

DRAFT 2017 AMENDMENTS TO ISPM 5: GLOSSARY OF PHYTOSANITARY TERMS (1994-001)

Publication history

(This is not an official part of the standard)

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Major stages	CEPM (1994) added topic: 1994-001, Amendments to ISPM 5: Glossary of phytosanitary terms 2006-05 Standards Committee (SC) approved specification TP5 2012-10 Technical Panel for the Glossary (TPG) revised specification 2012-11 SC revised and approved revised specification, revoking Specification 1 2016-12 TPG drafted text 2017-05 SC approved for first consultation 2017-07 Submitted to first consultation 2017-12 TPG reviewed consultation comments and adjusted the draft 2017 amendments to ISPM 5. 2018-05 SC-7 reviewed and approved for second consultation
Notes	Note to Secretariat formatting this paper: formatting in definitions and explanations (strikethrough, bold, italics) needs to remain.

IPPC Official contact points are asked to consider the following proposals for addition, revision and deletion of terms and definitions to ISPM 5 (*Glossary of Phytosanitary Terms*). A brief explanation is given for each proposal. For revision of terms and definitions, only the proposed changes are open for comments. For full details on the discussions related to the specific terms, please refer to the meeting reports on the [IPP](#).

1. REVISIONS

1.1 “growing period” (2016-004)

The Standards Committee (SC) added the term to the *List of topics for IPPC standards* in May 2016 based on a proposal from the Technical Panel for the Glossary (TPG) to review its definition because “growing season” linked to “area, place of production or production site” to but “growing period” did not. This link seemed odd because a “growing period” would supposedly be more specific than a “growing season”. It was recalled that the mention of “plants” and the wording “in an area” were deleted from the definition of “growing period (of a plant species)” by the SC in November 2002 when a reference to “growing season” was introduced in the definition of “growing period”, and the wording “place of production or production site” was added to the definition of “growing season”.

The TPG discussed the terms in their December 2016 meeting and proposed a revision of the term “growing period” and the deletion of the term “growing season” (see section 2.2).

In their December 2017 meeting, the TPG reviewed comments from first consultation (2017) and noted that some comments did not support the proposed revision of “growing period”. The TPG considered this carefully but agreed to retain the same proposal for revision as they did not find the definition would lead to the type of misunderstanding suggested. The SC-7 reviewed the term and approved it for the second consultation.

The following explanatory points may be considered when reviewing the proposal for the revision of “growing period”:

- The term “growing period” is essential for inspection and treatment purposes to ensure that those are carried out when the plant actively grows, and may be important also for surveys and other phytosanitary procedures.
- “Time” and “period” ultimately mean the same thing, thus “time” can be considered redundant and should be deleted.
- “Actively grows” correctly reflects that some plants have active growth periods alternating with periods of dormancy. “Growth” does not merely mean increasing size, but includes the notion of development.
- The cross reference to “growing season” is unnecessary and confusing as not all countries have growing seasons and as plants grown under artificial conditions may actively grow beyond the growing season of an area.
- The addition of “when a plant species” ensures that the definition restricts the growing period to one specific plant species, which facilitates the implementation of inspection and phytosanitary procedures. Consequently, the qualifier “(of a plant species)” can be deleted.
- “in an area, place of production or production site” was added to the definition to underline the link between the growing period and the area or, especially under artificial conditions, the place of production or production site. This addition is necessary to convey the idea that the growing period depends on the local growing conditions. For instance, the growing period of a plant can be different under field conditions and in a greenhouse. This is important for countries when setting their phytosanitary import requirements or undertaking phytosanitary actions such as inspections or treatments.

Current definition

growing period (of a plant species)	Time period of active growth during a growing season [ICPM, 2003]
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Proposed revision

growing period (of a plant species)	Time p Period of active growth during a growing season when a plant species <u>actively grows in an area, place of production or production site</u> [ICPM, 2003]
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1.2 “survey” (2013-015)

The term “survey” was added to the *List of Topics for IPPC Standards* by the SC in May 2013, because the SC agreed that this definition needed further consideration as to whether it should read “whether a pest is present or absent”. While the term is currently pending on the TPG work programme, due to the ongoing revision of ISPM 6 (*Guidelines for surveillance*), the TPG discussed the term in combination with their review of terms and consistency for the draft revision of ISPM 6.

In their December 2017 meeting, the TPG reviewed comments from first consultation (2017). In particular, one comment suggested changes to the proposed definition to clarify that surveys can also be conducted in a place of production or production site. The TPG agreed it was important to clarify this aspect and recommended adjustments be made to the revision of the definition for “survey”. The SC-7 reviewed the term and approved it for the second consultation.

The following explanatory points may be considered when reviewing the proposal for the revision of “survey”:

- By adding the qualifier “(of pests)”, “survey” could be used in a general sense (for instance for surveys in the IPPC domain done for the Implementation Review and Support System).
- “Time” and “period” ultimately mean the same thing, thus “time” can be considered redundant and should be deleted.

- The purposes of carrying out a “survey” are clearer because the definition now mentions determining “the presence or absence of pests” and “the boundaries (of a pest population)”, together with the “characteristics of a pest population”.
- Although place of production and production site are smaller entities within an “area”, it is important to add “place of production or production site” in the definition of “survey” to clarify that surveys can also be conducted at those smaller, specific levels, as they can be used to establish pest free places of production or pest free production sites (as per ISPM 10 (*Requirements for the establishment of pest free places of production and pest free production sites*)).
- Cross-reference to specific surveys in the definition is not useful. Instead, the definition now covers the three types of surveys, as defined in the Glossary, that can be carried out by representing their purposes in the definition.
- The revised definition is consistent with the draft revision of ISPM 6 (*Surveillance*).

Current definition

survey	An official procedure conducted over a defined period of time to determine the characteristics of a pest population or to determine which species are present in an area [FAO, 1990; revised CEPM, 1996; CPM, 2015]
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Proposed revision

survey (of pests)	An official procedure conducted over a defined period of time to determine <u>the presence or absence of pests or the boundaries or characteristics of a pest population, or to determine which species are present in an area, place of production or production site</u> [FAO, 1990; revised CEPM, 1996; CPM, 2015]
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2. DELETIONS

2.1 “confinement (of a regulated article)” (2016-002)

The term “confinement (of a regulated article)” was included in the Glossary in 2012 following a TPG proposal to develop a definition in relation to ISPM 3 (*Guidelines for the export, shipment, import and release of biological control agents and other beneficial organisms*) and ISPM 34 (*Design and operation of post-entry quarantine stations for plants*). This Glossary term was added to the *List of topics for IPPC standards* by the SC in May 2016 based on a TPG proposal of December 2015, where the TPG discussed the terms “confinement facility” (2015-001) and “quarantine” (2015-002) and felt that “confinement” should be revised, or possibly deleted from the Glossary. This because of the proposed revision of “quarantine” as this term is a subset of “confinement” and because the definition of “quarantine” (whether in the current or revised form) conflicts with that of “confinement”. The TPG in its December 2016 meeting discussed the term and agreed to propose its deletion from the Glossary.

In their December 2017 meeting, the TPG reviewed comments from first consultation (2017). No comment disagreed with the proposed deletion of the term “confinement (of a regulated article)” and the TPG left their recommendation unchanged. The SC-7 approved the proposed deletion of the term for the second consultation. The following explanatory points may be considered when reviewing the proposal for the deletion of “confinement (of a regulated article)”:

- There are currently three defined terms (“quarantine”, “confinement” and “detention”) covering almost the same concept; the difference between the three definitions is very subtle, the definitions are somewhat circular in that they refer to each other, and the terms are often used interchangeably in ISPMs. This situation creates unfortunate and unnecessary confusion.
- The original aim of defining “confinement (of a regulated article)” was to avoid that the Glossary term “containment” would be used beyond its defined scope (pertaining to an “area”). However,

defining “confinement (of a regulated article)” is not needed to avoid the misuse of the well-defined “containment”.

- The description of “confinement (of a regulated article)” as being the “application of phytosanitary measures...” misses the notion of holding something in some sort of enclosure. Example: while “treatment” is a “phytosanitary measure”, the mere applying of a treatment would not count as “confinement”. Therefore, normal English dictionary definitions of “confinement” are more adequate than the current definition.
- “Confinement” in the broad, common sense is used in the definition of “quarantine” and here clearly functions to provide the notion of holding in enclosure, and suggesting that “quarantine” is a subset of “confinement”. On the other hand, the purpose of “confinement (of a regulated article)” is defined as “to prevent the escape of pests”. This is only one out of several purposes for “quarantine”, so “confinement (of a regulated article)” is defined more restrictively than for “quarantine”, suggesting that “confinement (of a regulated article)” becomes a subset of “quarantine”. Thus the relation between the two terms is illogic.
- “Confinement” in the broad, common sense is also used in the definition of “detention”. For the IPPC community to deal with the terms: the undefined “confinement” used to define two very closely related terms (“quarantine” and “detention”) and then the defined term “confinement (of a regulated article)” is confusing and unproductive.
- Retaining the definitions of “quarantine” and “detention” is sufficient for all ISPM purposes, in particular if the less restrictive revised definition of “quarantine” shall be agreed, leaving the definition for “confinement (of a regulated article)” unnecessary and confusing.
- Although, as stated in its definition, “detention” is a subset of “quarantine”, it is not particularly clear whether such distinction has been used deliberately in ISPMs so far. On the other hand, the uses seem unproblematic.
- “Confinement” is difficult to translate into other FAO languages, e.g. Arabic uses the same term as the translation of “detention”.
- The use in ISPMs of “confinement” in the broad, common sense is appropriate and well understood in all current ISPM contexts. “Confinement” as used would not merit any ink amendments in ISPMs if the term is left without a definition in the Glossary. In future, the Glossary terms “quarantine” or “detention” should be used where appropriate, and “confinement” could be used in its common English meaning.

Proposed deletion

confinement (of a regulated article)	Application of phytosanitary measures to a regulated article to prevent the escape of pests [CPM, 2012]
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2.2 “growing season” (2016-004)

For the background information, refer to section 1.1 of this paper.

The TPG discussed the term in their December 2016 meeting and proposed the deletion of “growing season” from the Glossary.

In their December 2017 meeting, the TPG reviewed comments from first consultation (2017). They noted that some comments did not support the proposed deletion of the term “growing season”, in connection to those comments also objecting to the proposed revision of the term “growing period”. The TPG considered this carefully but agreed to leave unchanged the proposal for revision of “growing period” (refer to section 1.1) and retain its recommendation for the deletion of “growing season” for the reasons listed below. The SC-7 approved the proposed deletion of the term for the second consultation.

The following explanatory points may be considered when reviewing the proposal:

- While “growing season” is used in ISPMs, the term does not have any specific IPPC meaning and may be used in its common dictionary meaning. In comparison, “growing period” is essential for inspection and treatment purposes to ensure that those are carried out when the plant actively grows, and is also important when applying other phytosanitary procedures.
- Several tropical countries do not have “growing seasons” and the term is therefore not relevant for them.
- Plants grown under artificial conditions may actively grow beyond the outdoor growing season.
- Originally, the term “growing period” was defined in the Glossary to replace the term “growing season” which was intended to be deleted.
- Deleting the term “growing season” would not cause difficulties of understanding the uses of the term in ISPMs and would not require ink amendments.

Proposed deletion

growing season	Period or periods of the year when plants actively grow in an area, place of production or production site [FAO, 1990; revised ICPM, 2003]
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2.3 “mark” (2013-007)

The Glossary term “mark” was added to the *List of topics for IPPC standards* by the SC in May 2013, based on a TPG proposal for revising the definition to become explicit and precise, and avoid using the phrase “phytosanitary status” within the definition.

During first consultation in 2014, several consultation comments recommended that the term and definition be deleted altogether. They suggested that the definition would not be needed as the meaning of “mark” could instead be specified case-by-case with any future use of the term in new ISPMs, as is done already in ISPM 15 (*Regulation of wood packaging material in international trade*).

The TPG in its December 2016 meeting discussed the term and agreed to propose its deletion from the Glossary.

In their December 2017 meeting, the TPG reviewed comments from first consultation (2017) and retained their recommendation to delete the term “mark” unchanged. The SC-7 approved the proposed deletion of the term for the second consultation.^[83] The following explanatory points may be considered when reviewing the proposal:

- “mark” as a term and definition was originally included in ISPM 15 and then moved to ISPM 5 (*Glossary of phytosanitary terms*) based on comments from the 2001 consultation. No justification was provided for this inclusion. The Interim Standards Committee, November 2001, agreed with the inclusion recognizing that “the term ‘mark’ may be applicable to phytosanitary issues beyond the scope of this standard”. However, so far the term is only used in its Glossary meaning in ISPM 15.
- “mark” in its Glossary sense is comprehensively and consistently described in ISPM 15, “Outline” and Section 3.1, and defining “mark” in the Glossary is therefore not necessary.
- “mark” is used inconsistently in several other ISPMs, i.e. with different meanings than that of the current or proposed revised definition. Retaining the definition (whether in the original or revised form) would necessitate the revision of those uses to substitute the term “mark” with different wording. Finding appropriate alternative terms for ink amendments could prove very difficult.

Proposed deletion

mark	An official stamp or brand, internationally recognized, applied to a regulated article to attest its phytosanitary status [ISPM 15, 2002]
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