Name of Country or Organization\_\_\_\_EPPO\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Submission form for IPPC standard setting work programme topics**

This completed form must be submitted by the International Plant Protection Convention (IPPC) Official Contact Point, preferably in electronic format, to the IPPC Secretariat ([ippc@fao.org](mailto:ippc@fao.org)) no later than **14 August 2015**. Please use one form per topic. This [submission form](https://www.ippc.int/index.php?id=207776)[[1]](#footnote-1) is also available on the International Phytosanitary Portal (IPP, [www.ippc.int](http://www.ippc.int)).

Save and submit the completed submission form as: 2015\_TOPIC\_SUBMISSION\_Country or organization Name – Proposed title of topic.doc.

Refer to the [IPPC Standard Setting Procedure](https://www.ippc.int/en/core-activities/standards-setting/)[[2]](#footnote-2) for an explanation of the hierarchy of terms for standards (technical area, topic and subject). The current [List of topics for IPPC standards](https://www.ippc.int/en/core-activities/standards-setting/list-topics-ippc-standards/) is available on the IPP[[3]](#footnote-3).

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| **Submission form for IPPC standard setting work programme topics** | | |
| **Proposed by:** (Name of IPPC Official Contact Point)[[4]](#footnote-4)  EPPO | | |
| **Contact:** (Contact information of an individual able to clarify issues relating to this submission)  Name: Martin Ward  Position and organization: Director General  Mailing address: European and Mediterranean Plant Protection Organization (EPPO/OEPP)  21 boulevard Richard Lenoir 75011 PARIS  Phone: + 33 (0) 1 45 20 77 94 Fax: + 33 (0) 1 70 76 65 47  E-mail:mw@eppo.int | | |
| **Type of topic:** (Choose one box only) | | |
| A. New ISPM:  [\_\_] Concept  [\_\_] Pest specific  [\_X\_] Commodity specific  [\_\_] Reference | B. New component  to an existing ISPM:  [\_\_] Supplement  [\_\_] Annex  [\_\_] Appendix  [\_\_] Technical Panel (technical area)  [\_\_] DP: Diagnostic protocol (subject)  [\_\_] PT: Phytosanitary treatment (topic)  [\_\_] Glossary term (subject) | C. Revision/Amendment of:  [\_\_] ISPM  [\_\_] Supplement  [\_\_] Annex  [\_\_] Appendix  [\_\_] Glossary term |
| **Proposed title of new ISPM or component: or Title of document to be revised or amended:**  **International movement of apples** | | |
| **Summary justification for the proposal (two sentences maximum):** International trade of apples is substantial in volume and important for many exporting and importing countries. A commodity standard on apples is needed to provide harmonized guidance for NPPOs on pest risks and standardised options for phytosanitary measures that could be used to mitigate the risk of introduction and spread of regulated pests while minimizing unnecessary impact on trade. | | |
| Submissions should address the applicable criteria for justification of the proposal (as listed below). Where possible, information in support of the justification and that may assist in the prioritization should be indicated.  **All core criteria must be addressed; supporting criteria should be addressed if applicable.** | | |
| **Core criteria:** | | |
| Contribution to the purpose of the IPPC as described in Article I.1.  The standard will help to prevent the spread of pests of apples and other pomaceous fruits. Especially apple-importing countries will be safeguarded from phytosanitary risks due to focused guidance for their risk analyses and standardised options for phytosanitary import requirements and due to harmonized application of phytosanitary measures in the countries of origin. Exporting countries and trade will benefit from increased transparency, standardisation and simplification of import requirements. | | |
| Feasibility of implementation at the global level (includes ease of implementation, technical complexity, capacity of NPPOs to implement, relevance for more than one region).  It is assumed that a standard on the international movement of apples would be implemented by many contracting parties because it will ease the NPPOs work on the import and export side. The standard will provide guidance on the technical basis and thereby simplify the analytical processes. In particular NPPOs with lower capacity will profit by the standard. The standard will be relevant for many regions because trade with apples is very important worldwide. | | |
| Clear identification of the problems that need to be resolved through the development of the standard.  Increased globalisation of trade in fresh fruit and vegetables increases the risk of introduction and spread of pests into new geographical areas.  In the EU-funded research project “DROPSA” (‘Strategies to develop effective, innovative and practical approaches to protect major European fruit crops from pests and pathogens’), risks related to pests that are globally not yet wide spread were recently analysed and about 250 significant pests of apple fruit from different taxonomic groups that might be further spread internationally and might threaten fruit production were identified.  Due to a lack of harmonized approaches to assess and manage phytosanitary risks that may be associated with the international movement of apples there is substantial divergence in the application of phytosanitary measures and requirements. This may lead to delays in the establishment of trade, unnecessary restrictions and discrimination of trading partners.  Clarification of requirements and providing a set of options for phytosanitary import requirements could simplify arrangements and allow NPPOs to work more efficiently.  For importing countries, this commodity standard could simplify the PRA process by presenting options to deal with potential risks from specific pests or pest groups.  For exporting countries the standard could help to reduce the burden of meeting the very different phytosanitary import requirements that currently apply and could also be of benefit to producers and exporters. | | |
| Availability of, or possibility to collect, information in support of the proposed standard (e.g. scientific, historical, technical information, experience).  There is a huge amount of information on apple pests available, providing a suitable basis for the development of the standard (e.g. Sutton *et al*., 2014).  Additionally, in the framework of the research project “DROPSA” (EU-funded), in depth information on apple pests were collected on the global scale. The results are expected to be available soon.  In addition, there should be many experts in NPPOs who are experienced in assessing and managing apple pest risks. | | |

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| **Supporting criteria (Practical)**   * Feasibility of adopting the proposed standard within a reasonable time frame. * Stage of development of the proposed standard (is a standard on the same topic already widely used by NPPOs, RPPOs or a relevant international organization). * Availability of expertise needed to develop the proposed standard.   Development of such ISPM is considered feasible provided that broad consensus is achieved between importing and exporting countries on the purpose and scope. It might be a challenge that many countries already have phytosanitary import requirements in place reflecting a wide range of pest risks and plant protection needs. However the development of guidance on general IPPC commodity standards would help to overcome this challenge.  Apples are widely grown and experts should be available. |
| **Supporting criteria (Economic)**   * Estimated value of the plants protected. * Estimated value of trade affected by the proposed standard (e.g. volume of trade, value of trade, the percentage of Gross Domestic Product of this trade) if appropriate. * Estimated value of new trade opportunities provided by the approval of the proposed standard. * Potential benefits in terms of pest control or quarantine activities.   Apples are traded globally as a fresh perishable commodity. They are imported for consumption or for processing. The trade is well developed and in many cases uses sophisticated infrastructure to maintain fruit quality and shelf life. The standard should apply to commercial consignments and should not apply to processed (chopped, cooked, dried) apples.  The international trade of apples is substantial in volume. From FAO statistics, in 2013, more than 135 countries imported 1000 tonnes or more. Total global imports amounted to more than 8M tonnes with a value of more than US$8 billion.  Apples are an important export commodity for many countries. For example, in 2013, more than 8.5 million tonnes were exported globally, with countries from Africa, Asia, Europe, Latin America and SW Pacific in the top ten exporting countries, both by volume and value. 62 countries exported at least 1000 tonnes. The global value of exports was more than US $8 billion.  The reduction of the risk to introduce and spread apple and polyphagous pests will be beneficial for all countries growing apples and other pomaceous fruits. Global apple production grew up to 80 million tons per year [FAOSTAT, 2015]) and is therefore important for many exporting and importing countries.  A standard addressing pest risks of apples will help countries with the complex task of undertaking pest risk analyses for the commodity of apples. Phytosanitary import requirements for apples should be technically justified and not more restrictive to trade than required. |
| **Supporting criteria (Environmental)**   * Utility to reduce the potential negative environmental consequences of certain phytosanitary measures, for example reduction in global emissions for the protection of the ozone layer. * Utility in the management of non indigenous species which are pests of plants (such as some invasive alien species). * Contribution to the protection of the environment, through the protection of wild flora, and their habitats and ecosystems, and of agricultural biodiversity.   Apples can be affected by a large number of pests and, based on PRA, countries have specified a wide variety of phytosanitary measures in their phytosanitary regulations. Phytosanitary measures applied to the international movement of apples help reduce the risk of introduction and spread of quarantine pests into new geographical areas.  The protection of endangered areas from newly introduced apple pests will help to avoid additional chemical treatments to be used for pest management.  Likewise more targeted risk-based import requirements may help to minimize unnecessary pesticide applications in export countries. |
| **Supporting criteria (Strategic)**   * Extent of support for the proposed standard (e.g. one or more NPPOs or RPPOs have requested it, or one or more RPPOs have adopted a standard on the same topic). * Frequency with which the issue addressed by the proposed standard emerges as a source of trade disruption (e.g. disputes or need for repeated bilateral discussions, number of times per year trade is disrupted). * Relevance and utility to developing countries. * Coverage (application to a wide range of countries/pests/commodities). * Complements other standards (e.g. potential for the standard to be used as part of a systems approach for one pest, complement treatments for other pests). * Foundation standards to address fundamental concepts (e.g. treatment efficacy, inspection methodology). * Expected standard longevity (e.g. future trade needs, suggested use of easily outdated technology or products). * Urgent need for the standard.   The development of such a standard has been proposed by many EPPO countries (IPPC members) and is assumed to concern also other NPPOs.  The lack of harmonization addressed by the proposed standard emerges as a source of trade disruption and disputes in importing and exporting countries.  Apples have been the subject of two specific WTO plant health disputes (by the USA with Japan https://www.wto.org/english/tratop\_e/dispu\_e/cases\_e/ds245\_e.htm and by New Zealand with Australia https://www.wto.org/english/tratop\_e/dispu\_e/cases\_e/ds367\_e.htm). Both cases related to measures for *Erwinia amylovora* (fireblight). In a third case, apples were one of the commodities cited in the dispute (by USA with Japan, https://www.wto.org/english/tratop\_e/dispu\_e/cases\_e/ds76\_e.htm).  The standard is highly relevant to developing as well as developed countries.  The need for the standard will substantially increase in future. |
| **Diagnostic protocols are subject to additional criteria. For proposals for DPs, please elaborate on the following criteria to help the future consideration of the subject proposed:**   * Need for international harmonization of the diagnostic techniques for the pest (e.g. due to difficulties in diagnosis or disputes on methodology). * Relevance of the diagnosis to the protection of plants including measures to limit the impact of the pest. * Importance of the plants protected on the global level (e.g. relevant to many countries or of major importance to a few countries). * Volume/importance of trade of the commodity that is subjected to the diagnostic procedures (e.g. relevant to many countries or of major importance to a few countries). * Other criteria for topics as determined by CPM that are relevant to determining priorities. * Balance between pests of importance in different climatic zones (temperate, tropics etc) and commodity classes. * Number of labs undertaking the diagnosis. * Feasibility of production of a protocol, including availability of knowledge and expertise. |

CPM-7 (2012) agreed that all submissions of proposed topics for the IPPC Standard Setting work programme should be accompanied by a draft Specification and a literature review. This provision would not apply to proposals for diagnostic protocols, phytosanitary treatments or glossary terms.

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| **Draft Specification**  (SC approved specifications are posted on the IPP (<https://www.ippc.int/en/core-activities/standards-setting/approved-specifications/>) and may be referenced for examples.) |
| **Proposed Title:**  **International movement of apples** |
| **Reason for the standard** (justification as to why the standard is needed, some of this can be copied from the above submission):  International trade of apples for human consumption and/or processing is substantial in volume and important for many exporting and importing countries. The international movement of apples is associated with the risk of introduction and spread of pests. Phytosanitary measures applied to imported apples help to reduce the risk of introduction and spread of regulated pests. However, there is substantial divergence in the application of such measures resulting in a wide range of very specific arrangements to be fulfilled to allow the establishment and continuation of trade.  There is currently no adopted IPPC standard that provides sufficient guidance on phytosanitary measures for the international movement of apples resulting in a lack of harmonized approaches to assess and manage phytosanitary risks associated with apples. The development of an ISPM on the international movement of apples could substantially help to minimize these challenges. Its development is considered feasible provided that broad consensus is achieved between importing and exporting countries on the purpose and scope of such ISPM. |
| **Purpose** (explain what issue will be addressed and/or harmonized once this standard is put in place):  An ISPM on the international movement of apples should help to promote harmonization of related procedures, will support the establishment of transparent phytosanitary import requirements, help to avoid unnecessary delay in their establishment and help to minimize discrimination. It should also safeguard importing countries from phytosanitary risks that may result from imports of fresh apples due to options for the harmonized application of phytosanitary measures in the countries of origin. The standard will provide NPPOs with guidance on pest risks associated with trade in apples, including risk factors, and guidance on measures relating specifically to the trade in apples that NPPOs can require in order to address these risks and to meet their appropriate level of protection. This standard should therefore facilitate the safe international movement of apples through harmonized phytosanitary procedures and options for standardised phytosanitary import requirements while helping to minimize the risk of the global spread of pests of apples and related crops. |
| **Scope** (this provides the boundaries or limits to what the standard should cover):  This standard applies to fresh apples moved internationally and is intended to provide guidance to assist national plant protection organizations (NPPOs) in identifying, assessing and regulating the pest risks associated with the international trade of fresh apples. If appropriate, the standard may contain minimum requirements for trade in apples, for example freedom from key pests. |
| **Tasks for the expert drafting group** (this will help direct the work of the experts):   1. Analysis of existing guidance, such as agreements or industry guidelines and research outcomes dealing with the international movement of apples, and identification of relevant information that could be considered for the standard. 2. Identification of pests potentially associated with apples and categorization of the pests based on their risk to be introduced and spread with the movement of apples. 3. Identification of key requirements and relevant information for the conduct of pest risk analyses for apples. 4. Consideration of production, transportation and storage procedures used by industry that may affect pest risks and whether guidance is relevant to NPPOs in setting their phytosanitary import requirements. 5. Identification of phytosanitary measures reducing the risk of introduction and spread of pests at different stages of the marketing process including:  * Pest free places of production or pest free areas * Post-harvest treatments (e.g. washing, removing of leaves) * Practices in packaging (e.g. scanning, material from different origins) * Measures applied at storage or transport (e.g. cooling, humidity regulation) * Laboratory testing methods  1. Proposal of suitable phytosanitary measures according to the identified risks and their categories that can be included as options for NPPOs to consider. If appropriate, combinations of measures should be identified that might be used when importing countries requirements are established. 2. Consideration whether minimum requirements should be included for certain categories of apples, such as freedom from specific pests. 3. Consideration as to 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 ISPM. |
| **Expertise** (this will provide the basis for screening nominations):  An expert working group (EWG) of 7 phytosanitary experts with expertise in one or more of the following areas: development and/or implementation of phytosanitary measures to manage pest risks associated with the international movement of apples, pest risk analysis (PRA), apple inspection or testing, and existing guidance for the international movement of apples. Expertise in exporting and importing countries` needs should be equally represented.  In addition to these experts, 2 experts from the apple industry (product, producing, packaging, storage, trading, transport) or from relevant organizations may be invited to participate at the EWG meeting(s) or part of the meetings as invited experts. |
| **References** (Relevant ISPMs and national, regional or international standards on the same topic and any specific references that would be relevant during drafting):  Relevant ISPMs and other national, regional or international standards and agreements as may be applicable to the task.  Possibly scientific literature on worldwide apple pests and effective treatments against them (e.g. Sutton *et al*. (2014): Compendium of apple and pear diseases and pests; NAPPO regional standard RSPM 34: Development of Phytosanitary Treatment Protocols for Regulated Arthropod Pest of Fresh Fruits or Vegetables). |
| **Literature review** (this section will provide a **summary of the topic** based on scientific and technical publications, including a referenced **listed of literature reviewed.** This will help provide the scientific basis for the content of the standard to be used by the selected experts during the development of the standard):  A review of relevant literature regarding apple production, trade and associated pest risks will be available as a result from the EU-funded research project “DROPSA” as introduction to the alert list of pests of apples. |

**Send submissions to:**

[ippc@fao.org](mailto:ippc@fao.org) (Title message: Call for Topics – 2015)

**Mail:**

IPPC Secretariat (AGDI)

Food and Agriculture Organization of the UN

Viale delle Terme di Caracalla

00153 Rome, Italy

1. Link to this submission form on the IPP: <https://www.ippc.int/en/core-activities/calls-topics/> [↑](#footnote-ref-1)
2. Link to the IPPC Standard setting procedure: <https://www.ippc.int/en/core-activities/standards-setting/> [↑](#footnote-ref-2)
3. Link to the List of topics for IPPC standards: <https://www.ippc.int/en/core-activities/standards-setting/list-topics-ippc-standards/> [↑](#footnote-ref-3)
4. Text in brackets () given for explanatory purposes. [↑](#footnote-ref-4)