Submissions for topics for Standards and Implementation

1. General information

Submission number	2021-010
Title of Proposal	New Annex 1 “Field inspection (including growing season inspection)” to ISPM 23 “Guidelines for inspection”
Submitted by	IPPC Contracting Party Japan

2. Contact information

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3. Summary of proposal

Summary of justification for the proposal	Field inspection (including growing season inspection) is one of the effective phytosanitary measures, which many countries have adopted as import requirements in order that exporting countries inspect field crops, seed crops, and mother plants in the fields. Some ISPMs (ISPM 10, 12, 20, 36, and 38) describe field inspection (or growing season inspection as a synonym), but do not provide any guideline focusing specifically on field inspection , which causes unharmonized and less transparent implementation of field inspections by contracting countries. In addition, there are cases where some people have understood with confusion about field inspection and specific surveillance. For example, some phytosanitary officials seem to have confused field inspection with specific surveillance when they discussed the proposed ISPM topic “field inspection” at Task Force on Topics Meeting in October 2018. Field inspection is a phytosanitary measure applied mainly during the pre-harvest period in order to detect pests that produce visible symptoms and signs on host plants and harmful plants (weeds, parasitic plants) that are grown in crop fields. In addition to adapting field inspection as a standalone measure, it may become one component of systems approach or integrated measures for some commodities and pests, i.e., an option during the pre-harvest period. On the other hand, specific surveillance, e.g., detection survey, is an official process to determine if pests are present or absent in an area. Though field inspection and specific surveillance may be conducted by similar procedures and methods, the concept and objectives of these two actions are different each other from the phytosanitary perspective. The Commission on Phytosanitary Measures approved of a plan to develop commodity- and pathway-specific standards as one of the activities under the IPPC Strategic Framework during 2020–2030. Therefore, the commodity- and pathway-specific standards may adopt field inspection as a risk management option. Field inspection is likely to be one component for systems approaches for phytosanitary certification of seeds (adopted as Specification 70 "Design and use of systems approach for phytosanitary certification of seeds" in 2020) because field inspection is often used in the seed industry to ensure international and domestic movement of healthy seeds. For appropriate interpretation and application of the field inspection among contracting parties, it is necessary to provide the concept and objectives of field inspection as Annex to ISPM 23 “Guidelines for inspection.” It will contribute to safe international trade of plants and plant products.
Expected outcome of standard /	NPPOs will be able to conduct field inspection as phytosanitary measures with adequate understanding of the concept and objectives of field inspection based on the newly established ISPM. It will contribute to safe international trade of plants and plant products. In addition, if contracting parties propose to develop the implementation materials for field

implementation resource	inspection of individual pests and commodities in the future, the ISPM can provide a common interpretation that helps in developing the materials.
Contribution to filling gaps in the Framework for Standards and Implementation	A4: Sustainable pest risk management options, such as systems approaches, are implemented widely to minimize pest impacts right through the production process and harvesting and minimize the need for end-point treatments. Field inspection is likely to be one of the components of systems approach during the pre-harvest period, especially under Annex 1” Design and use of systems approaches for phytosanitary certification of seeds (2018-009, Priority 1)” to ISPM 38 "International movement of seeds." A2: All NPPOs have strong capacities to monitor, detect, diagnose, report, and prepare rapid responses to pest outbreaks so that these pests do not have significant impacts on food supplies and they do not spread and thereby threaten other regions and trading partners. Field inspection (including growing season inspection) is one of the effective phytosanitary measures, which many countries have adopted to inspect field crops, seed crops, and mother plants. C2: 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 consistently. Field inspection is a phytosanitary measure to reduce the pest risks associated with plants for export in a field in a producing country (export country) during the growing season.

4. Type of proposed material

Proposed material	Standards
Type	New ISPM or component to an existing ISPM Annex to ISPM 23

5. Literature review

Literature review	- EPPO Standards PM 3 Phytosanitary procedures. - PM 3/29(1) General export inspection procedure for glasshouse and nursery enterprises. Bulletin OEPP/EPPO Bulletin (1990) 20, 277–282 - PM 3/77 (1) Vegetable plants for planting under protected conditions – inspection of places of production. Bulletin OEPP/EPPO Bulletin (2016) 46 (1), 40–48 - PM 3/82 (2) Inspection of places of production for Xylella fastidiosa. Bulletin OEPP/EPPO Bulletin (2020) 50 (3), 415–428 - PM 3/84 (1) Inspection of places of production for ‘Candidatus Phyto-plasma pyri’. Bulletin OEPP/EPPO Bulletin (2018) 48 (3), 323–329 - PM 3/85 (1) Inspection of places of production – Vitis plants forplanting. Bulletin OEPP/EPPO Bulletin (2018) 48 (3), 330–349 - The OECD Schemes for the varietal certification or the control of seed moving in international trade (2019).

6. Criteria for justification and prioritization of proposed topics

6.1. Core criteria

Core Criteria	Information provided by Submitter
1. Contribution to the purpose of the IPPC as described in article I.1	Field inspection is an effective inspection method through visually examining apparent signs or symptoms of pests on plants in a field during the season when the plants will actively grow. It can reduce directly or indirectly the risk of pests moving internationally with plants and plant parts (e.g., seeds, grafts, fruits) . In addition, it is likely to become a part of the components of systems approach for some commodities and pests during the pre-harvest period. This proposed Annex provides guideline on the proper concept and application of field inspection to give a common understanding among contracting parties. Therefore, it can contribute to securing common and effective action described in article I.1 to prevent the spread and introduction of pests of plants and plant products and promote appropriate measures for their control.
2. Linkage to IPPC SOs and	Strategic objective A “Enhance Global Food Security and Increase Sustainable Agricultural Productivity”

Core Criteria	Information provided by Submitter
Organizational results demonstrated	- Field inspection carried out during the pre-harvest period is likely to become a part of the components of a systems approach that is a sustainable pest risk management option during the pre-harvest period classified as the key result area A4. Especially field inspection for seed crops can be a component of systems approaches for phytosanitary certification of seeds, which is planned to develop as Annex 1 ”Design and use of systems approaches for phytosanitary certification of seeds (2018-009, Priority 1)” to the ISPM 38 "International movement of seeds." - Field inspection (including growing season inspection) is one of the effective phytosanitary measures, which many countries have adopted to inspect field crops, seed crops, and mother plants. Strategic objective C “Facilitate safe trade, development and economic growth” - Field inspection needs more responsibility for exporting countries to manage the pest risk associated with exports. Field inspection is a phytosanitary measure to reduce the pest risks associated with plants for export in a field in a production country (export country) during the appropriate growing season, i.e., the pre-harvest period in trade pathways.
3. Feasibility of implementation at the global level	For the concept and objectives of field inspection to be shared among contracting parties, it should provide the guideline of field inspection as an Annex of the related ISPM. Field inspection (including growing season inspection) is one of the effective phytosanitary measures, which many countries have adopted to inspect field crops, seed crops, and mother plants. On the other hand, private sectors (e.g. the seed and nursery industries) have conducted field inspection to ensure international and domestic movement of healthy seeds, seedlings and crops. In this way, the NPPOs and the industries have a basis for implementing field inspections at the global level based on the ISPM. In addition, if contracting parties propose to develop the implementation materials for field inspection of individual pests and commodities in the future, the ISPM can provide a common interpretation that helps in developing the materials.
4. Clear identification of the problems that need to be resolved through the development of the standard or implementation resource	Some ISPMs describe field inspection as phytosanitary measures, but do not provide any guideline focusing specifically on field inspection, which causes unharmonized and less transparent implementation of field inspections by contracting countries. Under these circumstances, some phytosanitary officials seem to have understood with confusion about field inspection and specific surveillance. For example, according to the report of Task Force on Topics Meeting in 2018, when they discussed the proposed topic “field inspection,” some members suggested that it could focus on methodology or procedures to strengthen the inspection process and be better addressed in a guide for inspection or on PFA. On the other hand, one member noted the plant pest surveillance guide developed by APPPC was a useful and practical basis for developing SOPs for surveillance and could serve as a model for this topic. However, according to the present ISPM4 “Requirements for the establishment of pest-free areas,” the method to confirm establishing and maintaining a PFA is specific surveys, not inspection. Field inspection is a phytosanitary measure to detect some regulated pests through visually examining apparent signs or symptoms of pests on plants in a field during the season when the plants will actively grow. It can reduce directly or indirectly the risk of pests moving internationally with plants and plant parts (e.g., seeds, grafts, fruits). Specific surveillance is an official process to determine if pests are present or absent in an area. Though field inspection and specific surveillance may have similar procedures and methods, the concept and objectives of these two are different each other from the phytosanitary perspective.
5. Availability of, or possibility to collect, information in support of the proposed standard or implementation resource	Field inspection (including growing season inspection) is one of the effective phytosanitary measures, which many countries have adopted to inspect field crops, seed crops, and mother plants. It can reduce directly or indirectly the risk of pests moving internationally with plants and plant parts. On the other hand, private sectors provide procedure manuals and guidelines for field inspection of living plants to ensure international and domestic movement of healthy or quality plant parts produced from the parent plants and mother plants (e.g., seeds, grafts, bulbs, tubers) or cut from the plants (e.g., cut flowers, fruits). Therefore, there is available information in support of the proposed standard in NPPOs and private sectors. The issue is only no information for common concepts and objectives of field inspection as ISPM.

6.2.Supporting criteria

Supporting Criteria	Information provided by Submitter
Practical	1) EPPO Standards PM 3 Phytosanitary procedures. - PM 3/29(1) General export inspection procedure for glasshouse and nursery enterprises. Bulletin OEPP/EPPO Bulletin (1990) 20, 277–282 - PM 3/77 (1) Vegetable plants for planting under protected conditions – inspection of places of production. Bulletin OEPP/EPPO Bulletin (2016) 46 (1), 40–48 - PM 3/82 (2) Inspection of places of production for Xylella fastidiosa. Bulletin OEPP/EPPO Bulletin (2020) 50 (3), 415–428 - PM 3/84 (1) Inspection of places of production for ‘Candidatus Phyto-plasma pyri’. Bulletin OEPP/EPPO Bulletin (2018) 48 (3), 323–329 - PM 3/85 (1) Inspection of places of production – Vitis plants forplanting. Bulletin OEPP/EPPO Bulletin (2018) 48 (3), 330–349 The OECD Schemes for the varietal certification or the control of seed moving in international trade (2019). 2) A wide range of knowledge and experience is available in the following areas: - inspection and field inspection for field crops, seed crops, and plants for planning, - the development and/or implementation of phytosanitary measures to manage pest risk associated with the production, - pest risk analysis (PRA).
Economic	Field inspection (including growing season inspection) is one of the effective phytosanitary measures, which many countries have adopted to inspect field crops and seed crops. Crops including field crops and seed crops are produced about 118.7 million ha around the world in 2019 (FAOSAT). The trade values of these crops may vary depending on a crop, for example, tomatoes exported from production countries around the world are estimated to value approximately 9,280 million USD in 2019 (FAOSAT).
Environmental	As field inspection is one of environmental friendly pest risk management options, no negative environmental impacts are raised through implementing this option.
Strategic	Field inspection (including growing season inspection) is one of the effective phytosanitary measures for field crops, seed crops, and mother plants, so many importing countries have adopted it as their importing requirement, which requires the exporting countries to inspect in fields. However, as no international standard for this topic, the inspection method is different by countries, which is likely to affect the pest risk of introduction and be a source of trade disruption. The implementation materials developed based on ISPMs can assist developing countries to implement field inspection, however, no ISPM on field inspection.

7. Financial/in-kind resources

Commitment for financial/in-kind resources to support the development of the proposed standards or implementation resource	Japan is willing to provide the in-kind resource (expert) to contribute to the discussion in the experts working group in developing the draft standard.