Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations

International Plant Protection Convention

Department for Environment Food & Rural Affairs

INTENDED USE IN PLANT PROTECTION EXPERIENCES IN MEXICO

London, 21 – 23 September 2022

International Plant Health Conference

PROTECTING PLANTS PROTECTING LIFE

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SERVICIO NACIONAL DE SANIDAD, INOCUIDAD Y CALIDAD AGROALIMENTARIA

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1. GLOBAL TRADE CHALLENGES FOR PLANT HEALTH

The export or import of plant products and by-products in global trade brings with it:

1. Increased commodities traded among countries
2. Diversification of species
3. Increased phytosanitary risk of pest spread
4. Challenge of establishing or adopting a regulatory framework that guarantees fair and safe trade between the parties, with the priority of mitigating the risk of the entry of quarantine pests.
5. Compliance with the obligations contracted between business partners, based on international standards or the regulations of each country.

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2. MEXICO - SIGNATORY OF THE INTERNATIONAL PLANT PROTECTION CONVENTION (IPPC)

- **Mexico** is signatory since January 1st, 1**995**, and has the following obligations:

1. IPPC Official Contact Point
2. Official pest reporting
3. Description of the NPPO
4. Phytosanitary Restrictions/Legislation
5. Points on entry
6. List of regulated pests
7. Emergency actions

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3. MEXICO IN GLOBAL TRADE

Convención Internacional de Protección Fitosanitaria

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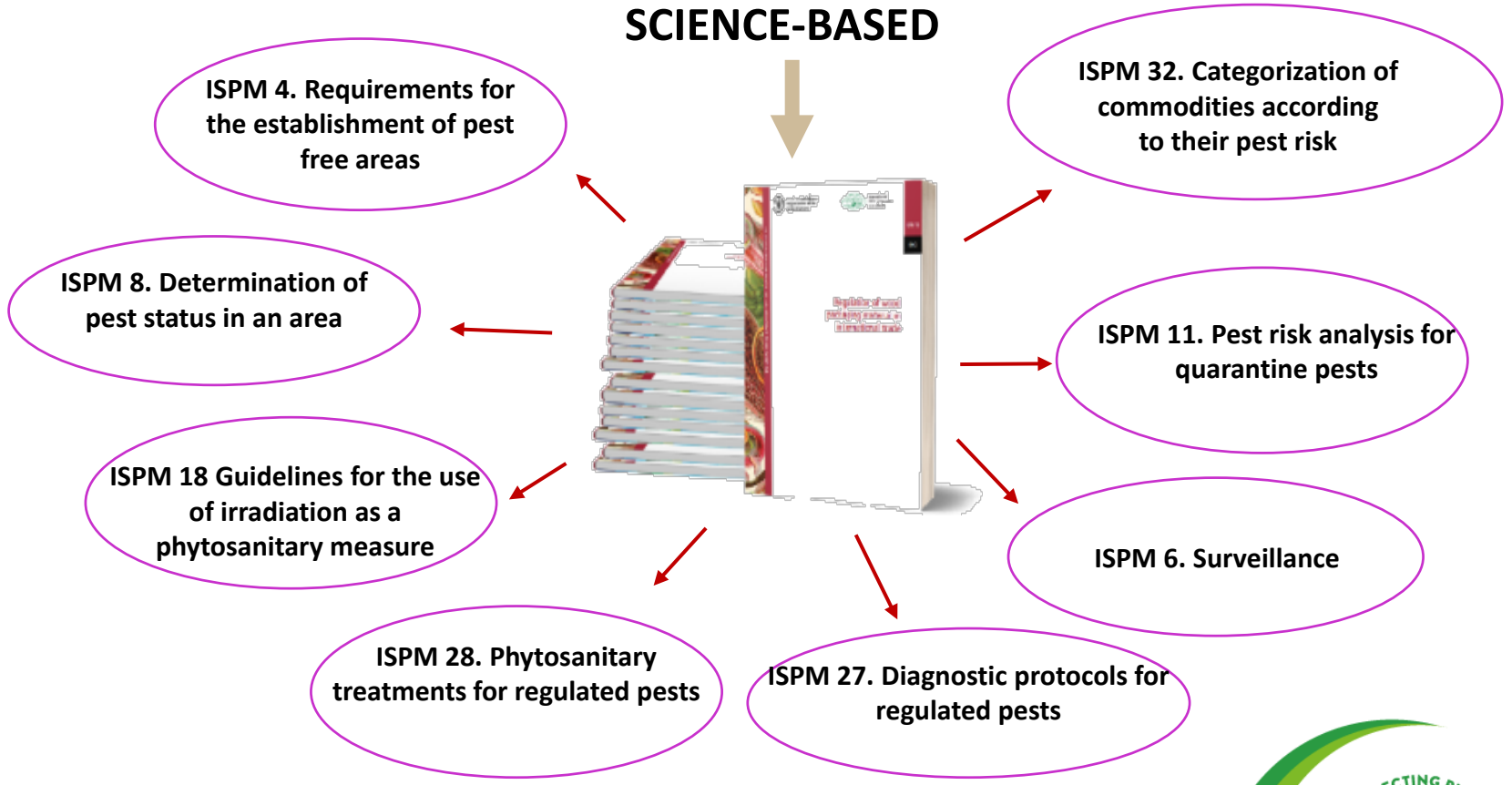
- **14 Free Trade Agreements with 50 countries which represent a potential market of 1.3 billion people.**

Exports

- **Avocados**
- Berries
- Tomatoes
- Bell peppers
- Broccoli
- Cucumbers
- Onions

Imports

- Corn
- Sorghum
- Rice
- Beans
- Wheat
- Barley
- Apples
- **Potatoes**



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4. RISK ASSESSMENT FOR MEXICO ASSOCIATED WITH TRADE IN AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTS

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Assessment was carried out through evaluation (pest risk analysis), based on International Standards for Phytosanitary Measures of the IPPC, considering the following aspects.

IMPORTANT ASPECTS

1. Type of product (grain, plants for planting, fresh fruit).
2. Country of origin as well as provenance of the product.
3. Intended use.
4. Phytosanitary measures applied by other countries for the same import route.

The level of risk from a pest depends on the organism, the associated commodity, and the intended use.

2022 Ricardo Flores Magón
Año de
PRECURSOR DE LA REVOLUCIÓN MEXICANA

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5. WHAT WE NEED TO KNOW ABOUT THE INTENDED USE?

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1. **Know and understand that it is a key provision of ISPM 32*.**
2. **Some intended uses of a commodity are associated with a higher probability of a regulated pest becoming more established than others.**
3. **Each product has appropriate phytosanitary measures, even when the risk (pest) is the same, depending on the declared intended use.**
4. **Sometimes, certifications requested in bilateral trade go beyond the necessary authorizations, creating additional and stricter measures, which are not easy to comply with.**

*** ISPM 32.- Categorization of commodities according to their pest risk** https://www.fao.org/3/cb2571en/cb2571en.pdf

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6. IMPACT OF DIVERSION FROM INTENDED USE

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Definition: When regulated articles are used for purposes other than those originally declared after importation*.

Pest risk analysis, based on intended use, examples:

<u>Case 1</u>: Fresh table stock potatoes intended for consumption or processing (import)

<u>Case 2</u>: Fresh avocados for consumption (export)

Some considerations during risk evaluation:

1. Are the identified pests associated with the import route?
2. Is the scientific evidence compelling?
3. How are the same goods moved in international trade?
4. Are there viable phytosanitary measures to mitigate the pests risk?
5. Are the phytosanitary measures fair and reasonable?
6. Diversion from indented use is the responsibility of the importing country.

*IPPC. 2016. Diversion From Intended Use: Consideration of the extent of the issue
https://www.ippc.int/static/media/uploads/ippc-irss_diversion_from_intended_use.pdf

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7. CASE 1: IMPORTATION OF FRESH TABLE STOCK POTATOES INTENDED FOR CONSUMPTION

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Implementation of phytosanitary measures by Mexico for imported fresh table stock potatoes intended for consumption and/or industry

1. The intended use of the product for consumption and/or industry was one of the determining characteristics for the identification of quarantine pests.
2. Study was carried out with qualitative methodology based on international regulations/standards.
3. Through the evaluation of scientific evidence, the pest risks associated with the importation of the product were determined.
4. The phytosanitary measures currently in force are based on the level of risk identified.
5. Mitigation of pest risk associated with the diversion of intended use must be addressed from a national scenario that includes the entire production chain to consumers, through the raising of awareness/outreach, even during the implementation of regulations, if applicable.

Important references

- ISPM 5
- ISPM 6
- ISPM 8
- ISPM 11
- ISPM 27
- ISPM 32
- Diversion From Intended Use: Consideration of the extent of the issue

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8. CASE 2: EXPORT OF FRESH AVOCADO FRUIT FOR CONSUMPTION

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Implementation of phytosanitary measures for the export of fresh fruit of Mexican avocado due to the presence of Avocado sunblotch viroid.

With the risk assessments carried out:

- The same level of risk was determined for propagative material and fresh avocado fruits for consumption due to the presence of sunblotch.

- The measures did not consider the intended use, so a review of the measure was requested.

Important references

- ISPM 5
- ISPM 6
- ISPM 8
- ISPM 11
- ISPM 27
- ISPM 32
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9. LESSONS LEARNED

It is important to have IPPC International Standards for Phytosanitary Measures (ISPMs) as guidelines for establishing phytosanitary measures.

a) Science-based phytosanitary measures are a sovereign right of each country.

b) Application of the concept of “diversion from intended use” is not straightforward and can lead to over-regulation of trade in products.

c) Mitigation of risks associated with “diversion from intended use” is the responsibility of the importing country.

d) Trade of plant products should be considered through risk management with a minimum impact, considering the intended use of these products.

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10. CONCLUSIONS

- Risk assessments are dynamic evaluations, which allow for justifying the most appropriate phytosanitary measures according to the products and the intended use.
- Diversion from intended use is the responsibility of the importing country.
- Phytosanitary measures established by Mexico for plant products are adequate with respect to the associated phytosanitary risks and the intended use.
- Following a risk-based approach and in accordance with the guidance of ISPM 32 is critical, in that the measures applied should be proportional to the pest risk identified according to their intended use.
- Trade benefits are surely enhanced when the parties (importer-exporter) adhere to international regulations and to the obligations they have acquired.

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THANK YOU!

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