



COMMISSION ON PHYTOSANITARY MEASURES

Fifteenth Session

Virtual Meeting, 16, 18 March and 1 April 2021

**Written reports from international organizations - Report from the
International Pest Risk Research Group (IPRRG)**

Agenda item 15.2

Prepared by the IPRRG

English only

1. The International Pest Risk Research Group (IPRRG) consists of scientists mostly working for, or with, National Plant Protection Organizations in Government agencies or institutions. Members have expertise in plant pest risk analysis and related matters. Some of the members of IPRRG were previously in the International Advisory Group for Pest Risk Analysis (IAGPRA). IAGPRA provided expert advice and support to the CPM, its subsidiary bodies, contracting parties and the IPPC Secretariat on pest risk analysis (PRA) related issues, in particular with respect to building capacity for PRA. IAGPRA has been dissolved and IPRRG has taken on the role of IAGPRA (Agenda item 14.3 from CPM 14 refers).

2. Text describing IPRRG and its role as an external cooperating organization was developed for its IPPC webpage¹.

3. The 13th annual IPRRG meeting took place in Poznań, Poland 3-6 September 2019. There were 54 participants from 17 countries. It was a useful meeting at which NPPO staff and plant pest researchers met to share knowledge of recent pest risk analysis developments and activities. There were 3½ days of technical scientific presentations together with discussion and technical field visits. Topics included methods to enhance inspection regimes and approaches for conducting commodity risk analyses in addition to pest specific risk analyses. The challenges faced by risk analysts undertaking conventional high-intensity studies were discussed and methods are being explored to reduce the NPPO burden while

¹ IPRRG webpage under IPPC site: <https://www.ippc.int/en/external-cooperation/organizations-page-in-ipp/internationalpestriskresearchgroup/>

still providing useful information for pest management decision making and policy development, in compliance with ISPMs. The IPRRG website provides the detailed meeting agenda and abstracts to all the presentations and posters²

4. The coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) pandemic prevented the annual IPRRG meeting from taking place in 2020. Nevertheless, a series of useful telephone conference calls between members of IPRRG and the IPPC Secretariat took place during 2020. They involved the coordination and sharing of plans for PRA training online and via recorded webinars.

5. The first in a series of IPRRG webinars took place on January 27th 2021. The presentation described the IPRRG plant pest risk model database. Approximately 45 people from countries in four FAO regions (Asia and the Pacific, Europe, Latin America and the Caribbean, North America) joined the webinar live. The webinar was recorded and is available to view :

- Webcast: <https://webcast.csiro.au/#/webcasts/iprrg1>
- YouTube: <https://youtu.be/ZMPGDgcMdv0>
- You can find out more about IPRRG on its own dedicated web page³.

² 13th IPRRG meeting: <https://pestrisk.org/iprrg-2019/>

³ IPRRG website: <https://pestrisk.org>