

**Procedure for amendments to the List of biological control agents widely used
in the EPPO region (EPPO Standard PM 6/3) ('Positive List')**

18-23788

The EPPO Standard PM 6/3 (*List of biological control agents widely used in the EPPO region*) lists in Appendices I and II indigenous, introduced and established biological control agents (BCAs) for plant protection which are recognized to have been safely used in EPPO region. Other EPPO countries may presume with some confidence that in the absence of any reported negative effects on non-target organisms, these agents can be introduced and used safely. Therefore, EPPO countries may, according to their judgement, dispense with, or simplify, the procedures proposed in EPPO Standards PM 6/1 (*First import of exotic biological control agents for research under contained conditions*) and PM 6/2 (*Import and release of non-indigenous biological control agents*). The following procedure should be used for additions of BCAs to the EPPO 'Positive List'.

1. Application

NPPO or other responsible National authority of any EPPO country should send an application to the EPPO Secretariat for addition of a BCA to the lists in the EPPO Standard PM 6/3. This application should contain information on the BCA requested in the template for augmentatively used agents or classical biocontrol agents (see Annex 1). The application should be received by the EPPO Secretariat before 1st July to be considered the same year.

2. Procedure within EPPO

Upon the reception of an application, the EPPO Secretariat should select three members of the EPPO Panel on Biological Control Agents as 'reviewers' and send them (within 3 weeks after reception) the application.

Reviewers should check the received application for completeness (against the information requirements set out in Annex 1) within two month of reception. If provided information is not sufficient the application should be sent back to the EPPO Secretariat with appropriate justification and then back to the applicant who will be invited to provide additional information. If that additional information is judged sufficient by the reviewers the application is circulated to Panel members at least one month before the Panel meeting.

At the meeting of the EPPO Panel on Biological Control Agents, one of the reviewers presents the application. Then, the Panel consider the application and can take one of three decisions: 'yes', 'no' or 'not enough information'.

If the Panel considers that provided information is not sufficient to take a decision the request for additional information is sent to the applicant by the EPPO Secretariat.

If the Panel considers that the proposed BCA cannot be added to the lists in the EPPO Standard PM 6/3 the justification of this decision is sent to the applicant by the EPPO Secretariat.

If the Panel accepts the proposal to add the BCA to the lists in the EPPO Standard PM 6/3 this recommendation is circulated to member countries at least two months before the meeting of the Working Party for Phytosanitary Regulations. In case of approval at the Working Party session, the BCA is added to the Standard within one month.

Deletions

Deletions (movement of BCAs from the Appendices I and II to the Appendix III) may be considered by the Panel at the request of any NPPO or responsible national authority of any EPPO member country, or on the initiative of any member of the Panel. Evidence should be provided to the Panel to support this consideration, including any evidence of negative non-target effects.

Annex 1

Background

EPPO Standard PM6/3 lists **indigenous, introduced and established biological control agents (BCAs)** for plant protection which are recognized by the Joint EPPO/IOBC Panel on Biological Control Agents to have been widely used in several EPPO countries. Other EPPO countries may therefore presume with some confidence that in the absence of any reported negative effects on non-target organisms, these agents can be introduced and used safely. Appendices I and II of this Standard are sometimes therefore known as the 'Positive List'. Countries may, according to their judgement, dispense with, or simplify, the notification procedures proposed in EPPO Standards PM 6/1 and PM 6/2.

Below, information requirements are listed for (1) BCAs used augmentatively and then (2) BCAs used classically.

1. Documentation to Support the Addition of [organism x] to the List of biological control agents widely used in the EPPO region (EPPO Standard PM 6/3) for augmentatively used BCAs

1.1 Criteria for addition to the List:

- A biological control agent which has been used for at least 5 years in at least five EPPO countries (exceptionally fewer, if relevant crops are grown in fewer than 5 countries) or
- Is either indigenous and widespread in the EPPO region, or
- Established and widespread in the EPPO region,
AND
- There should be no previous reports of unacceptable adverse effects

1.2 Name and contact details of the authority making the application

Name and contact details of the manufacturer (optional)

1.3 Identity and classification of the organism

Names of genus and species, and if relevant, subspecies:

Order:

Family:

Common name(s):

Synonyms:

[Short description, (2-3 lines) with photograph or drawing if possible, and a reference for taxonomic identity]

1.4 Identification and location of voucher specimens

The locations (institutes, contact details) where voucher specimens of the organism were deposited and are available. Also provide the names of experts who have confirmed the identity of the material for which information is provided, and the methods by which this was done.

1.5 Geographical distribution

Describe the natural and (if different) the current geographical distribution of the organism and provide supporting references.

1.6 Main target pests and crops

1.6.1 List the main pest(s) against which the release of the organism is suggested or practiced.

1.6.2 List the crops/habitats in which the organism has previously been used. Specify whether releases were done in open field or in protected cultivation.

1.7 Host or prey specificity and feeding habits

1.7.1 List the known hosts or prey of the organism and provide supporting references. This may include information on observed host ranges in the field or the laboratory.

1.7.2 If relevant, include information on plant feeding by the organism.

1.8 Establishment potential and non-target effects

1.8.1 If available, provide information on the establishment and spread potential of the organism (e.g. as related to availability of hosts/prey in the environment, dispersal ability, climatic adaptation). In the case of releases for classical biological control indicate any known environmental filters and provide information on their strength in limiting the organism in question, and in what life stage.

1.8.2 If relevant specify any characteristics of the population/strain of the organism used for release that may be relevant for its potential to establish or cause non-target effects (e.g. non-diapausing strains, strains with limited dispersal ability).

1.8.3 If available, provide information on observed or potential effects of releases of the organism on non-target organisms in the environment.

1.9 Releases of the organism within and outside of the EPPO region

1.9.1 Provide details of releases in countries within the EPPO region, specifying for each country the year of first known release, and if known, whether the release was based on a regulatory decision and the basis for that decision. In the case of releases for classical biological control, summarise the release parameters and the outcome of the release.

1.9.2 Provide details of releases in countries outside of the EPPO region, if any.

1.9.3 List any countries where application for release was rejected and if known, the reason for the rejection.

1.9.4 List any restrictions about the use of the BCA (e.g. indoor or outdoor)

1.10 Other relevant information

1.10. Provide any other relevant information here that may influence the decision on inclusion of the organism in the list of organisms with a record of safe use, the formulation of the products containing the organism, the presence of host or prey organisms or symbiotic bacteria in the release formulation.

1.11 References

List references cited in the above sections.

2. Documentation to Support the Addition of [organism x] to the List of biological control agents widely used in the EPPO region (EPPO Standard PM 6/3) for successful classical BCAs

2.1 Criteria for addition to the List:

- Biological control agent which has been successfully introduced in the EPPO region and
- Established in part of the EPPO region,
AND
- There should be no reports of unacceptable adverse effects

2.2 Name and contact details of the authority making the application

Name and contact details of the manufacturer or supplier (optional)

2.3 Identity and classification of the organism

Names of genus and species, and if relevant, subspecies:

Order:

Family:

Common name(s):

Synonyms:

[Short description, (2-3 lines) with photograph or drawing if possible, and a reference for taxonomic identity]

2.4 Identification and location of voucher specimens

the locations (institutes, contact details) where voucher specimens of the organism were deposited and are available. Also provide the names of experts who have confirmed the identity of the material for which information is provided, and the methods by which this was done.

2.5 Geographical distribution

Describe the natural and (if different) the current geographical distribution of the organism and provide supporting references.

2.6 Main target pests and their host plants

2.6.1 List the main pest(s) against which the release of the organism is suggested or practiced.

2.6.2 List the ecosystems in which the organism has previously been released.

2.7 Host or prey specificity and feeding habits

2.7.1 List the known hosts or prey of the organism and provide supporting references. This may include information on observed host ranges in the environment or the laboratory.

2.7.2 If relevant, include information on plant feeding by the organism.

2.8 Establishment potential and non-target effects

2.8.1 If available, provide information on the establishment and spread potential of the organism (e.g. as related to availability of hosts/prey in the environment, dispersal ability, climatic adaptation). Indicate any known environmental constraints and provide information on their strength in limiting the organism in question, and in what life stage.

2.8.2 If relevant specify any characteristics of the population/strain of the organism used for release that may be relevant for its potential to establish or cause non-target effects (e.g. non-diapausing strains, strains with limited dispersal ability).

2.8.3 If available, provide information on realized or potential effects of releases of the organism on non-target organisms in the environment.

2.9 Releases of the organism within and outside of the EPPO region

2.9.1 Provide details of releases in countries within the EPPO region, specifying for each country the year of first known release, and if known, whether release was based on a regulatory decision and the basis for that decision. Summarise the release parameters and the outcome of the release.

2.9.2 Provide details of releases in countries outside of the EPPO region, if any.

2.9.3 List any countries where application for release was rejected and if known, the reason for the rejection.

2.9.4 List any restrictions about the release of the organism.

2.10 Other relevant information

2.10. Provide any other relevant information here that may influence the decision on inclusion of the organism in the list of organisms with a record of safe use, such as the mode of release of the organism, the presence of host or prey organisms or symbiotic bacteria, or other contamination.

2.11 References

List references cited in the above sections.