

Reduce the incidence of contaminating pests associated with regulated articles and unregulated goods to protect plant health and facilitate trade (2019-002)

Status box

This is not an official part of the CPM Recommendation and it will be modified by the IPPC Secretariat after adoption.	
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Current document stage	To CPM-15 for approval for consultation period
Major stages	<p>2019-03 Topic proposed to the IPPC work programme for a CPM Recommendation by Australia and supported by New Zealand</p> <p>2019-04 CPM-14 added the topic "Facilitating safe trade by reducing the incidence of contaminating pests associated with traded goods" to the IPPC work programme for a CPM Recommendation</p> <p>2019-09 adjustments made following CPM-14 (call of experts made)</p> <p>2019-09 Working group proposed title change to "Reduce the incidence of contaminating pests associated with regulated articles and unregulated goods to protect plant health and facilitate trade"</p> <p>2019-10 SPG discussed the draft</p> <p>2020-01 International symposium on limiting the spread of contaminant pests organized by Australia</p> <p>2020-12 Reviewed by the CPM Bureau</p>
Notes	<p>To be edited once approved by the CPM to the consultation period.</p> <p>This is a draft document</p>

Background

Contracting parties, through the Commission on Phytosanitary Measures (CPM), have recognised pest risks associated with traded goods that are not regulated plant or plant products, as well as, conveyances, containers and pathways. Examples of this include the adoption of ISPM 41 (*International movement of used vehicles, machinery and equipment*) and actions to reduce the spread of pests on and in sea containers through the work of the Sea Container Task Force (SCTF). However, the awareness of the scope of the International Plant Protection Convention (IPPC) and the risks that pests associated with traded goods, packaging, storage places, conveyances, containers, soil and any other organism, object or material capable of harbouring or spreading plant pests pose to global plant health, remains low.

The IPPC aims to protect global plant resources and facilitate safe trade. It does this by minimising the risk of spread of plant pests and effectively managing their impacts within countries. Contracting parties are working to develop and maintain the capacity to implement harmonised measures to prevent pest introductions and spread, and minimise the impacts of pests on food security, trade, economic growth and the environment.

IPPC supports actions by contracting parties to significantly reduce the international movement of plant pests associated with plants and plant products. However, the scope of the Convention also provides for managing the contaminating pests associated with goods and places capable of harbouring or spreading contaminating pests, which pose a risk to global plant health. Contracting parties have been working to

reduce the spread of contaminating pests independently or through bilateral negotiations for a number of years.

The endorsed IPPC Strategic Framework 2020-2030 and the associated five-year investment plan approved by the CPM identify the management of contaminating pests directly and indirectly to protect global plant resources and facilitate safe trade. Some relevant 2030 key result areas identified for the three strategic objectives progressed by the Framework include:

- Pest risk prevention is integrated throughout the production, processing and trade chain of plants and plant products (Enhance global food security and increase sustainable agricultural productivity).
- Contracting parties have mechanisms in place to control the spread of environmental contaminating pests on non-plant trade pathways (e.g. invasive ants on vehicles and machinery, or gypsy moth egg masses on sea containers and vessels) (Protect the environment from the impacts of plant pests).
- NPPOs have built capacity and been supported to establish phytosanitary export assurance and phytosanitary certification systems that are robust and are trusted by trading partners, and,
- Detections of pests in trade pathways are declining as exporting countries take more responsibility for managing the pest risk associated with exports, and importing countries report detections more quickly and more consistently (Facilitate safe trade, development and economic growth).

The purpose of this CPM recommendation is to reduce the occurrence of contaminating pests specifically occurring in regulated and unregulated articles, goods and places, to protect plant health, biodiversity, food security and facilitate trade. In this recommendation, goods and places refer to traded goods, conveyances, containers, packaging, storage places, soil and any other organism, material or articles which are not associated with plants or plant products that are capable of harbouring or spreading contaminating pests that may be regulated or unregulated. Phytosanitary risks in plants and plant products should be managed on the basis of pest risk analysis (PRA) in accordance with the IPPC Article VII 2(g) and relevant International Standards for Phytosanitary Measures (ISPMs). Pest Risk Analyses rarely consider pest risks associated with the processes of moving the commodity in trade, or pathways outside of commercial trade. This recommendation provides a platform for more effectively managing contaminating pests to enhance food security and protect the world's biodiversity.

This recommendation provides a basis for further work that may be agreed for managing pests outside of the commercial trading framework for plants and plant products including passengers, mail, courier pathways and where outside the commercial trading framework. The recommendation encourages National Plant Protection Organizations (NPPOs), Regional Plant Protection Organizations (RPPOs), importing and exporting industries to work together to raise awareness of the pest risks associated with the trans-boundary movement of all goods and people, and identify and promote the adoption of good practices that minimise contaminating pest spread.

Addressed to

Contracting parties, NPPOs, RPPOs and relevant industries involved in international trade including exporters, importers and logistic operators.

Recommendation

The IPPC is the global international treaty for protecting plant resources. The Convention provides a framework to protect the world's plant resources from damage caused by pests. The three strategic objectives of the Commission on Phytosanitary Measures (CPM) are to:

1. Enhance food security and increase sustainable agricultural productivity
2. Protect the environment from the impacts of plant pests.
3. Facilitate safe trade, development and economic growth.

Recognising that the Convention provides for the management of the pests associated with regulated and unregulated goods and places capable of harbouring or spreading plant pests, in addition to those on plants and plant products.

The CPM encourages contracting parties to continue to, as appropriate, take necessary actions based on sufficient scientific evidence for the purpose of minimising the spread of contaminating pests on traded goods, conveyances, containers and other non-plant regulated articles. It encourages contracting parties to:

- a.* *raise awareness* with governments, particularly departments for trade and transport and relevant industries of the risks and impacts of quarantine pests spreading internationally as contaminating pests on regulated and unregulated goods, mail and courier packages.
- b.* *promote* the benefits of preventing traded goods, conveyances, containers, packaging and similar items that carry them or accompany them within and between countries from contamination by phytosanitary risk material such as soil, plant material and pest organisms, in terms of facilitating safer trade.
- c.* *gather* scientific information on the risks of contaminating pests moving in trade
- d.* *conduct* pest risk analyses based on scientific information to determine, as appropriate, risk-based actions in sufficient consultation with industries to reduce the risks
- e.* *record and share* information about the experiences, case studies and effective measures, implemented by contracting parties in order to prevent the spread of contaminating pests, including effective practices and pest interception data.
- f.* *agree* actions between countries to reduce exposure of regulated and unregulated goods and places to contaminating pests, with supporting legislation as necessary.
- g.* *build capacity* to detect and respond to contaminating pests and share tools and technologies to support this.
- h.* *collaborate* with importing and exporting industries and logistics operators to develop commercial practices to reduce the risk of spreading contaminating pests associated with trade.
- i.* *communicate* with relevant international organizations through IPPC, NPPO and RPPO secretariats about the risk of pest movement on regulated and unregulated goods and places, conveyances and packaging.

RECOMMENDATION(S) SUPERSEDED BY THE ABOVE

None.

This attachment is for reference purposes only and will be removed upon adoption of the CPM recommendation.

ATTACHMENT 1: Justification to draft CPM recommendation on Facilitating safe trade by reducing the incidence of contaminating pests associated with traded goods (2019-002)

Phytosanitary risks in plants and plant products should be managed on the basis of pest risk analysis (PRA). The focus of the PRA is generally on pests associated with the commercially grown and traded commodity, where measures are applied by the importing country to reduce the pest risks to an acceptable level agreed through bilateral negotiation with the exporting country. These measures may be applied prior to export or on arrival in the importing country. The PRA rarely considers pest risks associated with the processes of moving the commodity in trade, or pathways outside of commercial trade.

The International Plant Protection Convention (IPPC) clearly directs actions to prevent the international movement of pests through more than the management of phytosanitary risks on plants and plant products. Contracting parties, through the Commission on Phytosanitary Measures (CPM), have recognised this with the adoption of international standards providing guidance on, for example, the *International movement of used vehicles, machinery and equipment* (ISPM 41), or with actions to reduce the spread of pests on sea containers through the work of the Sea Container Task Force (SCTF). However, the awareness of the scope of the Convention and the risks that pests associated with storage places, packaging, conveyances, containers, soil and any other organism, object or material capable of harbouring or spreading plant pests pose to global plant health remains low. A CPM recommendation would help to raise the profile of these risks and provide a stronger focus for addressing them.

Recent experience in Australia indicates an increase in the number and type of phytosanitary and other risks associated with containers, conveyances and pathways, and with goods that are not regulated plants or plant products.

There is also ongoing exposure to plant pests in material brought in by travellers and entering through postal and courier mail services.

It is logical to assume that the same pests are moving between all countries by the same means, and that the global spread of pests, including contaminating pests, will continue. This poses a significant risk to production and natural ecosystems. The rapid inter- and trans-continental spread of the brown marmorated stink bug (BMSB), giant African land snail (GAS) and the Asian gypsy moth (AGM) highlight this risk and the significant impacts that can result from the establishment of serious pests in an area.