

NATIONAL STANDARDS FOR PHYTOSANITARY MEASURES

NSPM: 17

**Pest Reporting
2013**

(This standard is approved by (the NPPO and) the Quarantine Committee of Nepal, chaired by the secretary of the Ministry of Agriculture Development on 1st December 2013 and, is submitted by National Plant Quarantine Program to the National Notification Authority to be notified to the WTO member states)

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Abbreviations (frequently used in the standard)

ABPSD	– Agriculture Business Promotion and Statistics Division
APPPC	– Asia Pacific Plant Protection Commission
ARS	– Agriculture Research Station
CODEX	– Codex Alimentarius
CPM	– Commission for Phytosanitary Measures
DFTQC	– Department of Food Technology and Quality Control
DADO	– District Agriculture Development Office
DOA	– Department of Agriculture
IPPC	– International Plant Protection Convention
ISPM	– International Standard for Phytosanitary Measures
MoAD	– Ministry of Agriculture Development
NSPM	– National Standard for Phytosanitary Measures
NPPO	– National Plant Protection Organization
NPQP	– National Plant Quarantine Programme
PC	– National Plant Quarantine Programme
PFA	– Pest free area
PRA	– Pest Risk Analysis
PP	– Plant Protection
PPD	– Plant Protection Directorate
PQC	– Plant Quarantine Check-post
PQSC	– Plant Quarantine Sub-checkpost
RARS	– Regional Agriculture Research Station
RNQP	– Regulated Non Quarantine Pest
RPPL	– Regional Plant Protection Laboratory
RPQO	– Regional Plant Quarantine Office
RPPO	– Regional Plant Protection Organization
RSPM	– Regional Standard for Phytosanitary Measures
SPS	– Sanitary and Phytosanitary
WTO	– World trade organization

1. Introduction

1.1 Scope

This standard describes the responsibilities of and requirements of National plant protection organization (NPPO) in reporting the occurrence, outbreak and spread of pests in areas for which they are responsible. It also provides guidance on reporting successful eradication of pests and establishment of pest free areas. NSPM preparation is based on guidelines and recommendations developed within the framework of the IPPC. This standard also adopted the principles, recommendations and format of ISPM to achieve international harmonization of phytosanitary measures with the aim to facilitate trade.

1.2 References

IPPC. 1997. *International Plant Protection Convention*. Rome, IPPC, FAO.

ISPM 2. 1995. *Guidelines for pest risk analysis*. Rome, IPPC, FAO. [published 1996] [revised; now ISPM 2: 2007]

ISPM 4. 1995. *Requirements for the establishment of pest free areas*. Rome, IPPC, FAO. [published 1996]

ISPM 5. *Glossary of phytosanitary terms*. Rome, IPPC, FAO.

ISPM 6. 1997. *Guidelines for surveillance*. Rome, IPPC, FAO.

ISPM 8. 1998. *Determination of pest status in an area*. Rome, IPPC, FAO.

ISPM 9. 1998. *Guidelines for pest eradication programmes*. Rome, IPPC, FAO.

ISPM 11. 2001. *Pest risk analysis for quarantine pests*. Rome, IPPC, FAO. [revised; now ISPM 11:2004]

ISPM 13. 2001. *Guidelines for the notification of non-compliance and emergency action*. Rome, IPPC, FAO.

ISPM 17. 2002. *Pest Reporting*. Rome, IPPC, FAO.

Plant Protection Act, 2007, NPQP, PPD, Nepal

Plant Protection Regulation, 2010. NPQP, PPD, Nepal

WTO. 1994. *Agreement on the Application of Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures*. Geneva, World Trade Organization.

1.3 Definitions

Definitions of phytosanitary terms used in the present standard can be found in ISPM 5 (*Glossary of phytosanitary terms*) and Plant Protection Act and Regulation.

1.4 Outline of requirements

The countries has obligations identified under International Plant Protection Convention (IPPC, 1997, ARTICLE viii. 1a) that requires countries to cooperate in the exchange of information on pests, particularly the reporting on the occurrence, outbreak and spread of pests that may be of immediate or potential danger (see Annexure 1). The IPPC has developed the ISPM No 17, "Pest Reporting" with such procedures to be applied by the National plant protection organizations (NPPOs) of the country.

As signatory to the IPPC, Nepal has obligations with the responsibility to collect pest information by surveillance and to verify the pest records thus collected. Occurrence, outbreak or spread of pests that are known (on the basis of observation, previous experience, or pest risk analysis (PRA)) to be of immediate or potential danger should be reported to other countries, in particular to neighboring countries and trading partners.

The NPPO of Nepal should establish an appropriate procedure for pest reporting in accordance with guidelines established under NSPM: Pest reporting. NPPO should also establish a mechanism for sharing information with NPPOs of trading partners to facilitate undertaking PRA and or/ recognition of pest free areas through bilateral agreements.

2. Requirements

2.1 Provisions of IPPC regarding pest reporting

The provisions of IPPC includes

- In order to "securing common and effective action to prevent the spread and introduction of pests of plants and plant products," (Article I.1) requires countries to make provision for an official national plant protection organization (Article IV.1) whose responsibilities includes:

the surveillance of growing plants, including both areas under cultivation (*inter alia* fields, plantations, nurseries, gardens, greenhouses and laboratories) and wild flora, and of plants and plant products in storage or in transportation, particularly with the object of reporting the occurrence, outbreak and spread of pests, and of controlling those pests, including the reporting referred to under Article VIII paragraph 1(a); ... [Article IV.2(b)].

- Distribution of information within their territories regarding regulated pests (Article IV.3(a)),
- Information shall be made available to contracting parties, on request." (Article VII.2(j))
- Designation a contact point for the exchange of information (Article VIII.2).
- Cooperate in the exchange of information on plant pests, particularly the reporting of the occurrence, outbreak or spread of pests that may be of immediate or potential danger (Article VIII.1(a)).

2.2 Purpose of Pest Reporting

The main purpose of pest reporting is to communicate immediate or potential danger normally arising from the occurrence, outbreak or spread of a pest that is a quarantine pest in the country in which it is detected, or a quarantine pest for neighboring countries and trading partners.

Pest reporting allows countries to adjust as necessary their phytosanitary requirements and actions to take into account any changes in risk. It provides useful current and historical information for operation of phytosanitary systems. Accurate information on pest status facilitates technical justification of measures and helps to minimize unjustified interference with trade. Every country needs pest reports for these purposes, and can only obtain them by the cooperation of other countries. Phytosanitary actions taken by importing countries based on pest reports should be commensurate with the risk and technically justified.

3. National responsibilities of pest reporting system

3.1 Regulatory provisions

As the provisions made in Plant Protection Act, 2007 (Article 2 (6)), Nepal has officially authorized the Plant Protection Directorate to have the overall responsibility of NPPO as referred by IPPC. Plant Protection Act (Article 5,(18)) mentions on notifying information in the prevalence and spread of pests that may cause immediate or potential danger. The Notification Authority lies in Ministry of Agriculture Development that notifies pest of immediate or potential danger to WTO member countries. For the exchange of information, a official contact point has been designated at Department of Food Technology and Quality Control.

3.2 Management authority

NPPO shall be overall responsible for management of pest reporting system including the National Phytosanitary database of pest status information, pest emergency action taken, documentation along with survey plan for pest incursion, establishment and outbreak. NPPO should designate a senior level technical officer for pest reporting and for this make sure that trained and skillful personnel and resources are available along with general facilities and resources

3.3 Surveillance

NPPO of Nepal has to establish a national systems for surveillance, as required by the Article IV.2(b) of the IPPC. Systems should be put in place to ensure that such information is sent to and collected by the NPPO. NPPO should also establish a mechanism for sharing information with NPPOs of trading partners to facilitate undertaking PRA and or/ recognition of pest free areas through bilateral agreements (see Annexure 2 for information flow chart).

Information for pest reporting should be derived from either of the two types of pest surveillance systems general surveillance or specific surveys as defined in ISPM 6:1997,. The surveillance and collection systems should operate on an ongoing and timely basis. The process of general surveillance involves the review of information from various sources.

3.4 Sources of information

The sources of information may obtain from:

- Reports of NPPOs, other national and local government agencies,
- Reports of research institutions/universities, scientific societies (including amateur specialists), producers, consultants, museums, the general public,
- Scientific and trade journals, unpublished data and contemporary observations;.
- External Reports (FAO/RPPOs/ CABI Abstracts);

- Crop Protection Compendium ,CABI, UK/Other International Pest Databases

3.5 Verification and analysis

NPPO has to identify and collect the pest information from the above sources of information. NPPO should develop a suitable format for collection of the pest data from identified sources of information. NPPO should put in place systems for verification of domestic pest reports from official and other sources. An appropriate pest database in electronic format should be developed, which is user friendly and internet enabled for easy transportation of information and quick retrieval of information for different category of users and generate various kind of reports and or/combination reports. These may include:

- Pest-wise reports
- host plant species/commodity-wise reports
- location (state/province/district)-wise reports.
- pest distribution maps
- grid maps
- special reports

NPPO should also put in place systems of PRA to determine whether new or unexpected pest situations constitute an immediate or potential danger to their country (i.e. the reporting country), requiring phytosanitary action.

3.6 Motivation for domestic reporting

The Plant Protection Act, 2007 mentions domestic reporting by any person in case of prevalence and spread of quarantine pests Article 5(18). Where possible, NPPO should provide incentives for domestic reporting. Growers and others may be required officially to report on new or unexpected pest situations and may be encouraged in this, for example, by publicity, community action, rewards or penalties.

4. Reporting Obligations

4.1 Reporting of immediate or potential danger

The occurrence, outbreak and spread of pests which is of immediate or potential danger to Nepal may be of immediate or potential danger to other countries too. So it is an obligation of NPPO to report it to other countries. Pest reports must be prepared and reported in the following three situations:

- Occurrence (i.e., when the presence of a new quarantine pest within the country is detected).
- Outbreak (a recently detected quarantine pest population, where the pest is expected to survive for the immediate future, even if the pest is not expected to establish).
- Spread (a regulated quarantine pest which results in a significant increase in risk).

4.2 Other pest reports

NPPO may also use the same reporting systems on other pests to other countries, if this contributes usefully to the exchange of information on plant pests foreseen under Article VIII of the IPPC. Pest reporting may also be done entering bilateral or multilateral agreements e.g. through APPPC/RPPOs.

4.3 Reporting of changed status, absence or correction of earlier reports

Pest report has to be done by NPPO in cases where immediate or potential danger has changed or pest is absent and that the report was incorrect or circumstances change so that the risk changes or disappears. Pest report also includes all or part of the territory categorized pest free area, according to ISPM, or successful eradication according to ISPM 9, or changes in host range or in the pest status of a pest according to ISPM 8.

5. Initiation of reports

Pest reports are initiated by the occurrence, outbreak, spread or successful eradication of pests, or any other new or unexpected pest situation.

5.1 Occurrence

Presence of a pest newly determined, known to be a regulated pest by neighboring countries or trading partners (for relevant pathways).

5.2 Outbreak

Recently detected pest population, when its presence corresponds at least to the status of **Transient: actionable** in ISPM No. 8 and even when the pest may survive in the immediate future, but is not expected to establish

5.3 Spread

Established pest that expands its geographical distribution, significant increase in risk to the reporting country, neighboring countries or trading partners, particularly if it is known that the pest is regulated.

5.4 Successful eradication

Established or transient pest is eliminated from an area and the absence of that pest is verified. (see ISPM No. 9: 1998)

5.5 Establishment of pest free area

Change in the pest status in that area (ISPM 4: 1995)

6. Pest Reporting

6.1 Content of reports

A pest report should clearly indicate:

- identity of the pest with scientific name (to the species level, and below species level, if known and relevant)
- date of the report

- host(s) or articles concerned (as appropriate)
- status of the pest under ISPM No. 8
- geographical distribution of the pest (including a map, if appropriate)
- nature of the immediate or potential danger, or other reason for reporting

6.2 Timing of reporting

Reports on occurrence, outbreak and spread should be provided without undue delay. This is especially important when the risk of immediate spread is high. Reports have to be updated, as new and more complete information becomes available.

6.3 Mechanism of reporting and destination of reports

NPPO should use at least one of the following three systems:

1. Direct communication to official contact points using electronic means (mail, facsimile or e-mail)
2. Publication on an openly available, official national website (such a website may be designated as part of an official contact point)
3. The International Phytosanitary Portal (IPP). The International Phytosanitary Portal (**IPP**) is the official website of the IPPC (<http://www.ippc.int/IPP/En/default.htm>)

6.4. Good reporting practices

NPPO should follow the "good reporting practices. For this NPPO 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
- 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.

6.5 Confidentiality

Pest reports should not be confidential. Countries may have in place requirements regarding confidentiality of certain information, e.g. identity of growers. Confidentiality in bilateral arrangements should not conflict with international reporting obligations.

6.6 Language

NPPO should provide pest report in English language.

7. Additional information

On the basis of pest reports, countries may request additional information through official contact points.

8. Review

NPPO should undertake periodic review of their pest surveillance and reporting systems to ensure that they are meeting their reporting obligations and to identify possibilities for improving reliability and timeliness.

They should make adjustments as appropriate.

9. Documentation

National pest surveillance and reporting systems should be adequately described and documented and this information should be made available to other countries on request (ISPM 6).

Annexure 1: Reporting responsibilities of National Plant Protection Organization (NPPO)

Reporting obligations under the IPPC

- Description of NPPO
- Points of entry
- Lists of regulated pests,
- Emergency actions
- Phytosanitary restrictions, Requirements and prohibitions
- Official contact points

Other reporting under the IPPC

- Non-compliance
- Organizational arrangements of plant protection
- Pest status
- Exchange information on import regulations
- Nomination of IPPC Official Contact Point
- Report occurrence, spread and outbreak of pests
- Notify pest interceptions & report results
- Report emergency action
- Respond to requests concerning pest status
- Provide rationale for phytosanitary requirements
- Provide technical & biological information for PRA
- (Cooperate in the-) exchange of information
- Consult on possible disputes

Annexure 2: Flow chart for pest reporting and information exchange system



