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Technical Panel on Diagnostic Protocols

22 June 2026

Virtual Meeting

IPPC Secretariat

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Contents

1.	Opening of the meeting	4
1.1	Welcome by the IPPC Secretariat	4
2.	Meeting arrangements	4
2.1	Selection of chairperson	4
2.2	Selection of the rapporteur	4
2.3	Adoption of the agenda	4
3.	Administrative matters	4
3.1	Connections to Zoom and virtual meetings.....	4
4.	Review of TPDP work programme	4
4.1	Update from SC May 2026 meeting	4
4.2	Instructions for Authors – current state and next steps	5
4.3	Update on draft DPs in the work programme.....	6
5.	Upcoming TPDP meeting.....	7
5.1	TPDP 2026 September face-face meeting arrangements	7
6.	Any other business.....	7
7.	Closing of the meeting.....	7
	Appendix 1: Agenda.....	8

1. Opening of the meeting

1.1 Welcome by the IPPC Secretariat

- [1] Marina MARTINO, IPPC Phytosanitary Standard Setting Specialist, opened the virtual meeting of the Technical Panel on Diagnostic Protocols (TPDP). She welcomed all participants and outlined the main objective of the meeting, namely, to review progress since the last face-to-face meeting on the *Instruction for authors*, discuss the status of ongoing diagnostic protocols (DPs), and plan the forthcoming TPDP face-to-face meeting.
- [2] Robert TAYLOR (New Zealand) informed the Panel that his mandate has come to an end and that he will not renew his membership. The IPPC Secretariat (hereafter referred to as the “Secretariat”) and Panel members expressed their appreciation for his work. The Secretariat also informed the Panel that a call for experts in bacteriology to join the TPDP has been launched.
- [3] The Secretariat informed the Panel about ongoing internal reorganization. Adriana MOREIRA is temporarily covering an interim position within the Secretariat, while Stefano PRETI, as IPPC Phytosanitary Standard Setting Specialist, will support the work of the Panel.

2. Meeting arrangements

2.1 Selection of chairperson

- [4] The TPDP selected Géraldine ANTHOINE (France) as the chairperson.

2.2 Selection of the rapporteur

- [5] The TPDP selected Sietse VAN DER LINDE (The Netherlands) as rapporteur.

2.3 Adoption of the agenda

- [6] The TPDP adopted the agenda (Appendix 1).

3. Administrative matters

3.1 Connections to Zoom and virtual meetings

- [7] The Secretariat informed the TPDP that Norman B. BARR (United States of America) and Adrian DINSDALE (Australia) could not attend the meeting. No administrative matters were discussed.

4. Review of TPDP work programme

4.1 Update from SC May 2026 meeting

- [8] The Secretariat updated the panel about the outcomes of the Standards Committee (SC) meeting held in May 2026. The work accomplished by the TPDP over the past year, as well as its proposed workplan for the coming year, were presented to the SC, which acknowledged and expressed thanks for the Panel’s commitment. In response to a question from a panel member, the Secretariat also confirmed that the SC maintained the priority levels assigned to each DP.
- [9] Regarding the forthcoming TPDP face-to-face meeting, the Secretariat informed the Panel that, in light of the long-standing collaboration between EPPO and the TPDP, and EPPO’s valuable contributions to the Panel’s work over the years, Ms Charlotte Trontin (EPPO Scientific Officer) had been identified to participate in the forthcoming TPDP meeting as invited expert. The SC endorsed this approach, and the invitation will be issued accordingly.
- [10] The Secretariat reminded the Panel of the SC November 2025¹ decision under the "Rethinking ISPMs" framework concerning TPDP proposals to improve the readability and implementation of DPs. The SC

¹ SC November 2025 Report: <https://www.ippc.int/en/publications/95455/>

welcomed the proposal to include a summary table outlining the minimum diagnostic requirements and requested the TPDP to develop such a table for one DP scheduled for review at the September face-to-face meeting, for consideration by the SC at its November 2026 meeting. The Secretariat therefore invited the Panel to select the DP to which this approach should be applied.

[11] The TPDP:

- (1) *noted* that the SC had endorsed the participation of Ms Charlotte TRONTIN (EPPO Scientific Officer) in the next TPDP face-to-face meeting as invited expert.; and
- (2) *noted* the need to identify one DP for which a summary table of minimum diagnostic requirements would be prepared.

4.2 Instructions for Authors – current state and next steps

[12] The panel reviewed the appendixes of the *Instructions for Authors*, considering the comments provided and receiving an update on the overall development of the remaining appendixes.

[13] It was noted that the main text of the *Instructions for Authors* has also been revised and it was agreed that both the main text and the appendixes will undergo further revision for discussion during the next face-to-face meeting.

[14] **Appendix 1.** Appendix 1 was revised by Géraldine ANTHOINE with the aim of developing a blank, standardized template with references to other appendixes.

[15] The panel reviewed the content of Appendix 1 and agreed on several revisions. Comments related to examples were addressed; it was agreed that including examples would unnecessarily lengthen the appendix and may not be relevant. Instead, authors will be encouraged to refer to existing DPs for guidance.

[16] Regarding the Status box table, the panel discussed the relevance of including information on protocols used as the basis for adapting IPPC DPs. Although it was considered that this information would be more appropriately placed in the Acknowledgements section only, it was agreed to retain it for now, with the understanding that it may be reviewed further. The Secretariat clarified that no mandatory format is imposed by the SC, however editorial consistency across ISPMs should be ensured. The Secretariat will follow up with the editor to clarify this point, however noting that the status box table is removed after the adoption of DPs. The panel also agreed to delete the reference to conference presentations.

[17] On taxonomic information, the panel agreed to refer to Appendix 2, where it was proposed to include guidance on formatting scientific names, including the use of italics for genus and species names. For virology, it was indicated that virus names in common usage are not italicized, whereas formal taxonomic names (i.e. Family, Genus, Species names) are. The panel agreed to follow the IPPC Style Guide for taxonomic formatting, including the use of italics for Genus, Species, and infraspecific taxa.

[18] Regarding references to taxonomic databases, it was agreed that citing relevant databases may be optional and that Appendix 2 should provide guidance on available repositories. This approach was agreed across disciplines.

[19] To avoid duplication, the panel agreed to move certain explanatory text from section 3 of the appendix into the main text. This included specific sections (e.g. paragraphs 3.1 and 3.6.5), which will be incorporated into dedicated subsections. Similarly, longer explanatory text currently in Section 5 will be transferred to the main document to maintain Appendix 1 as a blank template.

[20] In the Acknowledgements section, it was agreed to include text as used in existing DPs, and to retain such examples within the appendix rather than in the main text.

- [21] **Appendix 2.** Appendix 2 was discussed by the responsible member, David OUVRARD, who informed that the references to scientific names had been revised and that the citation of authorships and dates had been improved.
- [22] The revision was carried out from a zoological perspective, using the standards of the International Commission on Zoological Nomenclature (ICZN). For other disciplines, the reference repositories remained to be discussed with the respective discipline leads. Vijayasankar RAMAN, the Discipline Lead for botany indicated that the commonly used databases are the International Plant Names Index (IPNI) and Plants of the World Online (POWO), maintained by the Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew. For other disciplines, the databases included in Appendix 2 are Index Fungorum, the List of Prokaryotic Names with Standing in Nomenclature (LPSN), and the International Committee on Taxonomy of Viruses (ICTV).
- [23] **Appendix 3.** Following the resignation of the previous TPDP member responsible for this task, Géraldine ANTHOINE volunteered to take over the drafting of the new Appendix 3.
- [24] **Appendix 7.** The panel agreed that Appendix 7 will be revised at a later stage, following and building upon the revision of Appendix 3.
- [25] **Appendix 8.** One of the TPDP members responsible for revising Appendix 8, Sietse VAN DER LINDE, indicated the need to reassess the content to be included in the appendix. It was suggested to consider the EPPO approach, particularly guidance on sequencing (e.g. EPPO PM 7-series documents), as a possible model. It was noted that attempting to include all types of information in Appendix 8 has proven challenging, as certain details may be more appropriately addressed within individual DPs.
- [26] In particular, sequencing was highlighted as a broad topic that often requires species-specific considerations, making it difficult to define an appropriate level of detail for a general appendix. In this context, it was observed that the purpose of such appendices is to provide guidance on what should be included in DPs. However, it was noted that, given the rapid evolution of diagnostic methods, detailed technical guidance could quickly become outdated. The Panel therefore agreed that Appendix 8 should follow a broader approach, while taking into account new and emerging techniques where relevant.
- [27] It was further clarified that the Instructions for Authors document is intended to guide those developing DPs by specifying the elements to be included. Accordingly, the Panel agreed that Appendix 8 should focus on core principles.
- [28] The TPDP:
- (3) *agreed* to review the *Instructions for Authors* and its Appendices during the next face-to-face meeting;
 - (4) *agreed* to request the Secretariat to follow up with the editor regarding the content of the Status box table of Appendix 1;
 - (5) *agreed* that Géraldine ANTHOINE will take on the drafting of the new Appendix 3;
 - (6) *agreed* that Sietse VAN DER LINDE and Adrian DINSDALE will further work on Appendix 8; and
 - (7) *agreed* that the Appendices be shared with Géraldine ANTHOINE by early August.

4.3 Update on draft DPs in the work programme

- [29] The TPDP reviewed the status of DPs to assess their stage of development, identify which DP could be revised during the face-to-face meeting and areas where new calls for authors may be needed.
- [30] The TPDP:
- (8) *agreed* that the Secretariat will consult the Discipline Lead to confirm whether the DP 2006-028: Tephritidae: Identification of immature stages of fruit flies of economic importance by molecular techniques is ready to proceed to expert consultation;

- (9) *agreed* that the Secretariat contact the drafting team for 2018-025: Citrus leprosis virus to confirm its current status, commitment, and expected delivery timeline;
- (10) *agreed* that the Secretariat follow up with the drafting team for 2019-003: *Microcyclus ulei* to confirm its commitment to completing the draft DP;
- (11) *agreed* that the Secretariat contact the Lead Author 2019-011: Revision of DP 5 (*Phyllosticta citricarpa* (McAlpine)) Aa to clarify the status of the draft;
- (12) *noted* that Géraldine ANTHOINE will be the interim Referee for 2019-011: Revision of DP 5 (*Phyllosticta citricarpa* (McAlpine)) Aa;
- (13) *agreed* that the Secretariat will consult the Discipline Lead regarding the current status of 2021-001: Revision of DP 03: *Trogoderma granarium* Everts and that a new call for authors be considered if required;
- (14) *agreed* that the Secretariat contact the drafting team for 2021-025: Tomato brown rugose fruit virus to confirm the status of the draft; and
- (15) *agreed* that the Discipline Lead for 2018-015: *Cronartium comandrae* will follow up with the drafting team to confirm the unrestricted use of one of the methods included in the DP.

5. Upcoming TPDP meeting

5.1 TPDP 2026 September face-face meeting arrangements

- [31] The Secretariat informed the Panel that an updated agenda for the September 2026 face-to-face meeting will be shared. Panel members were requested to confirm receipt of the invitation letter and their availability to attend. It was emphasized that registration for the meeting is required by 11 July 2026, while requests for an official letter of invitation from the Kingdom of the Netherlands, to support visa applications, should be submitted by 13 July 2026.
- [32] Furthermore, the Secretariat informed the Panel that a mini workshop is planned in conjunction with the face-to-face meeting focused on high-throughput sequencing (HTS) for bacteria. The Secretariat will circulate further information and explore opportunities for interested Panel members to contribute, as sharing the Panel's experience would be beneficial.
- [33] The TPDP:
- (16) *noted* that registration for the meeting is required by 11 July 2026, while requests for an official letter of invitation, to support visa applications, should be submitted by 13 July 2026; and
 - (17) *noted* that a mini workshop on high-throughput sequencing (HTS) is scheduled to take place during the next TPDP face to face meeting.

6. Any other business

- [34] The Panel discussed the possibility of holding a virtual meeting before the upcoming face-to-face meeting, if needed. It was agreed that this would be further considered and confirmed via email.

7. Closing of the meeting

- [35] The chairperson thanked the participants and closed the meeting.

Appendix 1: Agenda

(Meeting documents are available only to TPDP members)

Agenda Item		Document No.	Presenter
1.	Opening of the Meeting		
1.1	Welcome by the IPPC Secretariat	--	IPPC Secretariat
2.	Meeting Arrangements		
2.1	Selection of Chairperson	--	IPPC Secretariat
2.2	Selection of the Rapporteur	--	Chairperson
2.3	Adoption of the Agenda	01_TPDP_2026_June	Chairperson
3.	Administrative Matters		
3.1	Connections to Zoom and virtual meetings	Short guidelines for participants	IPPC Secretariat
4.	Review of TPDP work programme		
4.1	Update from SC May 2026 meeting	--	IPPC Secretariat/ ATTIPOE/ YEA
4.2	Instructions for Authors – current state and next steps - Extract from the 2025 TPDP face to face meeting report – revision of <i>Instructions for authors</i> - Instructions for Authors revised version - Appendix 1 revised version	06_TPDP_2026_June 02_TPDP_2026_June 03_TPDP_2026_June	ANTHOINE/ ALL
4.3	Update on draft DPs in the work programme	04_TPDP_2026_June	IPPC Secretariat/ ALL
5	Upcoming TPDP meeting		
5.1	TPDP 2026 September face-face meeting arrangements - Review of draft agenda - Logistics	05_TPDP_2026_June	IPPC Secretariat/ VAN DER LINDE/ ALL
6.	Any other business	--	Chairperson
7.	Closing of the meeting	--	IPPC Secretariat / Chairperson