



منظمة الأغذية  
والزراعة  
للأمم المتحدة

联合国  
粮食及  
农业组织

Food  
and  
Agriculture  
Organization  
of  
the  
United  
Nations

Organisation  
des  
Nations  
Unies  
pour  
l'alimentation  
et  
l'agriculture

Продовольственная и  
сельскохозяйственная  
организация  
Объединенных  
Наций

Organización  
de las  
Naciones  
Unidas  
para la  
Agricultura  
y la  
Alimentación

## NORTH AMERICAN FOREST COMMISSION

### TWENTY-FIFTH SESSION

Guadalajara, Jalisco, Mexico, 3 – 7 May 2010

## INSECT, DISEASE AND INVASIVE PLANT WORKING GROUP REPORT

### MISSION

1. The Forest Insect, Disease and Invasive Plant Working Group seek to promote the maintenance and improvement of tree and forest health in North American forests through international cooperation that supports forest health initiatives for the benefit of member countries and future generations.

### Objectives

- Promote the development, improvement, and transfer of technology related to the management of insects, diseases and invasive plants affecting Forest Health.
- Collect exchange and disseminate information and technology relevant to the management of insects, diseases and invasive plants.
- Act as a technical advisory body to the North American Plant Protection Organization and to urge NAPPO to deal with issues and provide technical support.
- Advice and report to the NAFC on progress and challenges in carrying out the objectives and activities.

### Recent activities

Meeting in Victoria, BC, Canada, October 5-9, 2009

- Theme: *Managing our forest insects, diseases and invasive plants for a certainly uncertain future.*

This document is printed in limited numbers to minimize the environmental impact of FAO's processes and contribute to climate neutrality. Delegates and observers are kindly requested to bring their copies to meetings and to avoid asking for additional copies. Most FAO meeting documents are available on the Internet at [www.fao.org](http://www.fao.org)

- Tour to discuss pest issues on:
  - Salmon spawning and old growth trees;
  - Western forest products.

### **Current tech exchanges**

- The US shares information on the program carried out in the far east to prevent introductions to North America of the Asian Gypsy Moth.
- Quarantine pests of concern:
  - Sirex Woodwasp
  - Brown Spruce Longhorn Beetle
  - Asian Long-Horned Beetle
  - Emerald Ash Borer
  - Sudden Oak Death

### **Current tech exchanges**

- Training of Mexican researchers by US experts on gathering data, analysis and quality assurance of Forest Health indicators incorporated to the National Forest and Soils inventory.
  - Two previous meetings: one in Park City, Utah in 2008 and a second one in Guadalajara in 2009 to share methodologies.
  - Training for trainer sessions in 2010.
- Training of Mexican technicians by US experts on Modeling for Risk Map.
  - Two previous meetings in the FHTET at Ft Collins Co., to share methodologies.
  - Modeling with actual Mexican data in 2010
- Update on safety aviation training for both aerial sketch-mapping and spraying.
  - Training workshop to be held in Guadalajara in May 2010.

### **Achievements highlights**

- Publication of books: Forest Diseases of Mexico (2007); Mistletoes of North America (2002); and Forest Insects of Mexico (1995).
- Development of the electronic database EXFOR that compiles the information of exotic pest with potential risk for the three countries.
- Full implementation in Mexico of the digital aerial sketch mapping system used in the US for surveying forest pests.
- Technical exchange for the implementation in Mexico of the US Forest Health Monitoring system.
- Technical exchange for the implementation in Mexico of the US Risk Map model.

---

**FUTURE FOCUS /WORK PLAN****Insects and diseases**

- Increase functionality (pest distribution mapping, spread – GPS locations, model reviews, etc.) for EXFOR.
- Ongoing Book “Bark Beetles of North America”.
- Strengthen collaboration on Brown Spruce Longhorn Beetle and on Pythophtora.
- Improve Mexico’s monitoring system of incoming potential pests by training personnel on US/Canada port facilities.

**Invasive plants**

- Develop a list of high priority invasive species.
- Develop an Early Detection/Rapid Response pilot for each member country.
- Develop a rapid response measures for dealing with each of the high-priority invasive species.

**Insect, Disease and Invasive Plant Working Group****Future focus/Work plan**

- Next Meeting is in Washington D.C. 25-29 October 2010.

Review the procedures on Monitoring potential exotic pests in entry ports (Baltimore).