updates from ippc Secretariat

(*Prepared by the IPPC Secretariat*)

This paper was prepared by the IPPC Secretariat to provide the Technical Panel on Diagnostic Protocols (TPDP) a brief update on the recent activities of the Standards Committee (SC) as well as the Diagnostic Laboratory Networkas one of the eight key development agenda items of the IPPC Strategic Framework 2020–2030 as it could potentially relate to the work of the TPDP.

Updates from the SC

Since the last meeting of the TPDP[[1]](#footnote-1) on April 2022, the IPPC Standards Committee (SC) met virtually in May and July 2022.

At their May meeting, the SC approved four draft ISPMs, including two draft DPs (Genus *Ceratitis* (2016-001) and *Mononychelus tanajoa* (2018-006)) for first consultation[[2]](#footnote-2). In 2022 there is a total of nine draft ISPMs for first and second consultation. The draft ISPMs (including the draft DPs) are now available for commenting via the [Online Commenting System (OCS)](https://ocs-new.ippc.int/Public/LoginPage.aspx?ReturnUrl=%2f&framevalidated=true) until **30 September 2022**.

The purpose of the July meeting was to update the SC on the work of the IPPC technical panels (Technical Panel on the Glossary, Technical Panel on Diagnostic Protocols, Technical Panel on Phytosanitary Treatments and Technical Panel on Commodity Standards). For this, members of the technical panels were invited to attend the SC meeting as observers and Ms Juliet Goldsmith joined the SC meeting.

Regarding to the TPDP, the SC agreed to renew the membership of Mr Norman BARR, expert for Entomology from the United States of America, to a third term on the TPDP. The SC also agreed to open a call for virologist and asked the TPDP to discuss if additional experts in other disciplines, for example bacteriology, would be beneficial for greater support to the panel’s work. The SC noted the activities that the TPDP undertook in the last year and also noted the tentative work plan for the next year, in which it was explained that it is foreseen that the volume of work of the panel will increase in the upcoming years. See the attachment 1 to the paper presented to the SC.

The SC meeting reports are available to download and review here: <https://www.ippc.int/en/core-activities/standards-setting/standards-committee/> however, please note the report for the July meeting is not yet available.

Other updates

**Diagnostic Laboratory Network Specialist.** A [vacancy announcement for international consultant for a Diagnostic Laboratory Specialist](https://gcc02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.ippc.int%2Fen%2Fnews%2Fippc-is-hiring-international-consultant%2F&data=05%7C01%7C%7Cf5676432a8d0421315b108da60f7a600%7Ced5b36e701ee4ebc867ee03cfa0d4697%7C0%7C0%7C637928915120583650%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C3000%7C%7C%7C&sdata=1wiYZ8ORMAokP6Eb1GE8D5YxW47jS5YYg2fh4tO5sMA%3D&reserved=0) was made and the deadline for applications ended on 08 July. The main responsibility of the Diagnostic Laboratory Specialist is to gather information, analyze and make recommendations for the design of a global network of diagnostic laboratory services for plant pests. This is to support the work of the on the implementation of the IPPC Strategic Framework 2020-2030 and the  development agenda item on Laboratory Diagnostic Networking.

**International Plant Health Conference (IPHC).** The IPHC will be held from 21 to 23 September 2022 in London, UK. The IPPC Secretariat and the Department for Environment, Food & Rural Affairs (DEFRA) of the UK are co-organizing the Conference. Registration is open and more information can be found at: <https://www.ippc.int/en/news/save-the-date-2/>

The IPHC has the objective to provide a forum to discuss global scientific, technical and regulatory plant health issues in a conference setting and at the same time advocate for plant health and food security to the media and general public. The conference is planned to cover a large spectrum of plant health issues and is designed to attract participants on a scientific, technical or regulatory level. In addition, the aim is also to advocate plant health and the outcomes of the conference to the general public and is oriented towards attaining the UN Sustainable Development Goals (especially SDGs 1, 2, 13 and 15). The link to the preliminary program is [https://assets.ippc.int/static/media/files/event/2022/06/09/IPHC\_Public\_Programme\_2022-06-08.pdf](https://gcc02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fassets.ippc.int%2Fstatic%2Fmedia%2Ffiles%2Fevent%2F2022%2F06%2F09%2FIPHC_Public_Programme_2022-06-08.pdf&data=05%7C01%7C%7Cf5676432a8d0421315b108da60f7a600%7Ced5b36e701ee4ebc867ee03cfa0d4697%7C0%7C0%7C637928915120583650%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C3000%7C%7C%7C&sdata=TZc%2FaTt3Wu%2FYyIAFN0avY8JdijA8HyaygbUUbIuYyno%3D&reserved=0)

The conference will be split into three main themes:Food Security (day 1), Environmental Protection (day 2) and Safe Trade (day 3). In order to attract all target audiences the conference is structured into separate activities including three parallel sessions each day:

* All audiences – plenary session every day (live streamed and in all FAO official languages)
* Scientific audience – scientific symposium
* Regulatory audience – regulatory symposium
* Technical audience – workshop/panel discussion

There will be a scientific session on the first day on “Plant pests’ diagnostics and food security”, on 21 September 2022 at 14:00 – 16:30 (with a coffee break in the middle, as the draft program presented in Table 1). The proposal for the session is to have up to six speakers and then some time for a discussion / Q&A.

The IPHC steering committee is planning to have a call for posters. The IPPC Secretariat will confirm this information and provide a feedback to the TPDP.

**Table 1.** Scientific session on “Plant pests’ diagnostics and food security” of the IPHC.

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Time** |  | **Panelist** | **Main topic / theme** |
| 14.00-14.20 | 1 | IPPC and EPPO Secretariats | * Welcome and introduction to the scientific symposium * Why does it matter plant pest diagnosis and food security? |
| 14.20-14.30 | 2 | Brendan Rodoni / Fiona Fiona Constable - Australia (TBC) | Revolution in plant pest diagnostics since the last century |
| 14.30-14.45 | 3 | Sebastien Massart | High throughput sequencing |
| 14.45-15.00 | 4 | Juliet Goldsmith | Remote diagnostic and the Caribbean region laboratory network experience |
| *15.00-15.20* |  | *Coffee break* |  |
| 15:20- 15:35 |  | (CABI) - TBC | Regional laboratory networks: The plant clinic network - the Plant Wise programme in Africa region |
| 15.35-15.50 | 5 | Françoise Munaut | Regional laboratory networks: the EU experience |
| 15.50-16.05 | 6 | Geraldine Anthoine | Quality assurance and validation in diagnostics: what does it mean? |
| 16.05-16.30 |  | Discussion | Facilitated by EPPO and IPPC Secretariats |

Recommendations to the TPDP

The TPDP is invited to

1. *provide* any comments and discussion points.
2. *note* the updates in this paper.

**ATTACHMENT 1.** **TPDP UPDATE TO THE SC JULY 2022**

update on activities of the Technical Panel on Diagnostic Protocols (TPDP) FROM JUNE 2021 TO July 2022

*(Prepared by the IPPC Secretariat with TPDP Steward’s revision)*

1. Background

More information about the Technical Panel on Diagnostic Protocols (TPDP) can be found at <https://www.ippc.int/en/core-activities/standards-setting/expert-drafting-groups/technical-panels/technical-panel-diagnostic-protocols/>.

The Steward for the TPDP is:

* Mr Álvaro SEPULVEDA LUQUE (Steward)

The IPPC Secretariat support for the TPDP are:

* Ms Adriana G. MOREIRA (lead)
* Ms Aoife CASSIN (support)
* Ms Erika MANGILI ANDRÉ (support)

2. Membership update

1. The [TPDP membership and contact information](https://www.ippc.int/en/publications/81560/) can be found on IPP[[3]](#footnote-3). Table 1 shows a simplified version of the TPDP membership as of May 2022.

**Table 1.** TPDP membership (as of May 2022) and expertise of its members.

| **Participant role** | **Name (country)** | **Expertise** | **Term expires** |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Steward | Mr Álvaro SEPULVEDA LUQUE (Chile) |  |  |
| Member | Mr Robert TAYLOR (New Zealand) | Bacteriology (and backup for mycology) | May 2021 (2nd term) |
| Member | Ms Liping YIN (China) | Botany | April 2023 (3rd term) |
| Member | Ms Colette C. JACONO (USA) | Botany | October 2025 (1st term) |
| Member | Mr Norman B. BARR (United States) | Entomology | July 2022 (2nd term) |
| Member | Ms Juliet GOLDSMITH (CAHFSA) | Entomology | November 2024 (2nd term) |
| Member | Ms Géraldine ANTHOINE (France) | Nematology | April 2024 (3rd term) |
| Member | Ms Vessela Assenova MAVRODIEVA (USA) | Virology | March 2025 (1st term) |
| Member | Ms Julie PATTEMORE (Australia) | Mycology | March 2025 (1st term) |
| Member | Ms Yazmin RIVERA (USA) | Mycology | March 2025 (1st term) |

**Changes in membership.** In December 2021, Mr Brendan RODONI (Virology and back up for bacteriology) left the TPDP after almost 12 years of contribution to the panel and to the IPPC. The CPM-16 (2022) thanked him and Australia NPPO for his great contributions throughout the years. Hence there are few topics on viruses and bacteria, the Secretariat will need to issue a new call for a Virologist to better support the work of the panel. (Decision point 2).

**Extension of membership.** It is noted that the term of Mr Norman BARR (Entomology) is ending in July 2022. He is the discipline lead and lead author for several DPs, has extensive experience and expertise in the area and provides many effective contributions to the panel. The NPPO from USA was contacted and Mr Barr has expressed his willingness to continue as member of the TPDP and submitted a new statement of commitment to the Secretariat. It is proposed to extend his term for a further five years period, due to his valuable contribution to the panel and ongoing work on several topics. (Decision point 3).

3. TPDP volume of work

**Work programme**

The [TPDP work programme](file:///C:/Users/MoreiraA/Documents/01_FAO/02_Governance/05%20SC/2021-06%20SC%20Focused%20meeting/01_Working%20papers/Drafts/TPDP%20work%20programme)[[4]](#footnote-4) currently comprises 27 subjects (including five revisions to adopted DPs) under various stages of development. These draft diagnostic protocols (DPs) are under six disciplines (Figure 1 and Table 2) and are broken down as follows:

* New DPs – six new subjects added by the SC from the 2021 Call for Topics;
* Under development - twelve draft DPs under development;
* Awaiting authors – eight draft DPs are awaiting authors to be nominated or selected by the TPDP;
* Pending - one subject: Tephritidae - Identification of immature stages of fruit flies of economic importance by molecular techniques.

**Figure 1.** Number of diagnostic protocols per discipline currently in the TPDP work programme (July 2022).

The TPDP assigned the discipline leads and referees for the new subjects added and the SC noted them at the SC May 2022 meeting.

**Selection of DP authors**

The IPPC Secretariat presented the calls for DP authors to the focused meeting of the SC in June 2021[[5]](#footnote-5). At the time, the SC were asked to consider nominating experts for several DP subjects within their national and regional systems and submit them to the Secretariat by 15 August 2021.

The TPDP also tried to identify key experts to be able to form a DP drafting group but unfortunately, no further experts were submitted to the Secretariat and the following subjects still do not have sufficient authors to form drafting groups.

The IPPC Secretariat opened a new call for authors soliciting nominations for the following IPPC DPs on the work programme of the TPDP[[6]](#footnote-6):

* *Bactrocera zonata* (Saunders, 1842) (2021-013)
* *Dickeya spp.* on potato (2021-014)
* *Heterobasidion annosum* (2021-015)
* *Spodoptera frugiperda* (2021-016)
* *Drosophila suzukii* (Diptera: Drosophilidae) (2021-017)
* Tomato brown rugose fruit virus (2021-025)
* *Amaranthus palmeri* (2019-006)
* *Solanum rostratum* (2019-007)
* *Moniliophthora roreri* (2019-005)
* *Meloidogyne mali* (2018-019)
* *Cronartium comandrae* (2018-015)
* *Microcyclus ulei* (2019-003)

The IPPC Secretariat received more than 39 nominations, however not sufficient for all DPs. This may delay the work for the development of some draft DPs.

**Expert consultation**

The TPDP work programme is delivered through several activities. It is recalled that any “new” draft DPs will need to undergo expert consultation prior to being discussed by the TPDP. Since June 2021, one draft DP was submitted to expert consultation[[7]](#footnote-7):

* Genus *Ceratitis*(2016-001): 24 September 2021 - 25 October 2021

It is expected to have five draft DPs for expert consultation in 2022 and seven draft DPs in the 1st and 2nd quarter of 2023 (see Table 3).

**Consultation period**

**2021.** One draft DP was submitted for IPPC consultation period in July 2021 (*Candidatus* Liberibacter spp. on *Citrus* spp.). Two draft DPs were submitted to the SC for the DP notification period in July 2021 and January 2022 i.e. adoption by the SC on behalf of the Commission on Phytosanitary Measures (CPM).

**2022.** Two draft DPs were submitted to the SC for approval for consultation period in July 2022. The SC, via e-decisions, approved the draft DPs:

* *Mononychelus tanajoa* (2018-006)
* Genus *Ceratitis* (2016-001)

**Diagnostic Protocols adopted**

Since May 2021, two diagnostic protocols (DPs) were adopted as an annex to ISPM 27:

* DP 30 *Striga* spp.[[8]](#footnote-8)
* DP 31 ‘Candidatus Liberibacter’ spp. on *Citrus* spp.[[9]](#footnote-9)

As of July 2022, 31 DPs have been adopted, published as annexes to ISPM 27 (*Diagnostic protocols for regulated pests*) (Figure 2).

**Figure 2.** Number of adopted diagnostic protocols (Annexes to ISPM 27) per year.

3. Highlights of the work

The TPDP continued to deliver its work programme during the June 2021 to July 2022 period, managing more than 50 DP authors from various countries[[10]](#footnote-10). In this period, two DPs were adopted as annexes to ISPM 27, one draft DP was moved through the expert consultation stage and approved by the SC to the consultation period and two draft DPs approved for the DP Notification Period.

The TPDP had six virtual meetings during the reporting period (July 2021, October 2021, November 2021, two meetings in April 2022 and one in May 2022). The IPPC Secretariat provided several updates to the panel. The meetings reports are available at <https://www.ippc.int/en/core-activities/standards-setting/expert-drafting-groups/technical-panels/technical-panel-diagnostic-protocols/>.

The TPDP is contributing to the first International Plant Health Conference (IPHC) that will take place on 21 – 23 September 2022 in London, UK. A scientific session on the contributions of pest diagnostics for food security is being organized by the IPPC and the European and Mediterranean Plant Protection Organization (EPPO), in collaboration with the TPDP. More information will be made available on the IPHC webpage and on the [IPP](https://www.ippc.int/en/). (Decision point 5).

A webinar on the importance of pest diagnostics was planned to happen in June 2022. However, due to the scientific session being organized for the IPHC, the IPPC webinar was postponed for a future date.

4. Tentative work plan for the period 2022-2023

The TPDP will progress its work through virtual meetings and a one face to face meeting. There is a tentative date of 31 October to 4 November 2022 to hold the face-to-face meeting in Paris, hosted by EPPO (Decision point 4). For the face-to-face meeting, it is expected the revision of three to four draft DPs, discussions on several horizontal and quality assurance aspects of the TPDP work, review of the entire work programme of the TPDP and its working procedures. This will be the first in person meeting after the pandemic of COVID-19 and with three new members in the panel. It is expected that the new virologist be selected in due course to be able to join the meeting. The TPDP also envisages the presence of some lead authors of the draft DPs that will be discussed.

1. The TPDP tentative work plan for July 2022 to May 2023 is summarized in Table 3 (Decision point 6). The TPDP will continue to work on the draft DPs on its work programme, with 8-10 draft DPs expected to be submitted for the DP Expert Consultation and the Consultation Period in 2022-2023 and two DPs are expected to be adopted in 2023.

**Table 2.** Number of diagnostic protocols and TPDP members per discipline currently in the TPDP work programme (July 2022).

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Technical area** | **Number of topics** | **TPDP members** |
| Nematodes | 1 | 1 |
| Plants | 2 | 2 |
| Bacteria | 3 | 1 |
| Viruses and phytoplasmas | 4 | 1 |
| Fungi and fungus-like organisms | 7 | 2 |
| Insects and mites | 10 | 2 |
| **TOTAL** | **27** | **9** |

During the TPDP April 2022 meeting, it was agreed that the Discipline Lead will present a paper to broaden the scope for the draft DP *Puccinia graminis* f. sp. *tritici* UG 99 (2019-004) for other strains. The TPDP will discuss this in due course.

1. A call for DP authors was issued for the new subjects on the work plan but no drafts are expected until 2023.
2. It should be noted again that not all DPs in the TPDP work programme has a DP drafting group yet which is something that it is impacting on the work of the panel.

|  | **IPPC Diagnostic Protocols**  **(as May 2022 – tentative schedule)** | **2022** | | | | **2023** | | | |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Q1 | Q2 | Q3 | Q4 | Q1 | Q2 | Q3 | Q4 |
|  | *Mononychelus tanajoa* (2018-006) |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | Genus *Ceratitis* (2016-001) |  |  | \* |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | Begomoviruses transmitted by *Bemisia tabaci* (2006-026)\* | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
|  | Tephritidae: Identification of immature stages of fruit flies of economic importance by molecular techniques (2006-028) (currently with “pending status”) | - |  |  |  |  | - | - | - |
|  | *Puccinia graminis* f. sp. *tritici* UG 99 (2019-004) | - |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | Psyllid vectors of *Candidatus* Liberibacter Solanacearum (2018-030) |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | *Pyricularia oryzae* (syn. *Magnaporthe oryzae*) on *Triticum* (2019-010) |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | *Citrus leprosis virus* (2018-025) |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | Pospiviroid species (except *Potato spindle tuber viroid* (DP 7)) (2018-031) |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | *Acidovorax avenae* subsp. *citrulli* (2018-032) |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | Revision of DP 03: *Trogoderma granarium* Everts(2021-001) |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | Revision of DP 05: *(Phyllosticta citricarpa* (McAlpine)) Aa (2019-011) |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | Revision of DP 09: *Genus Anastrepha* (2021-002) |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | Revision of DP 25: *Xylella fastidiosa* (2021-003) |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | Revision of DP 27: *Ips* spp.(2021-004) |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | *Amaranthus palmeri* (2019-006) |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | *Solanum rostratum* (2019-007) |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | *Moniliophthora roreri* (2019-005) |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | *Meloidogyne mali* (2018-019) |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | *Cronartium comandrae* (2018-015) |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | *Microcyclus ulei* (2019-003) |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | *Bactrocera zonata* (2022-013) | - | - |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | *Dickeya spp. on potato* (2022-014) | - | - |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | *Heterobasidion annosum* (2022-015) | - | - |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | *Spodoptera frugiperda* (2022-016) | - | - |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | *Drosophila suzukii (Diptera: Drosophilidae)* (2022-017) | - | - |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | Tomato brown rugose fruit virus (2022-018) | - | - |  |  |  |  |  |  |

\* The subject “Begomoviruses transmitted by *Bemisia tabaci*” is being considered by the TPDP to recommend to the SC to remove it from the work programme.

|  |
| --- |
|  |

**Table 3:** Tentative work plan of the TPDP for the years 2022-2023 with important stages in the drafting process of the current draft DPs in the work programme highlighted. This work plan is based on the current list of topics and may be adjusted as necessary.

The subject “Tephritidae: Identification of immature stages of fruit flies of economic importance by molecular techniques (2006-028)” is currently on “pending status”.

**Upcoming SC eDecisions**

The TPDP agreed to present a scope change to the draft DP *Tephritidae*: Identification of immature stages of fruit flies of economic importance by molecular techniques (2006-028) (currently with “pending status”) to the SC.

The TPDP will also present the SC with the recommendation to remove the subject “Begomoviruses transmitted by *Bemisia tabaci*” (2006-003) from its work programme.

5. Recommendations to the SC

1. The SC is invited to:
2. *note* the TPDP update and the work accomplished from May 2021 to July 2022.
3. *agree* that a call for virologist is made and ask the IPPC Secretariat to open the call soon.
4. *renew* the membership of Mr Norman BARR (Entomology) for another 5-year term.
5. *note* that the tentative dates for the face to face meeting are 31 October to 04 November, in EPPO headquarters.
6. *note* that the TPDP is contributing to a scientific session on pest diagnostics and food security for the IPHC, which is being organized by the IPPC and EPPO Secretariats.
7. *note* the TPDP tentative work plan for July 2022 to May 2023 (summarized in Table 3).

1. 2022-04 TPDP Virtual Meeting Report: <https://www.ippc.int/en/publications/91297/> [↑](#footnote-ref-1)
2. Current consultation for draft ISPMs: <https://www.ippc.int/en/core-activities/standards-setting/member-consultation-draft-ispms/> [↑](#footnote-ref-2)
3. TPDP main page on IPP: <https://www.ippc.int/en/core-activities/standards-setting/expert-drafting-groups/technical-panels/technical-panel-diagnostic-protocols/> [↑](#footnote-ref-3)
4. List of Topics for IPPC standards (Table 3: Subjects for TPDP): <https://www.ippc.int/en/core-activities/standards-setting/list-topics-ippc-standards/list> [↑](#footnote-ref-4)
5. SC June 2021 meeting work area: <https://www.ippc.int/en/work-area-pages/standards-committee-sc/2021-sc-meetings/2021-june-sc-virtual-focused-meeting/> [↑](#footnote-ref-5)
6. 2022-05 - Call for DP authors: <https://www.ippc.int/en/core-activities/standards-setting/calls-and-consultations/calls-for-dp-authors/#:~:text=IPPC%20Diagnostic%20Protocols%20are%20developed,as%20part%20of%20phytosanitary%20measures>. [↑](#footnote-ref-6)
7. IPPC expert consultation on draft diagnostic protocols: <https://www.ippc.int/core-activities/expert-consultation-draft-diagnostic-protocols/> [↑](#footnote-ref-7)
8. DP 30 *Striga* spp.: <https://www.ippc.int/en/publications/90164/> [↑](#footnote-ref-8)
9. DP 31 ‘*Candidatus* Liberibacter’ spp. on *Citrus* spp.: <https://www.ippc.int/en/publications/90935/> [↑](#footnote-ref-9)
10. IPPC Diagnostic Protocols (DPs) drafting groups: <https://www.ippc.int/en/publications/2582/> [↑](#footnote-ref-10)