



Food and Agriculture
Organization of the
United Nations



International
Plant Protection
Convention

Report

The Eighth Meeting of FAO/IPPC FAW TWG on Quarantine and Phytosanitary Measures

Virtual meeting
24 March 2021

IPPC Secretariat

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Contents

1. Opening of the meeting.....	4
2. Meeting arrangements.....	4
3. Adoption of the Agenda.....	4
4. Updates from TWG members and regions	4
5. Update on FAW guidelines and questionnaires	4
6. Next meeting.....	5
7. Concluding remarks	5
Appendix 1: List of participants	7
Appendix 2: Meeting Agenda.....	7

REPORT OF THE 8TH FAO/IPPC FAW TWG

1. Opening of the meeting

[1] Mr DALE, Chair of FAO/IPPC TWG, welcomed the participants.

2. Meeting Arrangements

[3] Documents and participants list are available on the [IPPC website](#) and will be updated as necessary. The participants list is also attached as Appendix 1 to this report.

3. Adoption of the Agenda

[4] The agenda was adopted by all participants and is attached as Appendix 2 to this report.

4. Updates from the regions and TWG members

[6] Updates from the TWG members and RPPOs were given on the status of FAW and relevant activities.

[7] The EPPPO representative informed that FAW has been detected for the first time in the Canary Islands (Spain) and the IPPC contact point for Spain will be contacted by the IPPC Secretariat and requested to submit a pest report. FAW is thought to have arrived in the Canary Islands through natural pathways (most likely a wind from the African region), but risk for further spread of the pest to other European countries appear limited as maize in the Canary Islands is not exported.

[8] The NPPO representative from Italy informed that a webinar on FAW has been organized on March 23 in collaboration with the University of Brescia, Italy. The University is working on the development of a model for the possible establishment of FAW in Italy and Europe. Results and data from the University of Brescia will be soon available and will provide proper guidelines on how to identify the species *Spodoptera frugiperda* and distinguish it from the other *Spodoptera* species, such as *Spodoptera ornithogalli*, *Spodoptera littoralis* and *Spodoptera litura*. Italy also confirmed that phytosanitary laboratories across Europe follow different procedures, but usually the methodology of identification consists in a combination of morphological and molecular analysis. She stressed the importance for the EU to create a harmonized system to help countries detect pest species and relate them to specific commodities.

[9] The IPPC Secretariat and NSP Division representatives informed that FAO is planning to create a pilot FAW migration monitoring and early warning system in Asia. Through the establishment of monitoring sites in specific Asian countries, this regional system will provide countries with more trapping and pesticide assistance, monitoring and capacity development, and data report. The project is driven by the NSP Director and is expected to be implemented for three years in Asia as well as create a protocol for improved coordination at the regional level. The endorsement of the FAW Technical Committee and Steering Committee will be necessary to launch the project. A concept note will be circulated before the next Technical Committee meeting, while further information will be shared once the system will be officially established. The TWG Chair highlighted the need for the Asian project to bring awareness on the monitoring and biosecurity systems established throughout the region and the opportunity to have monitoring and early warning systems included for other pests with seasonal migration.

[10] The CSIRO representative informed that CSIRO has led projects to analyze FAW's insecticide sensitivities and genetic make-up. The research indicates that there are variable levels of sensitivity to some insecticides between two geographically separated populations of FAW in Australia: a Western Australia population from Kununurra in the Kimberley region and a north Queensland population from Walkamin in the Tablelands region. While results of genomic analyses are pending, the current findings might have implications for growers managing FAW in the field, but do not necessarily indicate distinct genetic

differences in the populations.

[11] The Grow Asia representative informed that a workshop on how to design effective biopesticide trials in the field is organized and planned for April 8. A new website portal on FAW has been launched by ASEAN where more information on activities and workshops on biocontrol will be provided.

[12] The Chair informed that monthly regional coordination meetings are being conducted in the Pacific region on regional priority pests, including FAW, to discuss and prioritize relevant biosecurity outbreaks in the region. Trappings and diagnostics are being implemented in the Solomon Islands, which are at high risk of FAW introduction, with the support of Australia and New Zealand. Molecular identifications have also confirmed FAW detection in the Norfolk Island, a territory of Australia located in the Pacific Ocean between New Zealand and New Caledonia.

[13] The IPPC Secretariat informed that no new pest reports on FAW have been submitted by countries, and that a follow-up action with Spain will be necessary given the recent detection of FAW in the Canary Islands reported by EPPO.

5. Updates on FAW guidelines and questionnaires

[14] Ms BRUNEL, vice-Chair of the FAO-IPPC TWG, informed that the guidelines on FAW prevention developed by the TWG and posted on the IPPC Online Comment System (OCS) have received hundreds of comments by target countries via OCS. Editorial comments were cleared by Mr Artur SHAMILOV, IPPC Secretariat, while an extensive revision of the technical comments was undertaken by the TWG members during the meeting.

[15] The revision of the guidelines will be completed by TWG members individually by 31 March, and then discussed during a follow-up meeting. Relevant documents will be posted on the TWG Teams channel.

[16] The vice-Chair informed that FAW questionnaires have been submitted by Algeria, Fiji, France, Malta, New Caledonia, New Zealand, Tonga, and Tunisia. Questionnaire results will be circulated among TWG members.

6. Next Meeting

[17] The next meeting of the TWG will take place on Tuesday, 9 April 2021 from 9 to 11 AM (Rome time).

7. Concluding Remarks

[18] The Chair thanked all for the productive meeting.

Appendix 1: List of participants

**The 8th Meeting of FAO/IPPC Technical Working Group on
Quarantine and Phytosanitary Measures for Global Action on FAW
Control**

PARTICIPANTS LIST*(Updated 2020-10-28)*

Region/Role	Name, mailing, address, telephone	Email address	Attending
NPPO Representation Chair	Mr Chris DALE Assistant Director Plant Health Surveillance and Diagnostics, Plant Biosecurity Division, Department of Agriculture Department of Agriculture 7 London Circuit, Canberra ACT 2601 GPO Box 858 Canberra 2601 Australia Tel: +61 6272-5192 Mobile: +61 408646281	chris.dale@agriculture.gov.au ; christopherjohndale@gmail.com	√
IPPC Representation Vice- Chair	Ms Sarah BRUNEL Implementation Facilitation Deputy Leader IPPC Secretariat, AGDI, FAO Viale Delle Terme di Caracalla 00153 Roma Italy Tel.: (+39) 06 570 53768	sarah.Brunel@fao.org	√
RPPO Representation	Mr Mekki CHOUIBANI Executive Director Near East Plant Protection Organisation (NEPPO) NEPPO Batiment C de l'INRA, Angle des Avenues Ibn Al Ouazzani et Hassan II. Rabat. Morocco Tel: +212 537 704 810	mekki.chouibani9@gmail.com	x
RPPO Representation	Mr Valerio LUCCHESI Scientific Officer European and Mediterranean Plant Protection Organization (EPPO/OEPP) 21 boulevard Richard Lenoir 75011, Paris, France Tel: +33 (0) 1 45 20 77 94	lucchesi@epo.int	√
RPPO Representation	Mr Viliami (Pila) KAMI Director for Quarantine Ministry	villamik@spc.int	x

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Scientific/Academia Representation	Mr Tek TAY Senior Research Scientist CSIRO Health & Biosecurity Risk Evaluation and Preparedness Program Address: Black Mountain Laboratories, Clunies Ross Street, ACT 2601, Australia Tel: +61-2-6246 4286	Weetek.Tay@csiro.au	√
Industry/Partnerships Representation	Mr Roger DAY Programme Executive, Action on Invasives CABI Canary Bird 673 Limuru Road Muthaiga PO Box 633-00621 Nairobi, Kenya Telephone: +254 (0)20 2271000/20	r.day@cabi.org	√
Industry/Partnerships Representation	Ms Alison WATSON Grow Asia Address: 8a Craig Rd, Singapore 089668 Tel.: +65 90020516	alisonwatsonnz@gmail.com	√
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NSP	Ms Elisabetta TAGLIATI NSP Division, FAO Viale Delle Terme di Caracalla 00153 Roma Italy Tel.: (+39) 06	Elisabetta.Tagliati@fao.org	x
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Appendix 2: Meeting agenda

*24th March 2021 (10:00 am - 1:00 pm), Rome Time
(Central European Time, GMT +1)
Teleconference*

AGENDA

	AGENDA ITEM	DOCUMENT NO.	PRESENTER
1	Opening of the Meeting	--	IPPC Secretariat
2	Meeting Arrangements		IPPC Secretariat
2.1	Document list	2_GA-TWG_2021_Tel_Mar	
2.2	Participants list		
3	Adoption of the Agenda	1_GA-TWG_2021_Tel_Mar	Chris DALE
4	Member and RPPO FAW updates		All
5	Revised version of the Guidelines after OCS consultation	3_GA-TWG_2021_Tel_Mar	All
6	Update on the FAW questionnaire		Sarah BRUNEL
7	Discussion on the development of the training material		Participants
7.1	Background information on the pest and on the biology of the pest		Tek TAY and Arop DENG
7.2	Webinar 1: FAW preparedness and contingency plans and Communications and information sharing with various stakeholders		Mariangela CIAMPITI, Qingpo YANG, Allison WATSON, Roger DAY, Sara GIULIANI
7.3	Webinar 2: Pest Risk Analysis, Phytosanitary Legislation and Inspection		Mekki CHOUIBANI, Valerio LUCCHESI, Mariangela CIAMPITI, Sarah BRUNEL
7.4	Webinar 3: Surveillance plan		Chris DALE, Qingpo YANG
8	Any Other Business	--	Chris DALE
9	Next Meeting and close of the meeting	--	Chris DALE