



Food and Agriculture
Organization of the
United Nations



International
Plant Protection
Convention



INTERNATIONAL YEAR OF
PLANT HEALTH
2020

PROTECTING PLANTS,
PROTECTING LIFE

KEEPING OUR WORLD GREEN

*Promoting the IYPH from a
global perspective*

IYPH@fao.org

www.fao.org/plant-health-2020

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Why Plant Health?



INTERNATIONAL YEAR OF
PLANT HEALTH
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PROTECTING PLANTS,
PROTECTING LIFE

Because...



- we see an unprecedented spread of pests internationally
- we see more and more damages caused by pests
- climate change weakens our ecosystems and may support pests



However,...



- the public isn't really aware of the problem
- decision makers don't know much about it
- politicians have other priorities





The IYPH 2020 is an effort to raise the public and political awareness of Plant Health to help governments and the international community to address these challenges for plant health



Legacy of the IYPH

What we want to achieve:

- **The public knows about plant health and acts responsibly – not distributing pests.**
- **Decision makers and politicians understand that plant health is an important issue and deserves priority.**
- **National Plant Protection Organizations are well funded to undertake their main task – protecting against the introduction of pests.**
- **Funding for plant health research and teaching will be improved.**



Legacy of the IYPH - 2

Top achievements envisaged:

- **The 12th of May is officially recognized as the International Day of Plant Health.**
- **Plant Health and climate change interactions are studied.**
- **Plant Health solutions to address future challenges are investigated and developed.**
- **Funding for plant health research and teaching will be improved.**
- **Plant Health contributes substantially to the prevention of hunger and poverty, and the preservation of our environment.**





***However, what we really,
really don't want is:***



**That our trees
and**



Courtesy of: Pfeilstetter/JKI



**..... forests die
because of pests
and**

Courtesy of: British Columbia
Ministry of Forests, Lands,
Natural Resource Operations
and Rural



**.... consequential
fires**

Courtesy of: British Columbia
Ministry of Forests, Lands,
Natural Resource Operations
and Rural



**That our crops,
fruits and vegetables
die because of pests
and that our
livelihoods and
ways of life are
irreversibly changed**



© Adrian Houston

**That our plants and
the environment are
irreversibly
destroyed**



***Instead, what we really,
really, really want is:***





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**To keep our
environment
pristine by keeping
our plants healthy**



Thank You!

Courtesy of IPPC

