

CEI – Conference on implementation of the
phytosanitary border control on new external
borders of EU

**The European phytosanitary legislations:
a deep transformation of traditional
phytosanitary controls**

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National Phytosanitary Service



- Central Phytosanitary Service
- 19 Regional Phytosanitary Services
- 2 Provincial phytosanitary services (Trento e Bolzano)

Council Directive 2000/29/EC of 8 May 2000

**on protective measures against the
introduction into the Community of
organisms harmful to plants or plant
products and against their spread within
the Community**

Council Directive 2000/29/EC

- the fight against harmful organisms in the European community would be useless unless the same phytosanitary measures are applied on import consignments

Council Directive 2000/29/EC

- **this norm covers all the territory of the European community and includes the circulation and the commercialisation within the single member states**
- **As a consequence, the national phytosanitary regulations cannot be applied only to trade among member states and third countries**

Council Directive 2000/29/EC

- **“protected zone”** defined as a specific geographic area in which determined harmful organisms are not present and as a result subject to a particular form of protection, in order to prevent their introduction

Council Directive 2000/29/EC

- together with legislation on the commercialisation of multiplication materials
 - homogenise the technical and phytosanitary guarantees
 - eliminated many differences and obstacles to trade

Council Directive 2000/29/EC

- The controls made on consignments are substituted by controls on the production areas
- interest not only the single product but all the products present on the farm
 - certification of process in agriculture

Council Directive 2000/29/EC

- **“plant passport”** : an official label realized in not perishable material
- that accompanies vegetables when they move inside or outside member states to the final user
- give all information necessary to go back to the original producer

Council Directive 2000/29/EC

- **The national plant protection services continue to have the competence to verify the correct application of phytosanitary legislation**
- **they give the responsibility of every single consignment produced to the production structures**

Council Directive 2000/29/EC

- a control system that guarantees the national consumers, by certificating the quality of products, becomes more interesting to international buyers the more the system appears to be trustworthy and the quality of products guaranteed

Council Directive 2000/29/EC

- The confidence in such a system derives fundamentally from the many responsibilities the national phytosanitary service has:
 - it is responsible and must guarantee the national territory and the productive system against the introduction and spread of harmful organisms;
 - being the guarantee of the production processes of multiplication material it must verify that the production cycles correspond to the norms;
 - being practically the technical consultant to farms it must give information and suggestions for rapid solutions to insurgent problems

Council Directive 2000/29/EC

European phytosanitary system is basically characterized by the following:

- “national official registers of producers”;
- “protected zones” ;
- “plant passports”;
- “registers of vegetables and vegetable products” ;
- “model of phytosanitary certificate”

Council Directive 2000/29/EC

In Italy

- vegetables and vegetable products that are listed in the annex V, part A, sec. I, of 2000/29/EC, asks for the authorization to the regional phytosanitary service to use the plant passports.
- vegetables and vegetable products that they are listed in the annex V, part A, sec. II, regarding the protected zones, he has to use the plant passport marked “PZ”

Council Directive 2000/29/EC

Importers who import vegetable products from Third Countries and these products are listed in part B, and also in part A, of annex V; in that case, once introduced inside the Community these products have to have the plant passport to move inside the Community because after their release by Customs, they are considered under all points of view the same as European products

IPPC - WTO

- **1994 SPS Agreement**
- **From 1995 review of IPPC**
- **19 ISPMs**
- **This new approach at the international level has had to have its counterpart at a national level with the institution of the NPPO and the definition of their responsibilities and procedures so as to align them to the international norms**

Council Directive 2002/89/EC

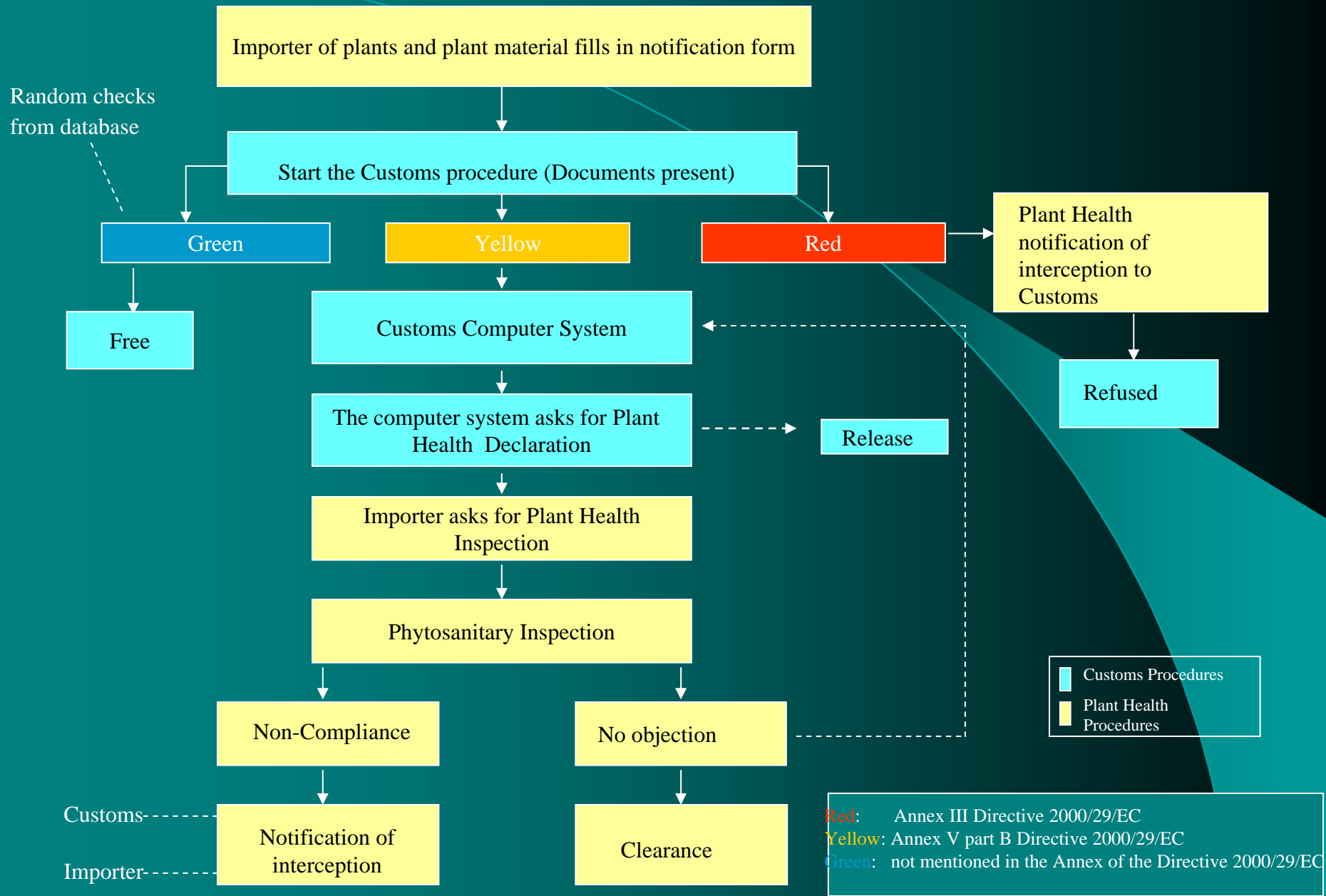
- it has connected in explicit manner the updating of annexes with the coherent justification to relate to the existing phytosanitary risk and it has determined the procedures to recognise the equivalence, according to art.4 of SPS Agreement, of phytosanitary measures adopted by the other Agreement Member

Council Directive 2002/89/EC

- In this occasion, many norms and procedures have been changed in order to better correspond to the new operative conditions, especially in the collaboration between the Plant Protection Services and the Customs.
- when the mechanisms are defined, to apply the phytosanitary procedures in a Member State different from the Member State where the Custom procedures were applied

Council Directive 2002/89/EC

- **Yellow alert:** plants and plant material as listed in Annex V Part B of Directive 2000/29
- **Red alert:** plants and plant products listed in Annex III of the above Directive are prohibited from import.
- **Green alert:** All other plants and plant material not classified as Red or Yellow



Random checks from database

Customs-----
Importer-----

Red: Annex III Directive 2000/29/EC
 Yellow: Annex V part B Directive 2000/29/EC
 Green: not mentioned in the Annex of the Directive 2000/29/EC

Conclusion

- **In these last few years international trade in vegetables has increased to such an extent that there is a justified demand to reduce the time needed to carry out such phytosanitary controls.**
- **Phytosanitary legislation, the only limit applied to the vegetables trade, must be based on international standards that can be scientifically proven to protect national territories.**
- **It is therefore necessary to maintain and increase the relationship not only to the European Community but with the other phytosanitary International Organizations.**

Conclusion

The NPPO has the necessity of the appropriate council to define the guidelines and the planning of the activities at national level, and must be able to coordinate the structures, and their different and complex tasks, that work on the national territory.

These activities need the indispensable equipment for the management of phytosanitary emergencies and the means to evaluate the operability and the efficiency of the control structures on the territory. The direct management of proper funds would help to face these situations.

Conclusion

- It is clear therefore that one critical point in a geographical area of the system, with a low level of efficiency, constitutes a hole in the protection network that could nullify the controls applied in the nearby areas.
- This prejudices the possibility of a valid system of phytosanitary protection, with repercussions not only on the phytosanitary status of plants but on the entire economical and productive system.

Thank you