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# Reduction of the incidence of contaminating pests associated with regulated and unregulated articles to protect plant resources and facilitate safe trade

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## Publication history

*This is not an official part of the CPM recommendation*

2019-03 Topic proposed by Australia, supported by New Zealand, for inclusion in the IPPC work programme for a CPM recommendation.

2019-04 CPM-14 added the topic *Facilitating safe trade by reducing the incidence of contaminating pests associated with traded goods* (2019-002) to the IPPC work programme for a CPM recommendation.

2019-09 Adjustments made following CPM-14 (call for experts made).

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".

2019-10 Strategic Planning Group discussed the draft.

2020-01 International symposium on limiting the spread of contaminant pests, organized by Australia.

2020-12 Reviewed by the CPM Bureau.

2021-03 CPM-15 agreed to submit to consultation.

2021-07 Consultation.

2021-11 Submitting country and IPPC Secretariat addressed comments from consultation.

2022-01 CPM Bureau approved for adoption by CPM.

2022-04 CPM-16 adopted the CPM recommendation on *Reduction of the incidence of contaminating pests associated with regulated and unregulated articles to protect plant resources and facilitate safe trade* (R-10).

2022-04 IPPC Secretariat applied new FAO style.

Publication history last updated: 2022-04

## BACKGROUND

The purpose of this CPM recommendation is to reduce the incidence of contaminating pests on and in regulated and unregulated articles and other pathways in order to protect plant health, biodiversity and food security and to facilitate safe trade. In this recommendation, “unregulated articles” refers to plants, plant products, traded goods, storage places, packaging, conveyances, containers, soil, and any other objects, organisms or materials capable of harbouring or spreading contaminating pests, that are not subject to phytosanitary measures. Other pathways may include articles moved or used in postal or courier mail services or in haulage, but also people travelling internationally. The pest risk posed by plants and plant products should be managed on the basis of pest risk analysis in accordance with Article VII.2(g) of the International Plant Protection Convention (IPPC) and relevant International Standards for Phytosanitary Measures (ISPMs). Pest risk analyses, however, do not always consider the pest risk associated with the processes of moving the commodity in trade, or pathways outside of commercial trade. This recommendation therefore seeks to help bridge this gap by encouraging more effective management of contaminating pests to enhance food security and protect the world’s biodiversity.

This recommendation provides a basis for further work to support implementation of the IPPC Strategic Framework 2020–2030 (IPPC Secretariat, 2021) and encourages national plant protection organizations (NPPOs), regional plant protection organizations (RPPOs), and importing and exporting industries to work together to raise awareness of the pest risk associated with the international movement of all goods and people, and identify and promote the adoption of good practices that minimize the introduction and spread of contaminating pests.

Contracting parties, through the Commission on Phytosanitary Measures (CPM), have recognized the risks posed by contaminating pests carried by commodities that are not plants or plant products, as well as the pest risk associated with conveyances, containers and other pathways. This has led to the adoption of ISPM 41 (*International movement of used vehicles, machinery and equipment*) and to actions that reduce the incidence of contaminating pests on and in sea containers through the work of the Sea Container Task Force and the adoption of the CPM recommendation on *Sea containers* (R-06). However, awareness of the scope of the IPPC, and the risks that contaminating pests associated with regulated and unregulated articles pose to global plant health, remains low.

The IPPC aims to protect global plant resources and facilitate safe trade. It does this by facilitating cooperation and agreement between contracting parties on practices that minimize the risk of the introduction and spread of plant pests. Contracting parties work to develop and maintain the capacity to implement harmonized phytosanitary measures to prevent pest introduction and spread, and minimize the impacts of pests on food security, trade, economic growth, biodiversity and the environment.

## ADDRESSED TO

Contracting parties, NPPOs, RPPOs and relevant industries involved in international trade, including exporters, importers, manufacturers, the processing industry and logistics operators.

## RECOMMENDATIONS

The IPPC provides for the management of the pest risk associated with both regulated and unregulated articles capable of harbouring or spreading contaminating pests, in addition to those that may infest plants and plant products, particularly where international transportation is involved (Article I.4 of the IPPC).

The CPM therefore encourages contracting parties to take the necessary actions, based on sufficient scientific evidence, to minimize the introduction and spread of contaminating pests via both regulated and unregulated articles and other pathways. The CPM *encourages* contracting parties and RPPOs to:

- (a) *raise* awareness with governments, particularly departments for trade, foreign affairs and diplomatic missions, and with transport and other relevant industries of the risks and impacts of pests moving internationally as contaminating pests on or in regulated and unregulated articles as well as by other pathways;
- (b) *promote* the benefits, in terms of facilitating safer trade, of preventing regulated and unregulated articles including items that carry or accompany them from becoming contaminated with pests or material that may pose a pest risk such as soil and plant material;
- (c) *gather* scientific information on the risks of contaminating pests moving in trade and other pathways;
- (d) *conduct* pest risk analyses and pathway analyses, based on scientific information and in consultation with various stakeholders, to identify risk-based phytosanitary measures to reduce the pest risk relating to contaminating pests, and then *communicate* these measures and the potential regulatory and/or business consequences of non-compliance, pest interceptions or other evidence of pest contamination;
- (e) *record* and *share* information about the experiences (including interceptions and detections), case studies and effective measures implemented by contracting parties in order to prevent the introduction and spread of contaminating pests;
- (f) *establish* appropriate regulatory tools to enable NPPOs to manage the pest risk associated with regulated and unregulated articles being imported and exported that may harbour contaminating pests regulated by the importing country;
- (g) *build* capacity to detect and manage contaminating pests, and share tools and technologies to support this;
- (h) *collaborate* with importing and exporting industries, logistics operators and other stakeholders to develop commercial practices that reduce the risk of introducing and spreading contaminating pests and therefore reduce the associated regulatory consequences for their businesses; and
- (i) *exchange* information with relevant international organizations through NPPOs, RPPO secretariats and the IPPC Secretariat about the risk of contaminating pests and effective mitigation measures.

## REFERENCES

**IPPC Secretariat.** 2021. *Strategic framework for the International Plant Protection Convention (IPPC) 2020–2030*. Rome, IPPC Secretariat, FAO. 28 pp. [www.fao.org/documents/card/en/c/cb3995en](http://www.fao.org/documents/card/en/c/cb3995en)

## RECOMMENDATION(S) SUPERSEDED BY THE ABOVE

None.

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## IPPC

The International Plant Protection Convention (IPPC) is an international plant health agreement that aims to protect global plant resources and facilitate safe trade.

The IPPC vision is that all countries have the capacity to implement harmonized measures to prevent pest introductions and spread, and minimize the impacts of pests on food security, trade, economic growth, and the environment.

### Organization

- ◆ There are over 180 IPPC contracting parties.
- ◆ Each contracting party has a national plant protection organization (NPPO) and an Official IPPC contact point.
- ◆ 10 regional plant protection organizations (RPPOs) have been established to coordinate NPPOs in various regions of the world.
- ◆ IPPC liaises with relevant international organizations to help build regional and national capacities.
- ◆ The Secretariat is provided by the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO).

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