



**International Plant Protection Convention**  
Protecting the world's plant resources from pests

*60 Years*

# International Plant Protection Convention





International travel and trade are greater than ever before. As people & commodities move around the world, organisms that present risks to plants travel with them. The **International Plant Protection Convention (IPPC)**, that came into being in 1951 at the 6th Conference of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), is an international plant health agreement that aims to protect cultivated and wild plants by preventing the introduction and spread of pests. As of 01 July 2012, the IPPC has grown into a body that encompasses a worldwide membership of 177 contracting parties.

### IPPC vision

Protecting global plant resources from pests.

### IPPC mission

To secure cooperation among nations in protecting global plant resources from the spread and introduction of pests of plants, in order to preserve food security, biodiversity and to facilitate trade.



## How the IPPC helps

By protecting plant resources from pests and diseases, the IPPC helps to:

1. **Protect farmers** from economically devastating pest outbreaks.
2. **Protect the environment** from loss of species diversity.
3. **Protect ecosystems** from loss of viability and function as a result of pest invasions.
4. **Protect industries and consumers** from the costs of pest control or eradication.
5. **Facilitate trade** through Standards that regulate the safe movements of plants and plant products.
6. **Protect livelihoods and food security** by preventing the entry and spread of new pests of plants into a country.



**The Commission on Phytosanitary Measures (CPM)** – the meeting of parties to the Convention – guides IPPC activities, which are delivered by the IPPC Secretariat, established in 1992 within FAO, Rome, Italy.

**The IPPC Secretariat** facilitates information sharing between member countries, thereby supporting members' efforts to protect their plant resources and trade safely.

### The Secretariat

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- ◆ Facilitates the development and adoption of international standards.
  - ◆ Helps contracting parties resolve disputes.
  - ◆ Provides information and technical expertise to national and regional plant protection organizations by hosting and maintaining the [www.ippc.int](http://www.ippc.int) website.
  - ◆ Helps contracting parties build phytosanitary capacity to protect their wild and cultivated plants, their environments and their food security.
  - ◆ Organizes meetings & other CPM activities.



## Phytosanitary Measures & Standards

Phytosanitary measures are any legislation, regulation or official procedure having the purpose to prevent the introduction and/or spread of quarantine pests, or to limit the economic impact of regulated non-quarantine pests.

**International Standards for Phytosanitary Measures (ISPMs)** are internationally agreed upon phytosanitary measures that have been adopted by the consensus of the CPM. ISPMs cover invasive pests of plants, including weeds that cause indirect damage to plants. The standards covering movement of pests apply to vehicles, ships, aircraft, containers, storage places, soil, wood packaging and other objects that could harbour plant pests. ISPMs facilitate safe trade by providing guidance



on procedures, regulations and treatments that can be used to manage pest risks associated with the international movement of goods and conveyances.

### **ISPMs are recognized by the World Trade Organization (WTO)**

for managing pest risks associated with trade. WTO members are expected to base their phytosanitary measures on international standards developed by the IPPC. Suggestions for international standards can be made by national or regional plant protection organizations, or by other groups through the IPPC Secretariat. They are developed by technical committees, reviewed by contracting parties and adopted by the CPM.

**There are over 50 ISPMs as of 2012**, covering issues such as plant quarantine and international trade; pest risk analysis; pest free areas; wood packaging material in international trade; and inspection protocols. All ISPMs, including those in draft and consultation stages, are freely available through the IPPC Web site ([www.ippc.int](http://www.ippc.int)) or from the IPPC Secretariat.



## **IPPC Partners**

- ◆ **Convention members**, to develop phytosanitary measures to manage plant pests.
- ◆ **Regional plant protection organizations**, (RPPOs) to build phytosanitary capacity and address risks associated with movement within and between regions.
- ◆ **National plant protection organizations**, (NPPOs) through governments and local authorities, to respond to plant health risks. Technical experts in contracting party governments, to share information and expertise to strengthen phytosanitary capacity.
- ◆ **Exporters and importers**, to reduce the movement of pests.

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- ◆ **Producers**, to put in place phytosanitary practices that protect livelihoods, food supply, societies and the environment.
  - ◆ **Civil society**, to build knowledge of phytosanitary capacity to protect biodiversity, ecosystem vitality and conservation.
  - ◆ **Educators**, to promote technical expertise in assessing and managing pest risks, taxonomy, diagnostics and treatment, and to build capacity.
  - ◆ **Media**, to build awareness of the impacts of plant pests, the risks presented by trade and passengers and of everyone's responsibility to manage plant resources for the future.
  - ◆ **Donors**, to fund the creation of programmes that reduce plant pest risks and that promote safe trade in plants and plant products.



## How can I participate?

Help the IPPCs mission of protecting the world's plant resources from pests of plants by:

- ◆ **Adhere** to the Convention if not yet a member.
- ◆ **Report** and share information through [www.ippc.int](http://www.ippc.int).
- ◆ **Join** standard-setting activities and aid implementation.
- ◆ **Help** build phytosanitary capacity.
- ◆ **Liaise** with regional and national plant protection organizations.
- ◆ **Participate** in CPM and regional meetings.
- ◆ **Support** the IPPC Secretariat through financial or in-kind donations.
- ◆ **Spread** the word about the IPPC!

[www.ippc.int](http://www.ippc.int)

## IPPC

The International Plant Protection Convention (IPPC) is an international plant health agreement that aims to protect cultivated and wild plants by preventing the introduction and spread of pests. International travel and trade are greater than ever before. As people and commodities move around the world, organisms that present risks to plants travel with them.

### Organization

- ◆ There are 177 contracting party signatories to the Convention.
- ◆ Each contracting party has a National Plant Protection Organization (NPPO) and an Official IPPC contact point.
- ◆ 10 Regional Plant Protection Organizations (RPPOs) established to coordinate NPPOs on a regional level.
- ◆ IPPC liaises with relevant international organizations to help build regional and national capacities.
- ◆ The Secretariat is provided by the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO-UN).



### International Plant Protection Convention (IPPC)

Viale delle Terme di Caracalla, 00153 Rome, Italy

Tel: +39 06 5705 4812 - Fax: +39 06 5705 4819

Email: [ippc@fao.org](mailto:ippc@fao.org) - Web: [www.ippc.int](http://www.ippc.int)

The IPPC Secretariat is hosted and provided by

