

BUSINESS MEETING LED BY HUGH EVANS

SUMMARY

Suggested Action Items:

1) Develop a list of organisms that should be evaluated for new wood packing material treatments. Current treatments (heat treatment to 56°C for 30 minutes, or methyl bromide fumigation) were only tested against pinewood nematode. As a means of extending the range of approved procedures for ISPM15 and other protocols, the IPPC Technical Panel on Phytosanitary Treatments (TPPT) has asked for input regarding what other pests should be included in efficacy trials for future treatment approvals. The International Forestry Quarantine Research Work Group (IFQRG) spent some time on this question at their last meeting, and will likely be discussing this issue again in September. The concern is to have a comprehensive protocol that develops acceptable standards through tests carried out on organisms representative of different lifestyles, but is not so onerous that new treatment development is discouraged. Hugh Evans agreed to take the lead in developing a draft position paper for circulation in the IUFRO work unit. Volunteers to help Hugh included Adnan Uzunovic, Lee Humble, Kenji Fukuda and Shiroma Sathyapala and Robert Haack. The target is to have a draft approved by the IUFRO members prior to the IFQRG meeting.

2) Look at available interception records to help identify high risk pathways and effective mitigations. This task will be undertaken by various scientists working with regulatory agencies in their own countries. These scientists will try to present data at the next meeting of the IUFRO Work Unit (2010).

3) Develop effective outreach materials to increase public awareness of plants for planting pathway. The Work Unit developed a “concept paper” on this topic early in 2007, to provide technical support to regulators working on the pathway. The next step is to popularize this information for the general public. The International Civil Aviation Organization has put invasive species management in its strategic plan. We should try to use them as one of several means of reaching the traveling public. School children are another target audience. “Stop the Spread – the Musical”, an Australian middle-school production about *Phytophthora cinnamomi* was cited as an excellent example. Educational materials that help teachers address Standards of Learning (US requirements for every grade) would also be helpful in getting invasive species information presented to the next generation.

4) Provide science to support an effective systems approach for reducing pests in commercial nurseries. This will be needed to implement the developing IPPC standard for plants for planting.

5) Identify a site and date for the next meeting. Kurt Gottschalk made a presentation about a proposed meeting site in Kyrgyzstan, and a date of spring or fall of 2010 was suggested. Final decision was left to the chair and co-chairs of the work unit who would initially approach the contact in Kyrgyzstan to determine continuing availability of venue, price, etc.

6) Publication of papers and proceedings. The group agreed (with some modifications) to post the presentations to the IUFRO Work Unit web site. No conclusion was reached about publication of more formal proceedings, and it was decided to communicate by email on this topic.

The meeting ended at noon, May 30, 2008.