



SPECIFICATION 63

Guidance on pest risk management

(Approved 2015, published 2015)

Title

Guidance on pest risk management (2014-001).

Reason for the standard

While there are various concept ISPMs available that address pest risk management (ISPM 1 (Phytosanitary principles for the protection of plants and the application of phytosanitary measures in international trade), ISPM 2 (Framework for pest risk analysis), ISPM 11 (Pest risk analysis for quarantine pests) and ISPM 21 (Pest risk analysis for regulated non-quarantine pests)), there are also pest-specific and commodity-specific ISPMs in progress and there is a trend to include elements of pest risk management in these ISPMs. A standard on pest risk management will provide further guidance across more specific standards.

The concept of mitigating pest risk to an acceptable level should be the guiding principle of managing risk (ISPM 1); aiming for zero risk is not a reasonable option. Contracting parties, recognizing that the risk of spread and introduction of pests always exists when importing regulated articles, should apply phytosanitary measures based on such a principle; that is, they should manage risk to achieve the required degree of safety that can be justified and is feasible within the limits of available options and resources.

Pest risk is determined during stage 2 (pest risk assessment) of a pest risk analysis (PRA). If the pest risk is unacceptable, the first step in pest risk management is to identify possible phytosanitary measures that will reduce the risk to or below an acceptable level. Appropriate measures should be chosen based on their effectiveness and on various considerations, which include several of the phytosanitary principles of ISPM 1, such as minimal impact and equivalence. Phytosanitary measures should also be cost-effective and feasible. The uncertainty related to economic consequences and the probability of introduction, noted during stage 2 of a PRA, should be considered and included in the selection of an appropriate pest risk management option.

ISPM 2, ISPM 11 and ISPM 21 assist national plant protection organizations in identifying, evaluating and selecting appropriate pest risk management options following the completion of stage 2 of a PRA. Guidance on how to complete stage 3 (pest risk management) of a PRA is provided in ISPM 11 and ISPM 21, but additional guidance would be useful to complement existing ISPMs.

Purpose

An ISPM providing guidance on pest risk management could help harmonize the identification of appropriate pest risk management options, including criteria related to the strength of phytosanitary measures.

The standard should address aspects of pest risk management such as: when it is necessary; to what extent it should be applied (related to the principle of acceptable level of risk); how key concepts such as managed risk, technical justification, appropriate level of protection and equivalence relate to it; and how countries can improve its harmonization.

Scope

This ISPM should provide guidance on pest risk management for regulated pests associated with the international movement of regulated articles.

Tasks

The expert drafting group should undertake the following tasks:

- (1) Describe the processes for the identification of pest risk management options, including:
 - The basis for decisions in the pest risk management process
 - Identification of pest risk management options
 - Evaluation of phytosanitary measures for their applicability, environmental impact, feasibility, cost-effectiveness and proportionality for achieving the acceptable level of risk
 - Selection of appropriate phytosanitary measures
 - Determination of documentation needed (related to evaluation and selection of phytosanitary measures for pest risk management)
 - Monitoring and re-evaluation of options.
- (2) Consider whether this ISPM could be an annex or a supplement to another ISPM such as ISPM 11.
- (3) Consider including guidance on pest risk management for the introduction of biological control agents and other beneficial organisms.
- (4) 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.
- (5) Consider implementation of the ISPM by contracting parties and identify potential operational and technical implementation issues. Provide information and possible recommendations on these issues to the Standards Committee.

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* posted on the International Phytosanitary Portal (IPP) (see <https://www.ippc.int/core-activities/standards-setting/list-topics-ippc-standards>).

Expertise

Six to eight experts with collective expertise in conducting PRAs, evaluating and selecting pest risk management options, and applying phytosanitary measures in the international trade of plants and

plant products. Experts with extensive experience and expertise across a number of these fields will be given priority.

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, and discussion papers submitted in relation to this work.

EPPO Standard PM 5/3(5). 2011. *Decision-support scheme for quarantine pests*. Paris, EPPO.

RSPM 40. 2014. *Principles of pest risk management for the import of commodities*. Ottawa, NAPPO.

Discussion papers

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

Publication history

This is not an official part of the specification

2013-08 Topic submitted by USA

2013-11 SC recommended the topic to be added to the List of topics for IPPC standards

2014-04 CPM-9 added topic *Guidance on pest risk management* (2014-001)

2014-07 Revised and approved for member consultation via e-decision (2014_eSC_Nov_05: forum and poll)

2014-12 member consultation

2015-11 SC reviewed and approved specification

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