MODULE 1 LESSON 4

International Obligations

Shenell Jennings Virginia Tech Fall 2010

INTERNATIONAL OBLIGATIONS

Agenda

Introduction

Topic 1: International Trade Agreements

Topic 2: PPQ and Risk Analysis

Summary

Terms and Definitions

Quarantine Pest A pest of potential economic importance to the area endangered thereby and not yet present there, or present but not widely distributed and being officially controlled

Phytosanitary measures

 Any legislation, regulation or official procedure having the purpose to prevent the introduction and/or spread of quarantine pests

Terms and Definitions

Pest Risk Analysis The process of evaluating biological or other scientific and economic evidence to determine whether an organism is a pest, whether it should be regulated, and the strength of any phytosanitary measures to be taken against it

Contracting party

 Signatory countries that have accepted the specified obligations and privileges of an agreement

Background

The U.S. has obligations in the international arena to:

- Ensure safe trade
 - Control quarantine pests
 - Prevent the introduction and spread of pests
- Reduce trade barriers



Scope

Upon completion of this lesson, you will be able to:

- Discuss the role of international trade agreements in plant protection
- Explain the international obligation to use risk analysis in PPQ decision making

PROGRESS REPORT

Agenda

✓Introduction

Topic 1: International Trade Agreements

Topic 2: PPQ and Risk Analysis

Summary

Treaties

- Agreement of the Application of Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures
- International Plant Protection and Convention
- North American Free Trade Agreement
- Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species

Agreement of the Application of Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures

- Also known as the SPS agreement
- Governed by the World Trade Organization (WTO)
- Sets the basic rules for food safety and animal and plant health measures which affect global trade

Agreement of the Application of Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures

Principles of SPS Agreement

Basic Rights and Obligations

Harmonization

Equivalence

Risk Assessment

Transparency

Regionalization

Technical Assistance

Consultation and Dispute Resolution

International Plant Protection Convention (IPPC)

- Multilateral treaty for international cooperation in plant protection
- Consist of more than 170 contracting parties
- Purpose is to secure common and effective action to prevent the spread and introduction of plant-borne diseases and pests and promote appropriate measures for their control



International Plant Protection Convention (IPPC)

The application of phytosanitary measures must be:

- Necessary
- Non-discriminatory
- Technically justified

International Plant Protection Convention (IPPC) Obligations to the IPPC include:

- Establish a National Plant Protection Organization (NPPO)
- Conduct surveillance of pest
- Notify trading partners of non-compliance with import requirements and emergency actions taken
- Exchange information on pests of plants

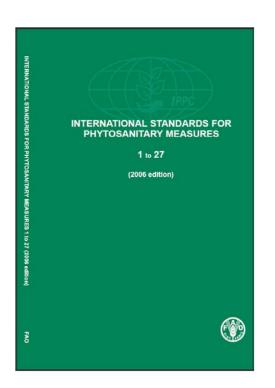
International Plant Protection Convention (IPPC)

- Governed by the Food and Agriculture
 Organization (FAO) of the United Nations
 - Develops and adopts International Standards for Phytosanitary Measures (ISPMs)
 - Intended to harmonize phytosanitary measures used in international trade
 - Provides guidance and assist contracting parties with their safeguard obligations

International Plant Protection Convention (IPPC)

There are a number of ISPMs to cover areas such as:

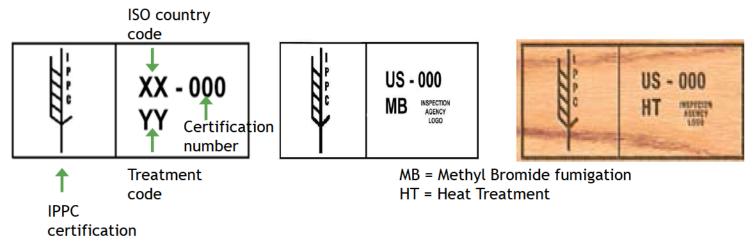
- Surveillance
- Pest risk analysis
- Establishment of pest free areas
- Phytosanitary and export certificates
- Pest reporting



International Plant Protection Convention (IPPC) ISPMs are designed to be a framework

- Guidance to countries and not mandatory to use
- Interpretation and application varies from country to country
- Non-contracting parties encouraged to use

symbol



North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA)

A multilateral trade agreement between the governments of Canada, Mexico, and United States.



North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA)

- Trade between the United States and its NAFTA partners soared since the agreement entered into force
- Creates new trade opportunities in the area of agriculture
- Requires scientific justification for impeding the free flow of trade

Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species (CITES)

- International agreement between governments
- More than 175 countries endorse the treaty
- Regulates the commercial trade of endangered and threatened plants and monitors trade involving species nearing extinction

Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species (CITES)

 Protects more than 30,000 species of plants and animals whose populations are threatened in the wild



Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species (CITES)

- The Endangered Species Act (ESA) of 1973 allows for the prohibition and confiscation of illegally traded species
- The ESA placed enforcement of CITES protected plant species with Secretary of Agriculture
- The Secretary delegated that authority to APHIS PPQ program

Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species (CITES) PPQ

- Enforce regulations specific to the import and export of plants regulated by CITES
- Rescue endangered species from illegal trade at ports of entry and when applicable shares the responsibility with CBP



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 - **Summary**

Fundamentals of Risk Analysis

Definition

Risk Analysis is defined as a process comprised of:

- Risk Assessment
- 2. Risk Management
- 3. Risk Communication

Fundamentals of Risk Analysis

Definition

Risk analysis is the process of estimating the likelihood and potential consequences of an adverse event and determining the best options to mitigate the consequences of such an event.



Fundamentals of Risk Analysis

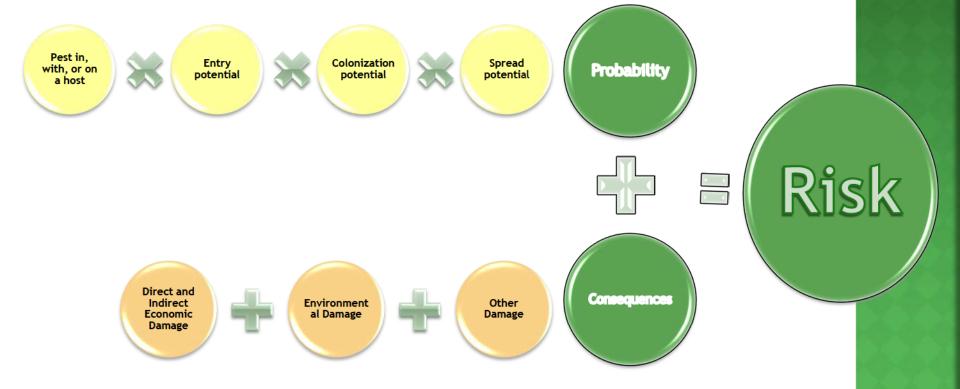
Benefits

- Helps PPQ to design risk-based regulations for import and domestic pest management programs
- Helps to identify and assess new pest threats
- Helps to monitor the effectiveness of existing programs
- Helps to optimize available resources to enhance protection

Fundamentals of Risk Analysis

Risk Analysis Process

Risk Assessment



Fundamentals of Risk Analysis

Risk Analysis Process

Risk Management

The process of identifying, analyzing and recommending options for mitigating pest and disease agents of concern identified through risk assessment.

Fundamentals of Risk Analysis

Risk Analysis Process

Risk Management

- Mitigation Options
 - Prohibition
 - Most trade restrictive
 - Commonly used at ports of entry
 - Used to keep commodities that carry a high pest risk out of the U.S.

Fundamentals of Risk Analysis

Risk Analysis Process

Risk Management

- Mitigation Options
 - Inspections
 - Offshore
 - U.S. ports of entry
 - Plant Inspection Stations (post entry quarantine)

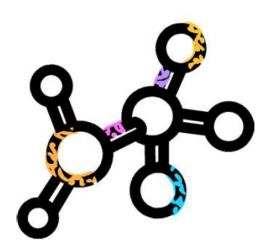


Fundamentals of Risk Analysis

Risk Analysis Process

Risk Management

- Mitigation Options
 - Treatment
 - Chemical
 - Nonchemical



Fundamentals of Risk Analysis

Risk Communication

The process of exchanging information from many different sources

- Facilitates both development of the risk analysis and understanding of its results
- Gives stakeholders an opportunity to provide input to the decision-making process

Plant Epidemiology and Risk Analysis Laboratory (PERAL)

- The only International Standards
 Organization (ISO) certified plant health
 risk analysis unit in the world as of May
 2010
- Consist of a diverse group of scientist and professionals with backgrounds in plant pathology, entomology, engineering, and botany

Plant Epidemiology and Risk Analysis Laboratory (PERAL)

<u>Responsibilities</u>

- Provide essential scientific support to risk based policymaking across a broad range of phytosanitary issues
- Use sound science to analyze both import and export issues and facilitate safe trade
- Provide technical support documents PPQ requires for pests, commodities, and pathways

PPQ AND RISK ASSESSMENTS

Plant Epidemiology and Risk Analysis Laboratory (PERAL)

Activities

- Provide pest risk analysis training workshops
- Provide training to university students in relevant fields
- Promote regional and international harmonization by participating in NAPPO and IPPC

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SUMMARY

In this lesson, you learned:

- The role of international trade agreements in plant protection
- Explain the international obligation to use risk analysis in PPQ decision making

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