

Organisation Européenne et Méditerranéenne pour la Protection des Plantes
European and Mediterranean Plant Protection Organization

Normes OEPP

EPPO Standards

Phytosanitary procedures
Procédures phytosanitaires

PM 3/61



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Approval

EPPO Standards are approved by EPPO Council. The date of approval appears in each individual standard. In the terms of Article II of the IPPC, EPPO Standards are Regional Standards for the members of EPPO.

Review

EPPO Standards are subject to periodic review and amendment. The next review date for this set of EPPO Standards is decided by the EPPO Working Party on Phytosanitary Regulations.

Amendment record

Amendments will be issued as necessary, numbered and dated. The dates of amendment appear in each individual standard (as appropriate).

Distribution

EPPO Standards are distributed by the EPPO Secretariat to all EPPO member governments. Copies are available to any interested person under particular conditions upon request to the EPPO Secretariat.

Scope

EPPO Phytosanitary Procedures are intended to be used by National Plant Protection Organizations, in their capacity as bodies responsible for the inspection, testing and treatment of plants and plant products moving in trade, or for the implementation of surveys against quarantine pests.

References

- EU (2000) Council Directive 2000/29/EC of 8 May 2000 on protective measures against the introduction into the Community of organisms harmful to plants or plant products and against their spread within the community. *Official Journal of the European Communities* No. L169, 1–112.
- EPPO/CABI (1997) *Quarantine Pests for Europe*, 2nd edn. CAB International, Wallingford (GB).
- FAO (1997) *International Plant Protection Convention* (new revised text). FAO, Rome.
- IPPC (1999) *Glossary of phytosanitary terms*. ISPM no. 5. IPPC Secretariat, FAO, Rome (IT).
- OEPP/EPPO (1996) *Illustrations of Quarantine Pests for Europe*. EPPO, Paris (FR).
- OEPP/EPPO (2000) EPPO Standard PM 1/2(9) EPPO A1 and A2 lists of quarantine pests. In *EPPO Standards: General phytosanitary measures*. EPPO, Paris.

Definitions

Fumigation: treatment with a chemical agent that reaches the commodity wholly or primarily in a gaseous state.

Inspection: official visual examination of plants, plant products or other regulated articles to determine if pests are present and/or to determine compliance with phytosanitary regulations.

Monitoring: an official ongoing process to verify phytosanitary situations.

Phytosanitary procedure: any officially prescribed method for implementing phytosanitary regulations including the performance of inspections, tests, surveillance or treatments in connection with regulated pests.

Survey: an official procedure conducted over a defined period of time to determine the characteristics of a pest population or to determine which species occur in an area.

Test: official examination, other than visual, to determine if pests are present or to identify pests.

Treatment: officially authorized procedure for the killing, removal or rendering infertile of pests.

Outline of requirements

EPPO Standards on phytosanitary procedures describe the methods to be followed for performing inspections, tests or treatments of commodities moving in trade, or surveys against quarantine pests. For many quarantine pests, a reference to the relevant EPPO Phytosanitary Procedure is made in the corresponding EPPO Pest-specific phytosanitary requirements (EPPO Standards PM 2).

Existing EPPO standards in this series

EPPO Standards on phytosanitary procedures arise from the programmes of activity of the EPPO Panels on Phytosanitary Measures and on Phytosanitary Treatments. The first 58 EPPO Standards on phytosanitary procedures were originally published in *Bulletin OEPP/EPPO Bulletin*, following a numbering sequence described in *Bulletin OEPP/EPPO Bulletin* 20, 229–233, which provides a list in approximate chronological order of appearance. Two more recent standards have been published: PM 3/59(1) *Synchytrium endobioticum*: soil tests and descheduling of previously infested plots. *Bulletin OEPP/EPPO Bulletin* 29, 221–232.

PM 3/60(1) Testing growing medium and plants in growing medium. *Bulletin OEPP/EPPO Bulletin* 32, 223–230.

All these EPPO Standards have recently been revised to bring them into line with new EPPO terminology, and published in a new publication *Phytosanitary Procedures*, available from the EPPO Secretariat, 1 rue Le Nôtre, 75016 Paris (FR).

Phytosanitary procedures Procédures phytosanitaires

Pest-free areas and pest-free production and distribution systems for quarantine pests of potato

Specific scope

This standard provides EPPO member countries with the basis to require potato exporting countries to establish and maintain pest-free areas, and pest-free production and distribution systems, in relation to quarantine pests of potato.

Introduction

One of the phytosanitary measures which a potato-importing EPPO country may use, according to EPPO Standard PM 8/1 Commodity-specific measures for potato, is to require the exporting country to establish and maintain pest-free areas for the quarantine pests concerned, and also a pest-free production and distribution system. This standard provides a general basis for the establishment of these requirements, specifically concerning potatoes for export to the importing country concerned (unless otherwise specified). These requirements may be subject, if appropriate, to transitional arrangements.

Pest-free area

A pest-free area should be established and maintained in the exporting country for the pest of concern, according to *ISPM no. 4: Requirements for the establishment of pest-free areas* (IPPC, 1996). Because it may be necessary to establish and maintain pest-free areas for several quarantine pests of potato, the measures required may be complex. This means that it is not immediately possible for the importing country to propose pest-specific recommendations.

Phytosanitary measures for the pest-free area should include the following as appropriate:

- general surveillance or specific surveys to demonstrate that potato and other hosts are free from the pest (see *ISPM no. 6*; IPPC, 1998)
- prohibition of the movement of potatoes into the pest-free area for storage, dressing or packing, except from other pest-free areas
- prohibition of the planting of potatoes in the pest-free area, originating from areas which are not pest-free areas
- prohibition of the passage of consignments in transit through the pest-free area if there is risk of the pest escaping
- establishment of a buffer zone around the pest-free area with other measures depending on the biology of the pest and the geographical area
- precautions on the movement of machinery used in potato production into the pest-free area from areas where the pest occurs
- verification that sources of water are free from contamination, if the pest can be moved in water
- restriction of the movement and use, in the pest-free area, of commodities other than potatoes that may be infested by the pest.

Specific approval and amendment

First approved in 2004-09.

Pest-free production system

Production system freedom in the exporting country requires that:

- in the pest-free area, all seed potatoes entering the potato production system should derive from a pest-free area. The exceptions are microplants and as appropriate minitubers produced according to EPPO Standards PM 3/62 and PM 3/63 (in preparation)
- seed potatoes for export should be produced under a certification scheme that is the same as or equivalent to EPPO Standard PM 4/28 Certification Scheme for seed potatoes
- ware potatoes for export should be grown from seed potatoes that are produced under a certification scheme that is the same as or equivalent to EPPO Standard PM 4/28 Certification Scheme for seed potatoes
- machinery and equipment used at the place of production should not present a risk of introducing the pest.

Pest-free distribution system

Distribution system freedom in the exporting country, aims to prevent mixing or cross-contamination between material produced for export to the importing country, for use within the country, or for export to other countries that may not meet the pest-free area and pest-free production system requirements.

Phytosanitary measures for the distribution system should include the following as appropriate:

- potatoes meeting the pest-free area and pest-free production system requirements should be handled separately in space or in time, with appropriate precautions, from material not meeting these requirements. Separate distribution systems through designated centres covering for example storage, transport, grading and packing should be used. Similarly seed and ware potatoes for export to the importing country should be kept separate
- seed potatoes should be packed in new packaging. For ware potatoes, containers should be new or cleaned and disinfected as appropriate between lots from pest free areas or not
- a labelling system should be used to enable identification at all times of material meeting the pest-free area and pest-free production system requirements of the importing country, potatoes produced in the pest-free area for export to other markets that do not meet these requirements, and potatoes produced outside the pest-free area
- where consignments for export are moved out of the pest-free area for grading, storage and packing, appropriate measures should be taken to ensure that the consignments do not become contaminated with the pest of concern.

Evaluation of pest-free status

The NPPO of the exporting country should, on request, give the NPPO of the importing country the opportunity to evaluate the measures taken to establish and maintain pest-free areas and pest-free production and distribution systems. If appropriate, an audit of the relevant documents and facilities should be allowed.

References

- IPPC (1996) Requirements for the establishment of pest-free areas. *International Standards for Phytosanitary Measures* no. 4. IPPC Secretariat, FAO, Rome (IT).
- IPPC (1998) Guidelines for surveillance. *International Standards for Phytosanitary Measures* no. 6. IPPC Secretariat, FAO, Rome (IT).