

# Determination of pest status and good pest reporting practice according ISPM 8

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# Scope

- This standard describes the content of a pest record, and the use of pest records and other information in the determination of pest status in an area.
- Descriptions of pest status categories are provided as well as recommendations for good reporting practices.

# Purpose of Pest Status

## Determination

- A pest record is documented evidence in general, the provision of reliable pest records and the determination of pest status at a particular location and certain time, within an area, usually a country, under described circumstances.
- The provision of reliable pest records and the determination of pest status are vital components of a number of activities covered under the International Plant Protection Convention (IPPC) and by the principles noted in ISPM 1:1993

# Importing countries need pest status information to:

- conduct a pest risk analysis (PRA) on a pest in another country
- establish phytosanitary regulations to prevent the entry, establishment or spread of a pest
- conduct a PRA on a non-quarantine pest in their own territory with a view to regulating it.



# Exporting countries need pest status information to:

- comply with import regulations by not exporting consignments infested with the regulated pests of the importing country
- meet requests for information from other countries for the purpose of PRA on pests in their territory.

# All countries may use pest status information for

- PRA purposes
- planning national, regional or international pest management programmes
- establishing national pest lists
- establishing and maintaining pest free areas.

# The basic information in a pest record (1)

- current scientific name of the organism including, as appropriate, subspecific terms (strain, biotype etc.)
- life stage or state
- taxonomic group
- identification method
- year, and month if known, recorded; normally the day will only be required for specific circumstances (e.g. the first detection of a particular pest, pest monitoring)

# The basic information in a pest record (2)

- locality, e.g. location codes, addresses, geographical coordinates; important conditions such as if under protected cultivation (e.g. greenhouses) should be indicated
- scientific name of host, as appropriate
- host damage, or circumstances of collection (e.g. trap or soil sample), as appropriate
- prevalence, indication of the level of pest presence or pest numbers
- bibliographical references, if any

# Reliability

- Pest record information is available from many sources and has varying levels of reliability
- NPPOs have responsibility to provide accurate information on pest records upon request.

# To rely or not to rely – that is the question...

- **Collector/ Identifiers**
  - Taxonomic specialist or Collector/identifier not known
- **Technical identification**
  - Discriminating biochemical or molecular diagnosis (if available) or Method of identification not known
- **Location and date**
  - Delimiting or detection surveys or Precise location and date not known
- **Recording/ Publication**
  - NPPO record/RPPO publication (where refereed) or Personal communication; unpublished



# Describing pest status in an area

**A pest is present if records indicate that it is indigenous or introduced.**

- Present: in all parts of the area
- Present: only in some areas
- Present: except in specified pest free areas
- Present: in all parts of the area where host crop(s) are grown
- Present: only in some areas where host crop(s) are grown<sup>3</sup>
- Present: only in protected cultivation
- Present: seasonally
- Present: but managed
- Present: subject to official control
- Present: under eradication
- Present: at low prevalence.



# Absence (1)

## **Absent: no pest records**

- General surveillance indicates that the pest is absent now and has never been recorded.

## **Absent: pest eradicated**

- Pest records indicate that the pest was present in the past. A documented pest eradication programme was conducted and was successful (see ISPM 9:1998). Surveillance confirms continued absence.

# Absence (2)

## **Absent: pest no longer present**

- Pest records indicate that the pest was transient or established in the past, but general surveillance indicates the pest is no longer present. The reason(s) may include:
  - climate or other natural limitation to pest perpetuation
  - changes in hosts cultivated
  - changes in cultivars
  - changes in agricultural practices.

# Absence (3)

## **Absent: pest records invalid**

- Pest records indicate the presence of a pest, but the conclusion is reached that the records are invalid or no longer valid, as in the following officially declared cases:
  - changes in taxonomy
  - misidentification
  - erroneous record
  - changes in national borders where reinterpretation of the record may be needed.

# Absence (4)

## **Absent: pest records unreliable**

- Pest records indicate the presence of a pest, but the determination leads to the conclusion that the records are unreliable, as in the following officially declared cases:
  - ambiguous nomenclature
  - outdated identification or diagnostic methods
  - records cannot be considered reliable.

# Absence (5)

## **Absent: intercepted only**

- The pest has only been reported on consignments at a point of entry or initial destination or while under detention before release, treatment or destruction. Surveillance confirms that the pest has not established.

# Transience

Pest status is considered transient when a pest is present but establishment is not expected to occur based on technical evaluation.

## **Transient: non-actionable**

- The pest has only been detected as an individual occurrence or isolated population not expected to survive and no phytosanitary measures have been applied.

## **Transient: actionable, under surveillance**

- The pest has been detected as an individual occurrence or an isolated population that may survive into the immediate future, but is not expected to establish. Appropriate phytosanitary measures, including surveillance are being applied.

## **Transient: actionable, under eradication**

- The pest has been detected as an isolated population which may survive into the immediate future and, without phytosanitary measures for eradication, may establish. Appropriate phytosanitary measures have been applied for its eradication.



# Determination of pest status in an area

- Determination of the status of a pest is provided by an NPPO based on supporting information:
  - individual pest records
  - pest records from surveys
  - records or other indication of pest absence
  - results of general surveillance
  - information from scientific publications and databases
  - phytosanitary measures used to prevent introduction or spread
  - other information relevant to assessing pest absence or presence.



# Reporting...



# Recommended Reporting Practices (1)

- To observe good reporting practices, NPPOs should:
  - base determinations of pest status in an area on the most reliable and timely information available
  - take into account the categories and pest status determinations set out in this standard when exchanging pest status information between countries
  - inform the NPPO of trading partners as soon as possible, and their regional plant protection organization (RPPO) where appropriate, of relevant changes in pest status and especially reports of newly established pests

# Recommended Reporting Practices (2)

- report interceptions of regulated pests which suggest a change in pest status in the exporting country to other countries only after consultation with the exporting country
- when becoming aware of an otherwise unreported record of a pest in another country, the NPPO may report it to other countries or RPPOs only after informing and where possible consulting with the NPPO concerned
- exchange pest status information in conformity with Article VII.2(j) and Article VIII.1(a) and VIII.1(c) of the IPPC to the extent practicable, and in a medium and language acceptable to both parties
- correct erroneous records as soon as possible.

Thank you for your  
attention !!!