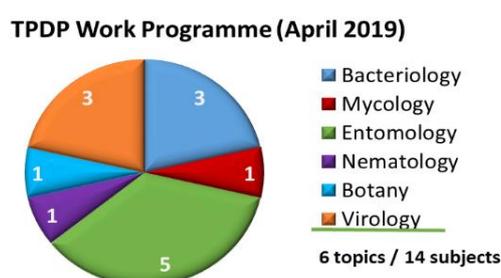


Figure 1. Number of diagnostic protocols per discipline currently in the TPDP work programme.

² TPDP approved Specification 1: <https://www.ippc.int/en/publications/1297/>

³ List of topics for IPPC standards: <https://www.ippc.int/en/core-activities/standards-setting/list-topics-ippc-standards/>

⁴ Expert consultation on draft DPs: <https://www.ippc.int/en/core-activities/expert-consultation-draft-diagnostic-protocols/>

⁵ DP notification period: <https://www.ippc.int/en/core-activities/standards-setting/draft-ispms/notification-period-dps/>

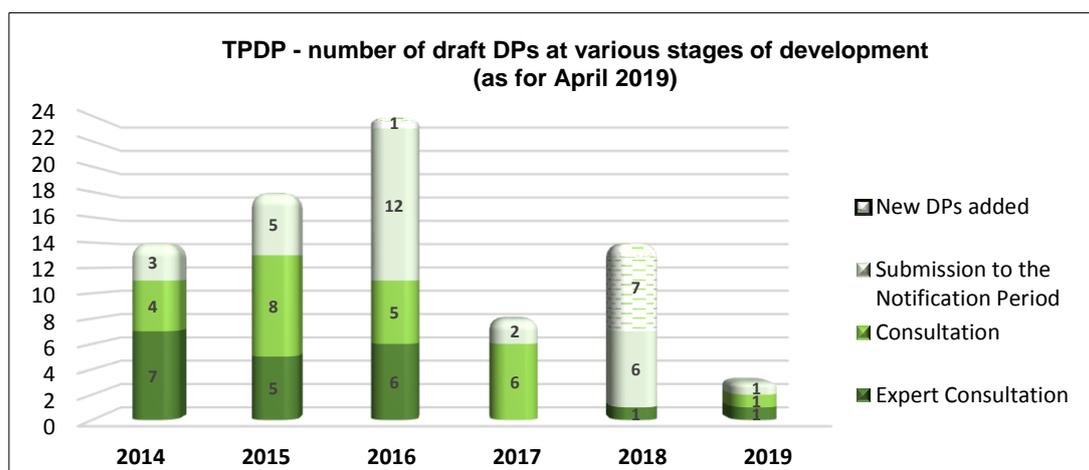


Figure 2. Stages of development of draft diagnostic protocols (annexes to ISPM 27). As for 2018 and 2019, these are tentative numbers.

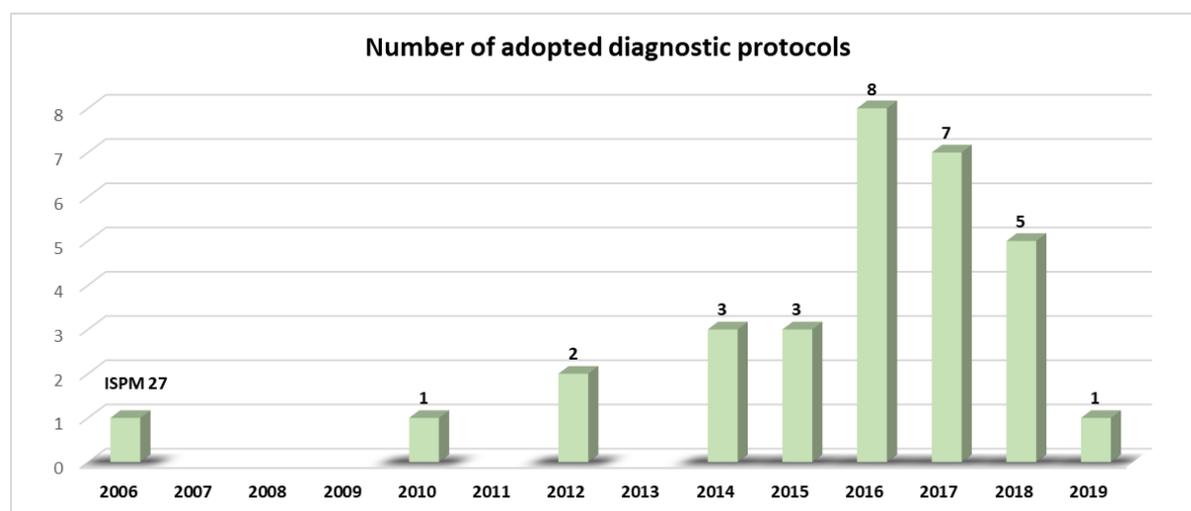


Figure 3. Number of adopted diagnostic protocols (Annexes to ISPM 27) per year. As of February 2019, 29 DPs have been adopted.

3. Highlights of the work

- [10] The TPDP continued to deliver its work programme during the May 2018 to April 2019 period, managing more than 40 DP authors from various countries⁶. In this period, a total of six DPs were adopted as annexes to ISPM 27, and one draft DP was moved through the expert consultation stage. Detailed information on the draft DPs submitted to the various steps of the standard setting process can be found in the Commission on Phytosanitary Measures (CPM-14) document CPM 2018/11 (*Report on the activities of the Standards Committee*)⁷.

⁶ IPPC Diagnostic Protocols (DPs) drafting groups: <https://www.ippc.int/en/publications/2582/>

⁷ CPM 2018/11: Report of the activities of the Standards Committee: <https://www.ippc.int/en/publications/86907/>

- [11] During the July-August 2018 notification period, the IPPC Secretariat received an objection⁸ to the draft DP: *Bactrocera dorsalis* complex (2006-026). As outlined in the Standard Setting Procedure, the TPDP discussed the objection and proposed a solution. The SC approved the TPDP responses to the objection and approved the revised and renamed draft DP for *Bactrocera dorsalis* (2006-026) for adoption. The revised draft DP was submitted to the DP notification period from 5 January to 20 February, and as it did not receive an objection, it has been officially adopted as DP 29.
- [12] The TPDP did not meet face to face nor had virtual meetings during the reporting period. The IPPC Secretariat provided several updates to the panel.
- [13] It is to recall that the TPDP had identified in 2017 the need to develop international diagnostic protocols for some important pests (using the approved TPDP criteria for topics):
- *Pyricularia oryzae* (*syn. Magnaporthe oryzae*) on *Triticum* spp.
 - *Microcyclus ulei*
 - *Puccinia graminis f.sp. tritici* UG 99
 - *Moniliophthora roreri*
 - *Amaranthus palmeri*
 - *Solanum rostratum*.

4. Tentative work plan for the period May 2019 – April 2020

- [14] The next face to face meeting will convene on 05-09 August 2019 in Melbourne, Australia. The tentative agenda covers an in-depth discussion of three to four draft DPs, the new DP topics submitted during the 2018 Call for Topics, discussions on the future activities of the TPDP and any other points identified by the SC. The TPDP may discuss again, if agreed by the SC, on how to assess the usefulness and implementation of adopted DPs, as coming from CPM-14. (Decision point 4).
- [15] The TPDP tentative work plan for 2019-2021 is summarized in Figure 4. (Decision point 5).
- [16] The TPDP will continue to work on the draft DPs on its work programme, none of which is currently expected to be finalized and adopted in 2019. However, it is expected that most of them will be progressing through the standard setting process as planned. One draft DP (*Striga* spp.; 2008-009) is tentatively planned to be submitted to consultation in July 2019, pending SC's approval via e-decision. One expert consultation is tentatively planned to take place in the 4th quarter of 2019 for two draft diagnostic protocols.
- [17] In addition, drafting groups for the new subjects in the work programme will be selected and begin their work on drafting the DPs if technically feasible.

⁸ Objection to DPs: <http://www.ippc.int/en/core-activities/standards-setting/notification-period-dps/objection-to-adoption-of-dps/>

Draft DP	2019				2020				2021			
	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4
1 <i>Bactrocera dorsalis</i> (2006-026)	■											
Begomoviruses transmitted by <i>Bemisia tabaci</i> (2006-023)	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■			■	
3 <i>Striga</i> spp. (2008-009)	■	■	■	■			■					
4 <i>Candidatus Liberibacter</i> spp. on <i>Citrus</i> spp. (2004-010)	■	■	■	■			■				■	
5 Genus <i>Ceratitis</i> (2016-001)	■	■	■	■			■				■	
6 <i>Mononychelus tanajoa</i> (2018-006)		■	■	■		■			■	■	■	■
7 <i>Citrus leprosis</i> viruses (2018-025)		■	■	■		■			■	■	■	■
8 Psyllid vectors of <i>Candidatus Liberibacter solanacearum</i> (2018-030)		■	■	■		■		■	■	■	■	■
9 Pospiviroid species (except <i>Potato spindle tuber viroid</i> (DP 7)) (2018-031)		■	■	■		■		■	■	■	■	■
10 <i>Acidovorax avenae</i> subsp. <i>Citrulli</i> (2018-032)		■	■	■		■		■	■	■	■	■
11 <i>Meloidogyne mali</i> (2018-019)		■	■	■		■		■	■	■	■	■
12 <i>Cronartium comandrae</i> Peck (2018-015)		■	■	■		■		■	■	■	■	■

Legend:

■	TPDP evaluation
■	establishment of drafting group
■	DP with drafting group
■	expert consultation
■	first consultation
■	notification period

Figure 4: Tentative work plan of the TPDP for the years 2019-2021 with important stages in the drafting process of the current draft DPs in the work programme highlighted. This work plan is based on the current list of topics and may be adjusted as necessary. Subject “Tephritidae: Identification of immature stages of fruit flies of economic importance by molecular techniques (2006-028)” is not included as it is currently pending.

5. Recommendations to the SC

[18] The SC is invited to:

- (1) *renew* the memberships of Ms Géraldine ANTHOINE (Nematology) and Ms Juliet GOLDSMITH (Entomology) for another 5-year term.
- (2) *acknowledge* the contribution of Mr Delano JAMES who left the TPDP in 2019 and *thank* him for his services rendered to the panel.
- (3) *consider* asking the Secretariat to open a call for experts in Mycology and Virology in response to the inclusion of relevant DPs during the Call for Topics: Standards and Implementation.
- (4) *consider* asking the TPDP to discuss how to assess the usefulness and implementation of adopted DPs.
- (5) *note* the TPDP tentative work plan for 2019 (summarized in Figure 4).