

Procedure and criteria for proposing and assessing candidates for the EPPO Gold medal

In its meeting in May 2024, the Executive Committee discussed what the criteria and the procedure for awarding the EPPO Gold medal are. This was raised because one of the members of the Executive Committee was approached with a suggestion for awarding the EPPO Gold medal and the member did not know how to proceed. The Executive Committee requested the Director-General to draft a procedure including criteria to assess a proposal. A draft procedure was developed and is presented in this document for discussion by the Executive Committee and for changes, if needed, and approval by the Executive Committee.

This procedure describes how persons can be proposed and need to be assessed for awarding an EPPO Gold medal.

1. Persons can be proposed to the Executive Committee as nominee for an EPPO Gold medal by a member of the Executive Committee, the Chair, the Vice Chair or the Director-General, in this procedure called 'the proposer'. This can be done under 'any other business' or could be a separate agenda item agreed in advance by the Chair. Nominations are not confined to persons from the EPPO region.
2. The proposer may have received suggestions from anybody involved in the work of EPPO.
3. The proposer explains to the Executive Committee which achievements of the person proposed substantiate the proposal.
4. The Executive Committee assesses whether the person fulfils all of the following criteria
 - a. The person has made outstanding achievements in Plant Protection
 - b. The person has made outstanding contributions to international cooperation in plant health
 - c. The person has made outstanding contributions to the objectives of EPPO for the EPPO region
 - d. The person has made outstanding contributions to different international activities or bodies
5. When the Executive Committee agrees to propose the person for an EPPO Gold medal to the EPPO Council, the reasons for the proposal should be written down in a document for Council addressing how all the criteria have been fulfilled.
6. The proposal will be put on the agenda of Council accompanied by a written substantiation. The proposal will be explained by the Chair to Council during its meeting and will be decided by Council according to the regular decision procedure.
7. If possible, the EPPO Gold medal will be awarded in person during a meeting of the EPPO Council.

Approved by the Executive Committee on 23rd of September 2024.