

# Canadian Plant Health Council: Protecting plant health through partnerships

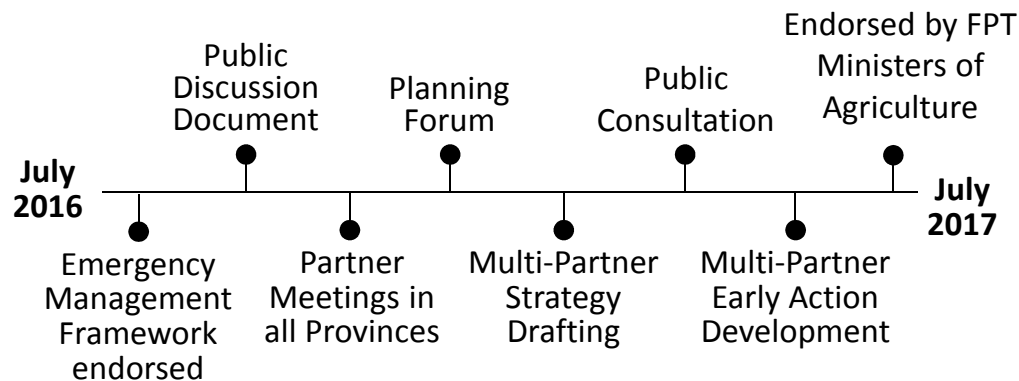
Information Session  
November 2019

# Outline

- ◆ Our roots: the Plant and Animal Health Strategy for Canada
- ◆ The Canadian Plant Health Council: Strategic partnership for plant health in Canada
- ◆ The Council's work plan: Concrete actions planned for three priority areas
- ◆ Moving forward and how you can participate

# Partners co-created the Plant and Animal Health Strategy for Canada

Multiple engagement opportunities brought partners together to co-create the Strategy, leading to a shared vision for plant and animal health



**Vision**  
Canada's plant and animal resources are safeguarded, contributing to economic growth and the protection of human health and the environment

## Areas for Action:

Coordination through partnerships

Preventive approaches to safeguard plant health

Collection, analysis and sharing of information

Enabling desired behaviours

# Implementing the Plant and Animal Health Strategy

- On October 5, 2018, the Canadian Plant Health Council was launched for two years to coordinate implementation of the Strategy with a mandate to:



Deliver on identified plant health priorities



Enable cooperation among partners



Adjust to emerging needs

# Canadian Plant Health Council

## Industry

- Rebecca Lee, Canadian Horticultural Council (Co-chair)
- Barry Ford, Canada Wood Group
- Ian Affleck, CropLife Canada
- Krista Thomas, Canada Grains Council

## Academia

- Fouad Daayf, Association of Canadian Faculties of Agriculture and Veterinary Medicine and Professor at University of Manitoba

## Provincial Government

- Miles Beaudin, Manitoba Agriculture
- David Feindel, Alberta Agriculture & Forestry (Co-chair)
- Annette Anderson, Ontario Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs

## Federal Government

- Nathalie Durand, Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada
- Bill Anderson, Canadian Food Inspection Agency
- Anthony Hopkin, NRCan, Canadian Forest Service

### FPT ADM Champion

Penny McCall, Saskatchewan Ministry of Agriculture

### Secretariat Support

Saskatchewan Ministry of Agriculture  
Canadian Food Inspection Agency

# Two-Year Work Plan

- A prioritization process resulted in the selection of 3 priority areas
  - The Council then established working groups to deliver concrete, short term actions\*

## Surveillance

Develop an annual process to nationally harmonize surveillance plans, priorities and protocols, and share results

## Biosecurity

Assess uptake and promote awareness of biosecurity tools and programs to improve uptake

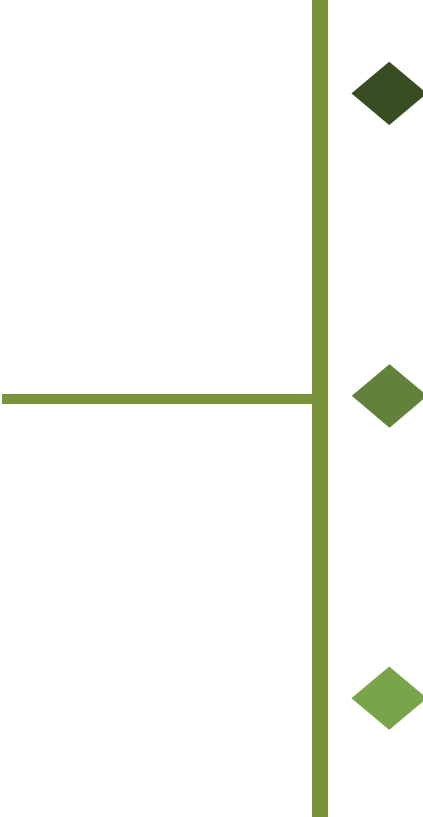
## Emergency Response

Identify key contacts and establish a multi-partner communication plan for rapid and effective emergency response

- Longer term deliverables were also identified during the work planning process in each area, to be revisited as implementation progresses
- Linkages with other related plant health initiatives are continuously explored

\*Annex provides further details of priority-setting, work plans and working group membership

# Surveillance Working Group Activities

- 
- ◆ Distribute a survey to identify current surveillance programs, protocols and practitioners
  - ◆ Develop an approach to harmonize surveillance plans and priorities and share results
  - ◆ Establish communities of practice and test the approach on target pests with national presence

# Understanding the current state of pest surveillance and monitoring in Canada

- Survey sent to surveillance practitioners to gather information on surveillance and monitoring programs across Canada
  - To date, information gathered on 135 pests and 90 commodities, with 261 unique pest-commodity pairings
- Information is being used to identify areas for coordination

**Get involved!**

- Tell us about your surveillance work by answering the survey

Survey by  
Pest



Survey by  
Landscape or  
Commodity





# Examples of questions in the survey

What societies or organizations are you a participant of where plant health practitioners meet and share surveillance information?

How are the surveillance information and results shared?

What is the purpose of this monitoring?

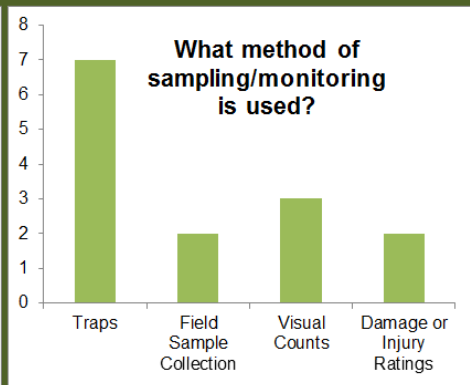
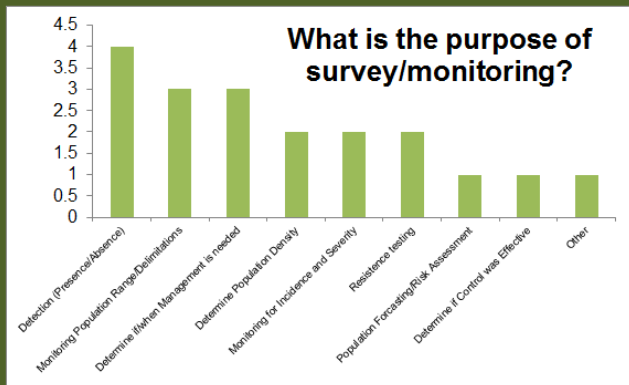
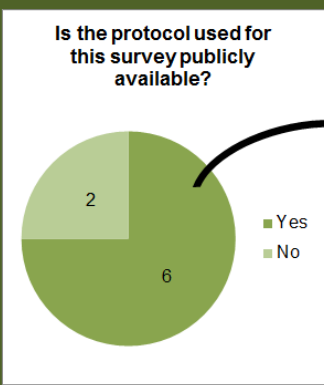
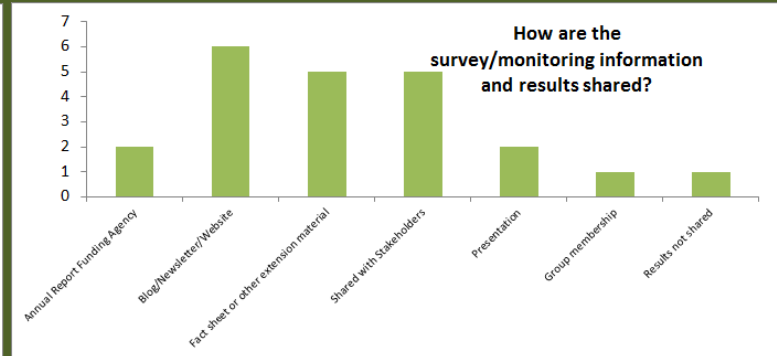
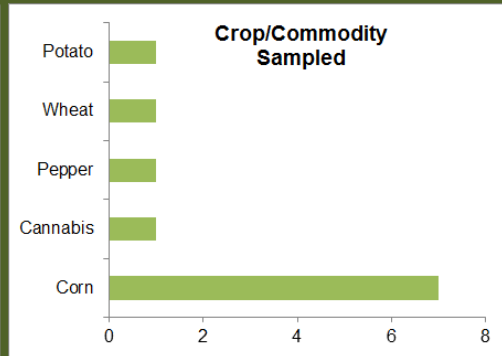
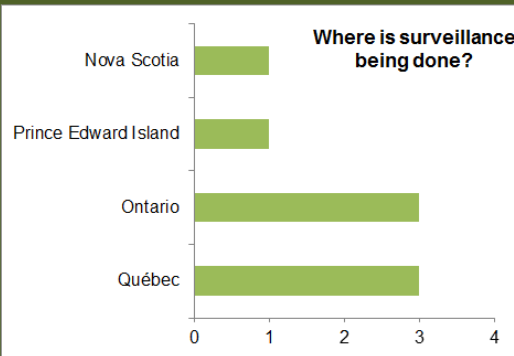
What pests do you sample in what crops / commodities / landscapes?

What method of sampling is used?

# Surveillance for European Corn Borer

## Surveillance Working Group European Corn Borer

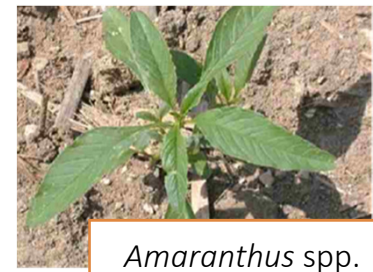
October 17, 2019 - 17 octobre 2019



# Coordination through Communities of Practice

- Surveillance communities of practice launching soon
  - Focus on target pests with the potential to expand to other pests if successful
- Currently seeking members for the communities of practice and gathering existing protocols
- Ultimate goal is to work towards establishing a coordinated plant health network in Canada

## Target Pests

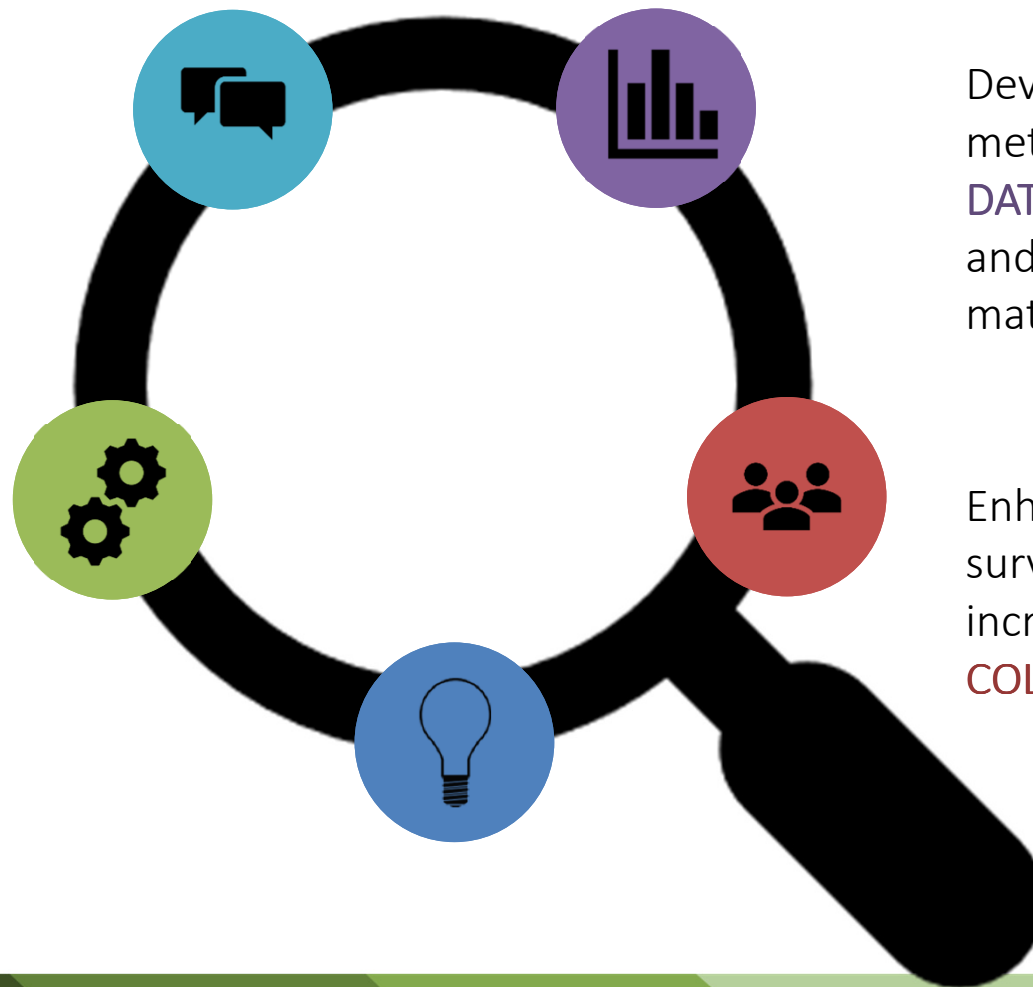


# Goals of the communities of practice

Enhance  
**COMMUNICATION**  
and information  
exchange

Build a catalogue of  
**HARMONIZED  
PROTOCOLS**

Act as a **SOUNDING  
BOARD** for emerging  
ideas



Develop consistent  
methodology for  
**DATA PRESENTATION**  
and extension  
material

Enhance ongoing  
surveillance through  
increased  
**COLLABORATION**

# Biosecurity Working Group Activities

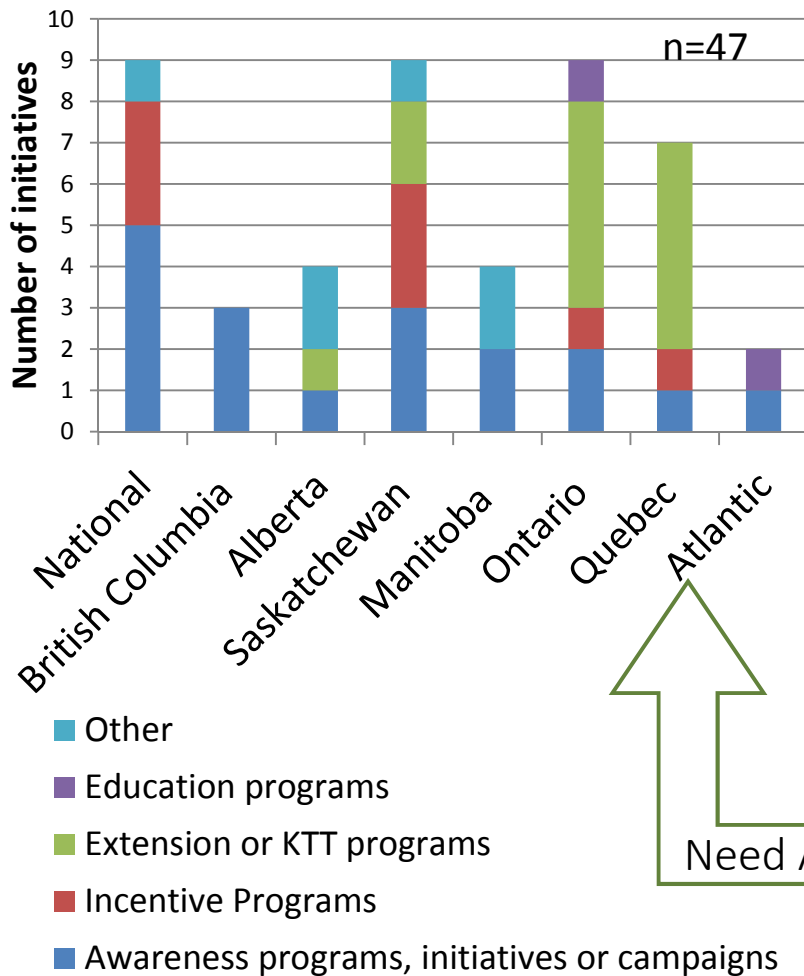
- ◆ Collect information to help assess types and extent of existing biosecurity tools and practices
- ◆ Survey producers to assess awareness and uptake of biosecurity at the farm production-level
- ◆ Conduct trial awareness campaign(s) to increase knowledge of biosecurity and improve uptake

# Biosecurity scan

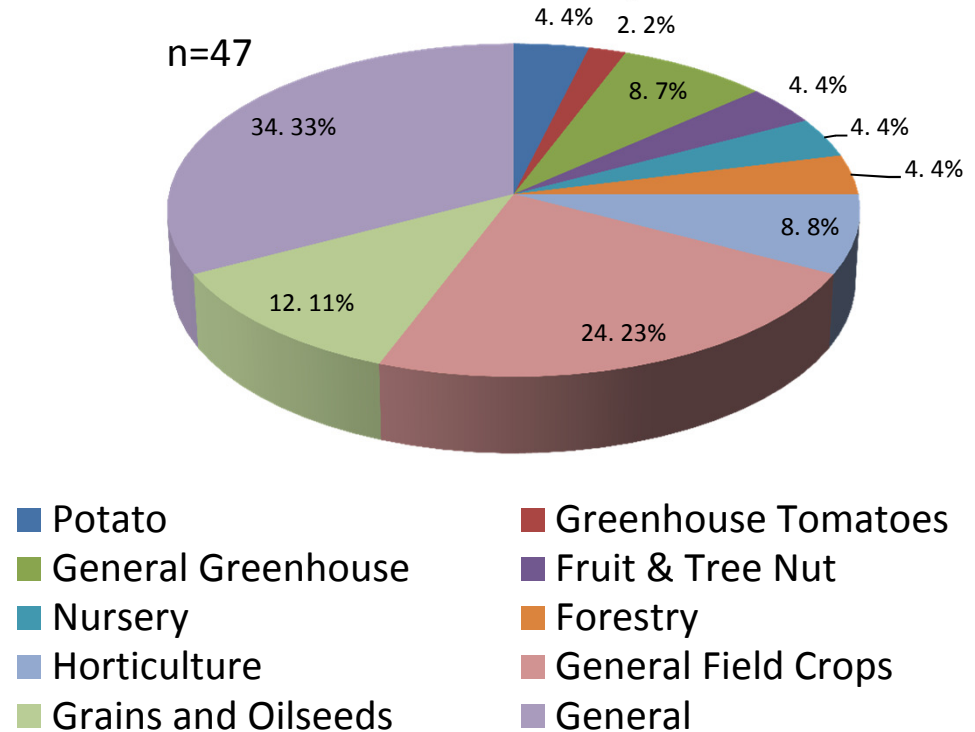
- Goal: to identify awareness programs, and various tools available to encourage good biosecurity practices.
  - Program examples: Growing Forward 1 and 2 initiatives administered by provinces
  - Method of production (field, greenhouse, hydroponic)
  - Distribution across the country of various biosecurity tools
  - Crop/sector
  - Plant pest type (insects, weeds, diseases, etc.)
- Scan will remain evergreen
  - Potential for annual review by working group members

# Overview of findings

## Type of program and regional representation



## Biosecurity programs by commodity



# Survey Under Construction!



- Assess uptake and knowledge of biosecurity practices across sectors at the farm-production level
- Anticipate targeted launch in January 2020
- Information gathered will help target a proposed multi-partner communications campaign



# Survey Questions Under Construction

Do you grow your crops in a field, in a greenhouse, or hydroponically?

Which biosecurity practices do you implement on farm?

What tools did you use or access to develop your biosecurity practices?

What are the barriers that limit you from practicing biosecurity?



# Trial Awareness Campaign

- Harness existing programs to disseminate messaging
- National distribution anticipated
- At the brainstorming stage – Share your ideas!



**My story...**

**Martha Farmer**

What is Biosecurity?

Biosecurity is a series of practices designed to prevent, minimize, and control the release and spread of plant pests

**For more information**

Visit [www.inspection.gc.ca](http://www.inspection.gc.ca)

# Emergency Response Working Group Activities

- ◆ Review existing ER plans, then develop our own emergency response plan including a flowchart to guide communications channels
- ◆ Identify key position titles in partner organizations to engage in an emergency and a mechanism to keep updated
- ◆ Catalogue existing capacity available to partner organizations to respond in an emergency
- ◆ Facilitate mock emergency exercise and compile lessons learned

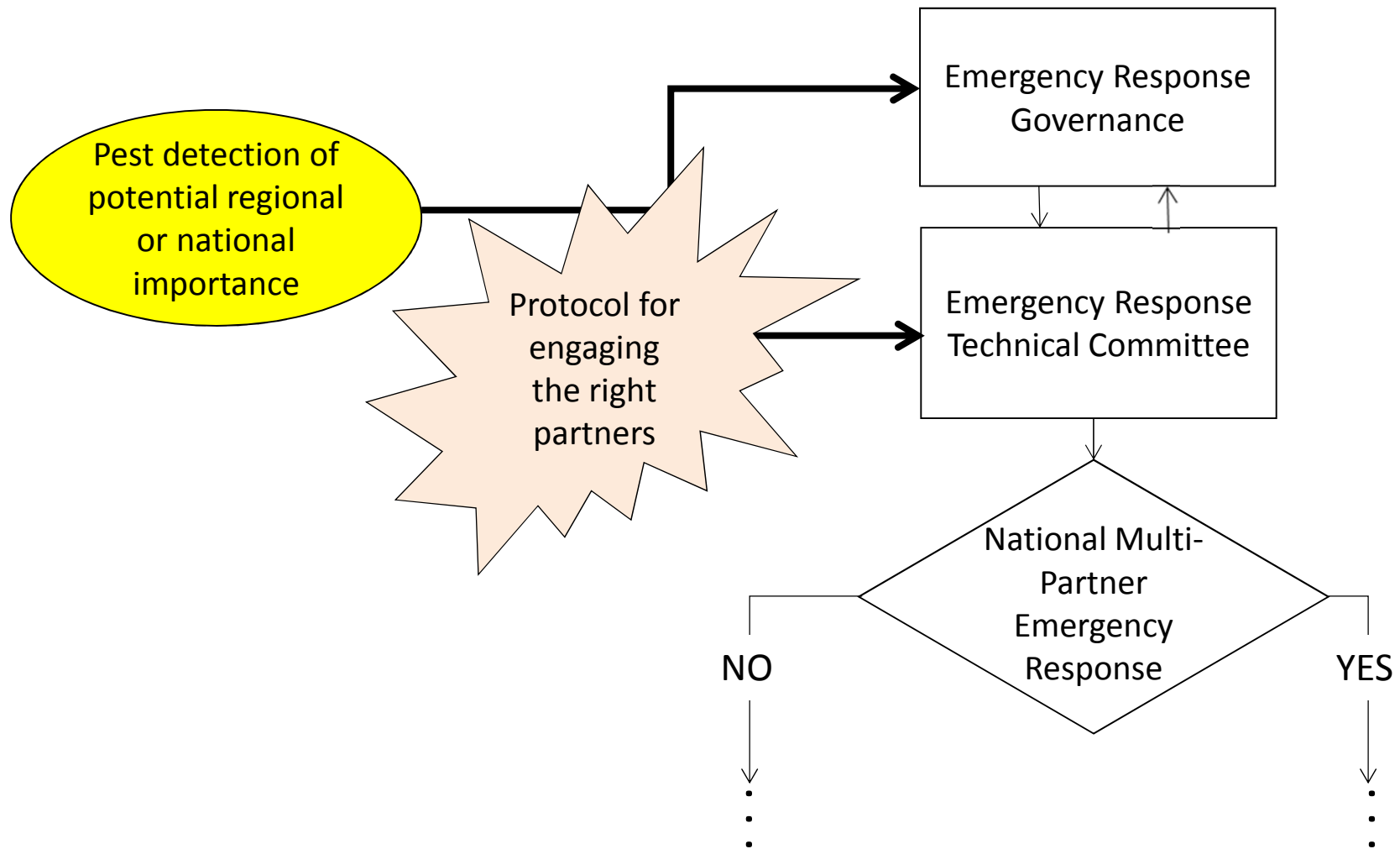
# Response Plan Development

Reviewed existing models to understand what works well:

- BC Plant Protection Advisory Council (multi-partner)
- Ontario Critical Plant Pest Management Committee



# Response Plan Development (Draft)



# Emergency Response Technical Committee (ERTC)

## **Standing Committee**

\*Prepare for pest incursions

-Technical specialists in pathology, entomology, forestry, weed science



## **Ad-hoc members**

\*Engaged for specific pest incursions

-Government representatives, commodity-specific industry representatives

# Mapping our capacity to respond

Catalogue diagnostic expertise across Canada

- Understand capacity
- Mobilize quickly in an emergency
- Develop networks



# Emergency Response Mock Exercise

Practice the plan using a virtual/table-top exercise

- Start small, improve and repeat with broader participation





# International Year of Plant Health

- Aimed at raising awareness about the importance of healthy plants and plant protection
- Communications activities are being planned nationally, regionally and globally, which will strengthen plant health efforts at each level
- Partnership, outreach and engagement has been the center for success for 2020



INTERNATIONAL YEAR OF  
**PLANT HEALTH**

2020

# Moving Forward

- The Council is a key partnership that will advance plant health priorities for Canada, achieving the vision set out in the Plant and Animal Health Strategy
  - Self-imposed two-year trial period to demonstrate the value of this partnership to industry – Council's work plan is critical for long term success
  - Examining how it is operating so that adjustments can be made beyond October 2020

# Get Involved!

- Seeking additional members for the Canadian Plant Health Council's Working Groups
  - Need for greater representation of industry and grower organization perspectives, as well as academia
  - Including Surveillance Communities of Practice
- Contribute to activities for the International Year of Plant Health

Contact  
**Jaimie Schnell**  
to find out more  
([jaimie.schnell@canada.ca](mailto:jaimie.schnell@canada.ca))

## Annex: Selection of CPHC Priority Activities



# Annex: Surveillance Activities



Goal	1	Enhance surveillance programs by coordinating efforts across Canada through partnership	Timeline
Activities	1.1	Identify current surveillance programs, protocols and practitioners, and methods of data sharing across Canada	Apr-Oct 19
	1.2	Identify one or more pests with national presence to serve as models to test if national coordination of surveillance programs has merit	May-Oct 19
	1.3	Establish a national community of practice for selected pests and identify mechanisms for enabling collaboration among surveillance practitioners	Oct 19-Jan 20
	1.4	Harmonize surveillance protocols and identify areas for collaboration for the selected pests through the communities of practice	Nov 19-Mar 20
	1.5	Develop an annual process to harmonize surveillance plans and priorities, and share results nationally	Jan-May 20
	1.6	Test and evaluate the process for each of the selected pests, identified in 1.2, through the communities of practice	Mar-Nov 20
	1.7	Identify and implement communication and outreach opportunities to promote the activities and achievements of the coordinated surveillance efforts	Sep 19-Dec 20

# Annex: Surveillance Working Group Membership

Name	Title	Organization
Lauren Bell	Education and Community Outreach Coordinator	Invasive Species Centre
Rob Gulden	Associate Professor, Weed and Crop Ecology and Management	University of Manitoba
Mary Ruth McDonald	Professor	University of Guelph
Julie Paillat	National Coordinator, Greenhouse Vegetable Industry	Canadian Horticultural Council
Pat Flaten	Research Program Manager	Western Grains Research Foundation
Clint Jurke	Agronomy Director	Canola Council of Canada
Michael Harding	Research Scientist, Plant Pathology	Alberta Agriculture and Forestry
Tracey Baute	Entomologist - Field Crops	OMAFRA
Barbara Ziesman	Provincial Specialist, Plant Disease	Saskatchewan Ministry of Agriculture
Marianne St-Laurent	Coordinator of Réseau d'avertissements phytosanitaires	MAPAQ
Line Bilodeau	Phytosanitary Surveillance Coordinator	MAPAQ
Vikram Bisht	Potato & Hort Crops Pathologist	Manitoba Agriculture
Rick Hoeg	Senior Program Administrator	Nova Scotia Department of Agriculture
Mireille Marcotte	National Manager, Plant Health Surveillance Unit	CFIA
Jennifer Edwards	Analyst, Science Policy & Partnerships Division	AAFC
Kathryn Makela	Strategy Coordinator, Risk Reduction, Pest Management Centre	AAFC
Howard Thistlewood	Research Scientist	AAFC
Sarah Hambleton	Research Scientist	AAFC
Meghan Vankosky	Research Scientist - Entomology	AAFC
Julia Leeson	Weed Monitoring Biologist	AAFC
Anthony Hopkin	Director, Pacific Forestry Centre	NRCan

# Annex: Biosecurity Activities



Goal	1	Assess uptake of biosecurity practices	Timeline
Activities	1.1	Use existing survey data to generate benchmark of uptake	Apr-Oct 19
	1.2	Survey producers to assess awareness, uptake, and barriers; initiate trial with one sector	Jan- April 20
	1.3	Analyse survey data and use to identify rates of uptake, gaps/barriers, and models for best practices	Mar-May 20
Goal	2	Increase awareness of existing biosecurity standards and guidelines and other associated information and/or tools	Timeline
Activities	2.1	Conduct a scan to identify currently existing awareness programs (including KTT systems)	Apr-Nov 19
	2.2	Trial new awareness program(s) to disseminate biosecurity related information, to be operationalized via KTT groups in a targeted sector/group	Aug 19-Oct 20
Goal	3	Evaluate approaches to incentivize biosecurity uptake	Timeline
Activities	3.1	Perform a scan of existing programs that encourage uptake	Apr-Nov 19
	3.2	Develop method to evaluate success of existing programs	Jan-May 20

## Annex: Biosecurity Working Group Membership

Name	Title	Organization
Helga Miehle	Manager, Agricultural Services	Perennia Food and Agriculture
Niki Bennet	Science Coordinator	Ontario Greenhouse Vegetable Growers
Tanya Warren	Crop Assurance Extension Specialist	Alberta Agriculture and Forestry
Sarah Jandricic	Greenhouse Floriculture IPM Specialist	OMAFRA
Nele Michiels	Agriculture Program Analyst	OMAFRA
Glen Sweetman	Provincial Specialist, Greenhouse and Nursery	Saskatchewan Ministry of Agriculture
Angela Gourd	Plant Protection Coordinator	Nova Scotia Department of Agriculture
Katie Woolfson	Science Specialist	CFIA
Tobias Laengle	Senior Biopesticides Coordinator, Risk Reduction, Pest Management Centre	AAFC



## Annex: Emergency Response Activities

<b>Goal</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>Identify and model logical communication channels among partners for rapid and effective emergency response</b>	<b>Timeline</b>
Activities	1.1	Identify key contacts in partner organizations that should be contacted in the event of a plant pest emergency	Apr-Sep 19
	1.2	Develop directory of key contacts and a strategy for updating	Apr-Sep 19
	1.3	Develop communications plan(s)/guideline(s) for when/how to engage key contacts in the event of an emergency	May-Dec 19
<b>Goal</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>Develop plans/partnership structures to enable coordinated action by all partners during an emergency response</b>	<b>Timeline</b>
Activities	2.1	Review existing regional/national emergency response plans and partnership structures to identify gaps and best practices	Apr-Sep 19
	2.2	Develop new response plans/structures as necessary	Apr-Jan 20
<b>Goal</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>Identify and catalogue the existing capacity available to partners to effectively respond to emergencies</b>	<b>Timeline</b>
Activities	3.1	Design survey/database to compile existing capacity (lab tests)	Nov 19-Mar 20
	3.2	Identify gaps in contact list and information gathered	Feb-Mar 20
<b>Goal</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>Test the draft Emergency Response Plan</b>	<b>Timeline</b>
Activities	4.1	Design and initiate a mock emergency exercise	May-Sept 20

## Annex: Emergency Response Working Group Membership

Name	Title	Organization
Sabine Banniza	Professor and Ministry of Agriculture Strategy Research Program Chair in Pulse Crop Pathology	University of Saskatchewan
Sean Prager	Professor	University of Saskatchewan
David Jones	Manager, Potato Industry Coordination	Canadian Horticultural Council/CHC
Niki Bennet	Science Coordinator	Ontario Greenhouse Vegetable Growers
Krista Thomas	Director, Plant Innovation	Canada Grains Council (CGC)
Clint Jurke	Agronomy Director	Canola Council of Canada
Krista Zuzak	Chief Provincial Plant Health Officer	Alberta Agriculture and Forestry
Krista deMiliano	Field Crop Business Development Agrologist	Alberta Agriculture and Forestry
Denise Beaton	Crop Protection Specialist	OMAFRA
Steven Tattrie	Manager, Animal and Crop Services	Nova Scotia Department of Agriculture
Stephan Brière	Manager, Plant Pathology Laboratory	CFIA
Mohamed Ghorab	Policy Analyst, Emergency Management	AAFC
Jennifer Allen	Project Lead, Entomology, Pest Management Centre	AAFC
Brian Van Hezewijk	Research Scientist	NRCan-CFS