Flexible scope experience in Finnish Food Safety authority Evira in Finland

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EPPO workshop on flexible scope
26th June 2017
Currently only one flexible scope for detecting viruses with ELISA (+ 10 fixed scopes)

Preparing for accreditation of several flexible scopes (September 2017)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Flexible scope</th>
<th>Material/product</th>
<th>Type of test/ measured range</th>
<th>Test method</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Plantmaterial</td>
<td>Plantmaterial</td>
<td>Viruses</td>
<td>ELISA, RT-PCR, real-time PCR</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Plantmaterial, invertebrate</td>
<td>Phytophthora sp.</td>
<td></td>
<td>ELISA, PCR, real-time PCR</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Plantmaterial, invertebrate</td>
<td>Invertebrates (pests of plants)</td>
<td></td>
<td>Morphology, PCR, real-time PCR</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Validation

- At least one test per organism group and test type has been validated ‘completely’ according to PM 7/98
  - Other (commercially available/adopted from literature) tests are verified for
    - Analytical sensitivity: dilution series from one positive sample, tested three times
    - Analytical specificity: one – several targets + one – several non-targets (depends on availability)
    - Repeatability: three tests conducted with same materials by the same operator (data collected from positive and negative controls used during routine testing)
    - Reproducibility: three tests conducted with same materials by different operators (data collected from positive and negative controls used during routine testing)
Quality assurance

- Positive and negative control (+ extraction controls, water control, environmental controls where applicable) in each test

- Blind samples according to a multiple year plan:
  - Each method is tested every year
  - Each organism group is tested every year
  - Each person takes part in testing the blind samples each year

- Proficiency tests conducted when available
  - a multiple year plan exists, but tests are not always available

- Internal audits according to a multiple year plan
  - Each method/organism group is not audited each year
Demonstrating expertise

- CV with education and work experience (prior to working in Evira)
- Current qualifications for performing tests
- Participation in proficiency tests and testing the blind samples
- Participation in training courses