



Netherlands Food and Consumer
Product Safety Authority
Ministry of Economic Affairs

Close corporation: a key to phytosanitary safe trade

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Outline

- Introduction
- Export certification
- New / revised import legislation
- PRA procedure



Introduction



Introduction

- National Plant Protection Organization
- Senior Officer Plant Health
- Contacts with other NPPO's outside Europe
- Brazil is one of the priority countries
- Close collaboration with the Dutch ministry of Economic Affairs and agricultural office of the Netherlands embassy in Brazil



The Netherlands...

- Small country (41.528 km²)
- About 16.8 million inhabitants
- Long tradition in horti- and floriculture
- 2nd exporter worldwide in agricultural products
- Large importer of agricultural products (gateway to Europe)



39% of agricultural production is
from horticulture and
floriculture = € 7,9 billion in
2012





Horti- and
floriculture
Import
€ 8.2 billion



Horti- and
floriculture
Export
€ 16.5 billion



Contribution to the surplus of Dutch trade balance = 20%



The importance of export

- **Floricultural seeds:** 20%
- **Vegetable seeds:** 70%
- Flowers and pot plants (incl young plants): 65%
- Seed potatoes: 70%
- Flower bulbs: 85%
- Fruits & vegetables: 70%





Export certification



Export certification

- In the Netherlands all results of inspections (field/export) are stored digitally.
- At export inspection the inspector of the NPPO has access to all inspection data and if necessary access to the laboratory results.
- Phytosanitary certificates (PC) are only issued if all requirements of the importing country are fulfilled.



Export certification

- When the PC is issued the results of the field and export inspections and the laboratory tests are linked to this PC.
- With this link we are able to trace back which results were the basis for the issuing of the PC.
- To our opinion only additional information should be added to the PC if it provides extra phytosanitary guarantees.



Export certification

Adding lab report numbers.

- In the Dutch system those numbers do not provide extra phytosanitary guarantees.
- This requirement is an administrative burden for both the NPPO and the exporting companies.



Export certification

Adding lab report numbers.

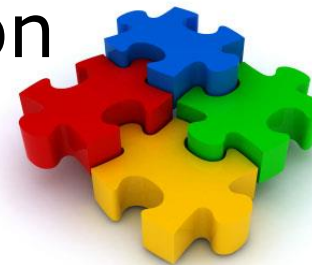
- > The phytosanitary system is build on mutual trust.
- > A simplification of the requirement for adding lab report numbers would be welcomed.



Export certification

Re-export of seeds

- Export to Brazil is only possible from a selected number of countries.
- Each origin has to fulfill different export requirements.
- Most times only one AD possible per organism.
- All those component makes certification a difficult puzzle.





Export certification

Re-export of seeds

How to simplify this difficult puzzle

- > Generic requirements per crop.
- > Possibility to use alternative AD's.





New / revised import legislation



New / revised import legislation

- NPPO of the Netherlands is informed via:
 - WTO/SPS
 - Agricultural offices
 - Import permits
- Analysis of legislation by the NPPO and the stake holders.
- If the requirements can not be fulfilled alternative guarantees are proposed.



New / revised import legislation

- Negotiations with the NPPO of Brazil result in workable set of import requirements.



New / revised import legislation

- In complex situation the dynamics are different:
 - Many products
 - Many changes
 - Many stakeholders involved
 - Changing deadlines



New/revised import legislation

- The new legislation IN 36 will get into force on December 1, 2014.
 - As the new legislation is not consolidated yet, concept requirements can still change.
 - Time is too short to prepare properly, which endangers the current trade flow.
- > this results in stressful situation for the NPPO as well as for the trading partners.



New/revised import legislation – IN36

The stress could be overcome due to:

- > Clear and realistic deadlines for reaction.
- > Communication at one moment to all stakeholders.
- > Announcement of a sufficiently long transition period for adaptation.



PRA procedure



PRA information

- NPPO NL only submits a PRA information dossier if it is supported by the Dutch sector organizations.
- All submitted information is verified by the NPPO.
- Evaluation of the PRA information dossier in Brazil and the formulation of the concept import requirements takes a lot of time.



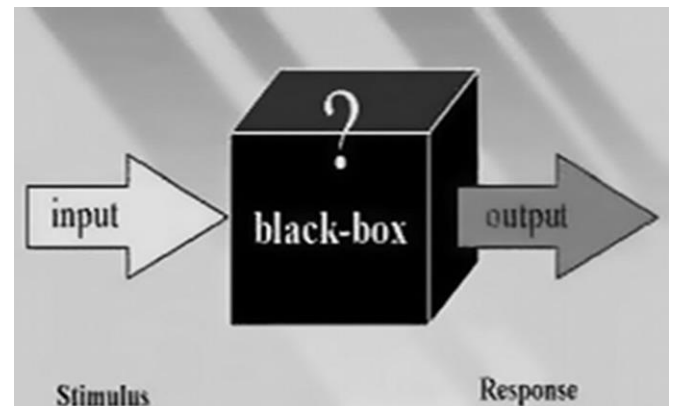
PRA information

- Understandable that thorough evaluation of the PRA information dossier takes time and that prioritization is necessary.
- However:
 - PRA information provided will become outdated
 - Brazilian companies will miss opportunities for expanding their business in growing new products.



PRA information - improvements

- More frequent communication - what problems are faced.
- Generic requirements per crop.
- Alternative AD per requirement.
- Extra human resources.





The value of information for trade

- G2G information (PC and PRA dossier) can be trusted -> extra checks are not necessary.
- Electronic certification -> less mistakes.
- PRA: proposals how requirements can be fulfilled can speed up the finalization of the PRA.