

Glossary of National Plant Health Surveillance Terms

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1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 Scope

The *Glossary of National Plant Health Surveillance Terms* (the glossary) includes commonly used terms and definitions with specific meaning to the national plant health surveillance system.

1.2 Purpose

The purpose of the glossary is to increase clarity and consistency in the use and understanding of terms and definitions for plant health surveillance in Australia. It is anticipated that uptake of the glossary will help enable consistency in data collection and capture as well as in the promotion of communication on surveillance.

1.3 Review

Review and updating of the glossary is to be done every five years or earlier if required, by the Subcommittee on National Plant Health Surveillance (SNPHS) Secretariat through a working group in consultation with SNPHS.

The glossary and changes to the glossary are subject to the approval of SNPHS members for adoption, and endorsement by Plant Health Committee. Terms and/or definitions for review may be identified by SNPHS members, working groups or the Secretariat.

2. TERMS AND DEFINITIONS

Alien species	A species, subspecies or lower taxon, introduced outside its natural past or present distribution; includes any part, gametes, seeds, eggs, or propagules of such species that might survive and subsequently reproduce.
Appropriate level of protection	The level of protection deemed appropriate by a country establishing a sanitary or phytosanitary measure to protect human, animal or plant life or health within its territory.
Approved arrangements	An arrangement for which an approval is in force under paragraph 406(1)(a) of the <i>Biosecurity Act 2015</i> (including a varied arrangement for which an approval is in force under that paragraph as it applies because of subsection 412(3)).
Area freedom	Absence of a specific pest in a specified location (which may include pest free areas, pest free places of production or pest free production sites)
Area of low pest prevalence	An area, whether all of a country, part of a country, or all or parts of several countries, as identified by the competent authorities, in which a specific pest is present at low levels and which is subject to effective surveillance or control measures.
Authorised officer	Person appointed under relevant legislation to perform specific functions as authorised by that appointment.
Biosecurity	See <i>plant biosecurity</i>

Biosecurity activities	Activities undertaken to manage biosecurity risks.
Biosecurity continuum	Describes the range of locations where biosecurity risks may arise and where biosecurity activities take place – pre-border, at the border and post-border.
Biosecurity risks	The potential of a disease or pest entering, emerging, establishing or spreading in Australia, and the disease or pest causing harm to the environment, economy or community activities.
Border	In relation to the biosecurity continuum: airports, seaports and land borders that represent the potential point of entry for a pest into Australia.
Commonwealth	The Commonwealth of Australia, including its external territories.
Contingency plan	Documents that outline pest specific information for use in the event of an emergency response.
Control (of a pest)	Suppression, containment or eradication of a pest population.
Conveyance	A conveyance is an aircraft, a vessel, a vehicle, a train, or any other means of transport prescribed by the regulations.
Delimiting survey	Survey conducted to establish the boundaries of an area considered to be infested by or free from a pest.
Detection survey	Survey conducted in an area to determine if pests are present.

Diagnositics	Processes and standards associated with the accurate identification of a pest or host.
Domestic quarantine	Activities designed to prevent the movement and spread of pests within Australia.
Emergency Plant Pest	<p>A plant pest that is included in Schedule 13 (of the EPPRD) or which is determined by the Categorisation Group to meet one or more of the following criteria:</p> <p>(a) It is a known exotic Plant Pest the economic consequences of an occurrence of which would be economically or otherwise harmful for Australia, and for which it is considered to be in the regional and national interest to be free of the Plant Pest.</p> <p>(b) It is a variant form of an established Plant Pest which can be distinguished by appropriate investigative and diagnostic methods and which, if established in Australia, would have a regional and national impact.</p> <p>(c) It is a serious Plant Pest of unknown or uncertain origin which may, on the evidence available at the time, be an entirely new Plant Pest or one not listed in Schedule 13 and which if established in Australia is considered likely to have an adverse economic impact regionally and nationally.</p> <p>(d) It is a Plant Pest already found in Australia that:</p> <p>(i) is restricted to a defined area through the use of regulatory measures intended to prevent further spread of the pest out of the defined area or into an endangered area; and</p> <p>(ii) has been detected outside the defined area; and</p>

(iii) is not a native of Australia; and
(iv) is not the subject of any instrument for management which is agreed to be effective risk mitigation and management at a national level; and
(v) is considered likely to have an adverse economic impact such that an emergency response is required to prevent an incident of regional and national importance.

Emergency Plant Pest Response Deed (EPPRD)

A pre-agreed cost sharing and response framework for dealing with an incursion of an EPP.

Endemic plant pest

A plant pest which is native to Australia or an established pest which is not subject to containment and is therefore unlikely to be eradicated.

Environmental biosecurity

The protection of the environment and/or social amenity from the risks and negative effects of pests and diseases entering, emerging, establishing or spreading in Australia.

A. environment includes Australia's natural terrestrial, inland water and marine ecosystems and their constituent parts, and its natural and physical resources

B. social amenity includes the social, economic and cultural aspects of the environment, including tourism, human infrastructure, cultural assets and national image.

Established plant pest

A plant pest that is perpetuated, for the foreseeable future, within any area and where it is not feasible (whether in terms of technical feasibility or a benefit/cost analysis) to eradicate.

Exotic plant pest	A plant pest that is not known to occur in Australia.
General surveillance	General surveillance is a process whereby information on particular pests which are of concern for an area is gathered from many sources, wherever it is available and provided for use by biosecurity agencies. General surveillance for a pest can support multiple surveillance objectives.
High Priority Pest	A plant pest that has been identified as a priority threat, based on the likelihood and impact ratings, by a particular plant industry and is listed in a biosecurity plan.
Incident response	The actions undertaken to contain and/or eradicate an exotic pest after its detection.
Inspector	Person permitted to perform specific functions in accordance with relevant legislation.
International Standard for Phytosanitary Measures (ISPM)	An international standard adopted by the Commission on Phytosanitary Measures, established under the International Plant Protection Convention.
Invasive pest	A pest that: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) is an alien species (within the meaning of the Biodiversity Convention); but (b) is not capable of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (i) infesting humans, animals or plants; or (ii) acting as a vector for a disease; or (iii) causing disease in any other way.

Jurisdiction	A state or territory or the Commonwealth.
Monitoring surveillance	Ongoing surveillance to verify the characteristics of a pest population.
National Minimum Dataset Specifications	A biosecurity data and information governance framework.
National Environmental Biosecurity Response Agreement (NEBRA)	Sets out emergency response arrangements, including cost-sharing, for biosecurity incidents that primarily impact the environment and/or social amenity, including marine pest incidents, where the response is for the public good.
National surveillance protocol	A nationally endorsed technical reference guide for conducting surveillance on a specific plant pest or group of plant pests for a particular purpose. It includes information on the surveillance methodology, pest biology and taxonomy, identification and sample processing for diagnosis.
Outbreak	A recently detected pest population, including an incursion, or a sudden significant increase of an established pest population in an area.
Pathway	Any means that allows the entry or spread of a pest.
Pest free area	An area in which a specific pest is absent as demonstrated by scientific evidence and in which, where appropriate, this condition is being officially maintained.
Pest free place of production	Place of production in which a specific pest is absent as demonstrated by

	scientific evidence and in which, where appropriate, this condition is being officially maintained for a defined period.
Pest free production site	A production site in which a specific pest is absent, as demonstrated by scientific evidence, and in which, where appropriate, this condition is being officially maintained for a defined period
Pest incursion	An isolated population of a pest recently detected in an area, not known to be established, but expected to survive for the immediate future.
Pest record specification	A formal description of the data elements that compose a single observation (sampling event) made during a surveillance for a pest, including the identification of any organisms that were involved in the observation, for the purpose of creating a pest record.
Pest status	Presence or absence, at the present time, of a pest in an area, including where appropriate its distribution, as officially determined using expert judgement on the basis of current and historical pest records and/or other information.
Phytosanitary measure	Any legislation, regulation or official procedure having the purpose to prevent the introduction and/or spread of pests, or to limit the economic impact of regulated pests.
Place of production	Any premises or collection of fields operated as a single production or farming unit.

Plant biosecurity	Plant biosecurity is a set of measures which protect the economy, environment and community from the negative impacts of plant pests. A fully functional and effective biosecurity system is a vital part of the future profitability, productivity and sustainability of Australia's plant production industries and necessary to preserve the Australian environment and way of life.
Plant biosecurity system	The combination of all measures, programs and services delivered by governments, plant industries, the community and other stakeholders that enables the protection of plants, plant products or bees from significant exotic, endemic and established plant pests.
Plant health surveillance	Formal and informal monitoring to detect changes in Australia's plant pest status or changes in plant biosecurity risk or plant pest prevalence, which may affect imports, exports and/or onshore production.
Plant industries	Covers agriculture, horticulture, forestry and amenity plants and plant products.
Plant pest	Any species, strain or biotype of invertebrate or pathogen injurious to plants, plant products or bees.
Post-border	In relation to the biosecurity continuum: region's inside Australia's border.
Pre-border	In relation to the biosecurity continuum: region's outside Australia's border.

Production site	A defined part of a place of production, that is managed as a separate unit for phytosanitary purposes.
Quarantine	Official confinement of regulated articles for observation and research or for further inspection, testing or treatment.
Regional	A geographic region within Australia (which may include a state, territory or agricultural zone).
Regionalised pest	Pests contained within a geographically defined region due to specific quarantine and/or management arrangements.
Regulated pathways	A pathway which or from which plants, plant products and other regulated articles are subjected to phytosanitary measures.
Regulated pest	A quarantine pest or a regulated non-quarantine pest.
Response Plan	An integrated plan for undertaking a response to an EPP that is developed by one or more State or Territory CPHM(s), endorsed by the CCEPP and approved by the NMG and which is subject to Cost Sharing in accordance with the EPPRD. The Response Plan may include Emergency Containment actions so as to enable the payment of Owner Reimbursement Costs and Cost Sharing if considered appropriate by CCEPP and approved by NMG.
Risk analysis	The process of evaluating scientific and economic evidence to determine the risk posed by a pest to Australia's

	environment, plant industries, social amenity and the economy.
Specific surveillance	A surveillance activity conducted over a defined period of time that records the detection of, or confirms the absence of, specific pests.
SPS agreement	The Agreement on the Application of Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures of the WTO, to which all WTO member countries are bound.
Standard Operating Procedure	Formal set of documented procedures designed to ensure consistency, efficiency, and effectiveness across and between an organisation in undertaking a range of activities.
State and territory governments	The state and territory governments of Australia.
Surveillance	Processes which collect and record data on pest presence or absence through survey, monitoring or other procedures.
Surveillance design	Process of critically assessing the surveillance requirements to meet one or more risk mitigation objectives.
Surveillance plan	<p>Surveillance plans will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • specify the surveillance objectives for one or more pests • stipulate the quantity and location of sites that will be targeted to address the risks • describe the protocols that will be used to detect the pest/s. <p>Surveillance plans will indicate the resources and the quantity of effort required to deliver surveillance to meet the objective.</p>

Surveillance prioritisation

Process of determining the pests that should be considered further for surveillance, based on the risk mitigation and return on investment that surveillance can provide.

Surveillance protocol

Technical reference guide for conducting surveillance on a specific plant pest or group of plant pests. It includes information on the surveillance methodology, pest biology and taxonomy, identification and sample processing.