

# “Identification of best practices in pest risk assessment and management in Chile”

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# Introduction

- The Pest Risk Analysis Unit (PRA) of the Agricultural and Livestock Service (NPPO of Chile) was created in 2005.
- It is composed of 5 risk analysts, specialists in entomology, phytopathology and malherbology.
- The evaluators are separate from the risk regulators.



# 1. Strengthening Human Resources

- Professionals with experience and exclusive dedication in the preparation of PRAs.
- Risk analysis must be accompanied by experience, since its repeated application develops people's skills and perfects the methodology.
- Risk analysts should receive training in technical areas in order to achieve specialization and confidence in their expert judgment.



## 2. Recognition of the importance of information

- Information gathering is a basic element of all stages of risk analysis (ISPM N° 11).
- Without information, risk assessment becomes more complex, uncertainty levels increase, and risk assessment may be over- or underestimated.
- The provision of information by exporting NPPOs is essential for the study and should be of high quality, complete and provided in a timely manner.
- Access to high quality scientific information (CABI and databases available on the web).
- **The preparation of the PRA is scheduled only when the NPPO sends the basic information to initiate the process.**



# 3. Planning

- Planning the PRAs to be prepared annually brings benefits:
  - ✓ it allows risk analysts to organize their work,
  - ✓ to know the response times,
  - ✓ achieve greater efficiency in the fulfillment of bilateral commitments,
  - ✓ improve transparency and confidence in regulatory decisions.



## 4. Use of PRA guidelines and standardization of criteria

- We use the COSAVE (Comité de Sanidad Vegetal del Cono Sur, RPPO) PRA development guide based on ISPM N° 11 guidelines.
- The use of a guide homogenizes, improves objectivity, and makes criteria transparent.



## 5. Identification of emerging pests

- Detection and interception of silvo-agricultural pests that are generating entry pressure.
- Review of notifications on sanitary and phytosanitary measures from WTO member countries.
- Constant bibliographic review to detect pests that are absent in Chile and have quarantine potential.
- Pests with quarantine potential detected from a PRA by pathway are evaluated considering all probable pathways of introduction.
- Annual or biannual update of the list of quarantine pests for Chile



## 6. Improvements in the evaluation of some products

- Development of PRAs for seeds of different species from all origins.
- Updating of PRAs for products for which there is trade and for which there is an old regulation.





# Issues to take into consideration

- All the information to be included in the risk assessment stage must be associated to the corresponding bibliographic reference, in order to be able to consult the scientific justification.
- Aspects common to all PRA Stages:
  - ✓ Uncertainty: should be identified especially to the extent that they increase the level of risk.
  - ✓ Documentation: so that sources of information and the basis for management decisions can be clearly demonstrated.
  - ✓ Communication: phytosanitary measures obtained as a result of PRA should be analyzed internally to address uncertainty and potential problems. It should then be communicated to the exporting country and the international community before coming into effect, through existing institutional channels.





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