



SPECIFICATION 59

Revision of ISPM 8 (*Determination of pest status in an area*)

(2013)

Title

Revision of ISPM 8 (*Determination of pest status in an area*).

Reason for the revision of the standard

Since the adoption of ISPM 8 almost two decades ago, new information became available, and a revision of this standard is needed. This revision should take into account new guidance provided in several other standards, mainly those on pest free areas, that have been adopted since 1998.

Scope and purpose

ISPM 8 describes the content of a pest record, the use of pest records, and other information irrelevant in the determination of pest status in an area. Descriptions of pest status categories are provided together with recommendations for good reporting practices.

This standard is not concerned with reporting obligations, but with the quality of the reported information. Accurate reports are an essential part of international cooperation to facilitate trade.

Tasks

The expert working group (EWG) should:

- (1) Review the consistency of information in ISPM 8 with that in other relevant and subsequently adopted ISPMs.
- (2) Review the existing pest status categories and determinations in ISPM 8 and propose new categories if appropriate.
- (3) Review the “transient” pest status, in particular “transient: actionable, under eradication”, and its relationship to quarantine pests that are present and under official control, taking into account seasonality if appropriate.
- (4) Consider the feasibility of detailing the pest status category “transience” further in order to, for example, describe more precisely the circumstances that may lead to establishment of a pest.
- (5) Review and update terms.
- (6) Consider developing guidance for determining pest status for pests in relation to specific host commodities (where the pest is present only on specific hosts).
- (7) Consider providing additional guidance on how to combine the qualifications associated with pest status categories under “present”.

- (8) Consider providing additional guidance on how to determine pest absence when only very old pest records, not confirmed by further surveillance, are available.
- (9) Consider providing explanations on how national plant protection organizations (NPPOs) may consider pest status in the particular situation where a pest is present only in collections of living organisms (e.g. botanical gardens).
- (10) Consider providing explanations on how an NPPO may consider pest status for plants that are grown or kept under protected conditions (e.g. in a greenhouse) only, and for which the NPPO has determined cannot survive outdoors in the area.
- (11) Provide recommendations on the meaning and use of phrases such as "finding of a pest", "pest is not known to occur", "pest known not to occur" and "worldwide distributed", which are often used in pest reports.
- (12) Discuss, and if appropriate provide recommendations on, the relationship between official pest reports and other published pest information; in particular:
 - Describe how information can be evaluated and described according to quality and validity, and include guidance on interpreting the table ("Guidance for evaluating the reliability of a pest record") in ISPM 8.
 - Discuss how uncertainty relates to pest status and pest records, and include guidance on conflicting opinions, contradictory reports and weight of evidence (multiple reports versus single reports).
- (13) Consider providing guidance on the timeframes for updating pest records.
- (14) Consider providing additional guidance on factors determining the validity of pest records..
- (15) Discuss the influence of a pest interception on the pest status of the country of origin, especially when the pest status in the country of origin has been determined to be absent.
- (16) Review and update references in Appendix 1.
- (17) Identify other relevant information to be updated.
- (18) Consider implementation of the standard by contracting parties and identify potential operational and technical implementation issues. Provide information and possible recommendations on these issues to the Standards Committee (SC).
- (19) Consider whether the ISPM could affect in a specific way (positively or negatively) the protection of biodiversity and the environment. If this is the case, the impact should be identified, addressed and clarified in the draft ISPM.
- (20) Review all references to ISPM 8 in other ISPMs to ensure that they are still relevant and propose consequential changes if necessary.

Provision of resources

Funding for the meeting may be provided from sources other than the regular programme of the IPPC (FAO). As recommended by ICPM-2 (1999), whenever possible, those participating in standard setting activities voluntarily fund their travel and subsistence to attend meetings. Participants may request financial assistance, with the understanding that resources are limited and the priority for financial assistance is given to developing country participants.

Collaborator

To be determined.

Steward

Please refer to the List of topics for IPPC standards on the International Phytosanitary Portal (<https://www.ippc.int/core-activities/standards-setting/list-topics-ippc-standards>).

Expertise

Five to seven phytosanitary experts with collective expertise and experience in phytosanitary systems; pest risk analysis; the development and implementation of ISPMs; surveillance, monitoring or eradication programmes for regulated pests; determination of pest status; and verification of pest records.

Participants

To be determined.

References

The IPPC, relevant ISPMs and other national, regional and international standards and agreements as may be applicable to the tasks; discussion papers submitted in relation to this work; and the Implementation Review and Support System (IRSS) report on activities carried out for ISPM 8.

Discussion papers

Participants and interested parties are encouraged to submit discussion papers to the IPPC Secretariat (ippc@fao.org) for consideration by the EWG.

Publication history

This is not an official part of the specification

2009-11 SC introduced topic Revision of ISPM 8 (*Determination of pest status in an area*) (2009-005) (noted in SC 2010-04 report)

2010-3 CPM-5 added the topic to the List of topics for IPPC standards

2010-11 SC deferred draft

2011-05 SC deferred draft

2012-04 SC requested SC members to send comments to steward

2012-09 steward sent revised specification to IPPC Secretariat

2012-11 SC revised and asked steward to finalize

2012-12 steward revised draft, which was sent for e-decision

2013-01 SC approved for MC by e-decision

2013-06 sent for MC

2013-08 revised by steward

2013-11 SC revised and approved the specification

2015-10 Secretariat revised to incorporate task on references to ISPM 8 as requested by the 2014-11 SC

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