

The European and Mediterranean Plant Protection Organization



What is EPPO?

EPPO is an intergovernmental organization responsible for international cooperation in plant protection in the European and Mediterranean region. In the sense of the article IX of the FAO International Plant Protection Convention (IPPC), it is the Regional Plant Protection Organization for Europe.

Founded in 1951 with 15 member governments, it now has 51 member governments including nearly every country of Western and Eastern Europe and the Mediterranean region (in green on the map).



Aims of EPPO

EPPO has two main areas of activity: plant quarantine and pest control. Its main aims are:

- To protect plant health in agriculture, forestry and the uncultivated environment.
- To develop an international strategy against the introduction and spread of pests (including invasive alien plants) that damage cultivated and wild plants, in natural and agricultural ecosystems.
- To encourage harmonization of phytosanitary regulations and all other areas of official plant protection action.
- To promote the use of modern, safe, and effective pest control methods.
- To provide a documentation service on plant protection.

EPPO Structure

The Organization is administered by its Council (representatives of all member governments) and Executive Committee (7 governments elected on a rotational basis). A Secretariat of 14 persons is based in Paris. EPPO is financed directly by annual contributions from its member governments. Its official languages are English, French and for certain purposes Russian. The technical work is overseen by the Working Parties and Panels (experts are nominated by their National Plant Protection Organization).



EPPO Council Session

EPPO Standards

As a result of the work being done within the different technical bodies, EPPO makes recommendations to the National Plant Protection Organizations of its member governments. These recommendations are considered as Regional Standards in the sense of the IPPC.

Standards on plant protection products:

- Efficacy evaluation of plant protection products
- Good plant protection practice
- Environmental risk assessment of plant protection products

Standards on phytosanitary measures:

- General phytosanitary measures
- Phytosanitary procedures
- Production of healthy plants for planting
- Pest Risk Analysis (PRA)
- Safe use of biological control
- Diagnostic protocols
- Commodity-specific phytosanitary measures
- National regulatory control systems
- Phytosanitary treatments

EPPO information services

EPPO provides many information services to its members, most of them are freely available from the EPPO website:

www.eppo.int

Examples of EPPO publications and databases:

- EPPO Bulletin (official journal of the Organization)
- EPPO Global Database / PQR (the EPPO database on quarantine pests)
- Pest Risk Analyses and CAPRA software
- EPPO database on diagnostic expertise
- EPPO Reporting Service (monthly newsletter)
- Datasheets on quarantine pests and pictures
- EPPO Alert List ...