



United States Department of Agriculture



# Plant Protection and Quarantine

**Osama El-Lissy  
Deputy Administrator**

National Plant Board 87th Annual Meeting  
St. Louis, MO

# Retirees

- **Jeff Grode**, Associate Deputy Administrator
- **David Kaplan**, Associate Deputy Administrator
- **Dave McNeal**, Associate Executive Director
- **Jim Schoenholz**, Associate Executive Director
- **Mike Simon**, Director of Preclearance and Offshore Programs
- **Vic Mastro**, Lab Director, Otis Laboratory
- **Kevin Connors**, State Plant Health Director (MN)
- **Patty Douglass**, State Plant Health Director (CT, MA, RI)
- **Rob Meinders**, State Plant Health Director (IA)



United States Department of Agriculture

# Paul Eggert



# PPQ Management Team

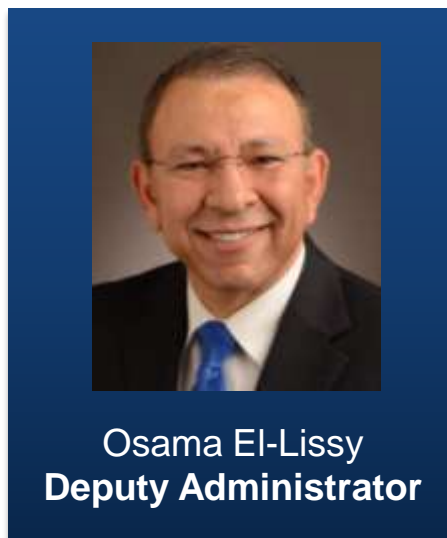
## Field Operations



Rebecca Bech



Matt Royer



Osama El-Lissy  
Deputy Administrator



Ginger Murphy

## Policy Management



Alan Dowdy (*Acting*)



Mike Watson

## Science & Technology



Ron Sequeira



Phil Berger

# APHIS Associate Administrators



Mike Gregoire



Jere Dick





We must balance the protection of our nation's plant resources with the growth of our nation's economy.

We must also balance the demands of international trade with the needs of one of America's most vital industries.

# Driving Forces

- Continued increases in the volume, speed, and complexity of international trade and travel
- The demand for more timely and flexible solutions
- Different perceptions of risk and various levels of acceptable risk
- Increasing pressure to open and expand markets here and abroad
- Rapid changes in technology

# Strategic Goals

1. Integrate and streamline our safeguarding system
2. Optimize our pest management and eradication programs
3. Increase the safety of agricultural exports and imports







## **Mission**

We safeguard U.S. agriculture and natural resources against the entry, establishment, and spread of economically and environmentally significant pests, and we facilitate the safe international trade of agricultural products.

## **Vision**

PPQ is the model for plant health safeguarding around the world.

## **Promise**

Healthy plants and safe trade for a strong and prosperous America.



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## PPQ Work

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### Safeguarding

Offshore Programs  
Permitting  
Border/Port Inspection  
Pest Identification/Mitigation  
Smuggling Interdiction  
Trade compliance  
Detection and Response

### Pest Management and Eradication

Management Programs  
Eradication Programs

### International Plant Health Management

International Standards  
Resolving Phytosanitary  
Export-Import Barriers  
Export Certification

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## Cross-Cutting Functions

Administration, Analytics, Budget, Communication, Manuals, Methods Development,  
Partnerships, Policy, Regulations, Technology, Training

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# Management Initiatives

- Foster a more collegial and innovative culture;
- Improve data-driven decision-making;
- Refine our regulatory framework; and
- Harness the best available science and technologies to improve our pest exclusion, detection, and management methods and tools.

# Integrate and Streamline our Safeguarding System

- **Objective 1.1**

More fully coordinate offshore, agriculture quarantine inspection (AQI), surveillance, detection, and response programs to create a cohesive safeguarding system.

- **Objective 1.2**

Improve safeguarding programs and activities to increase consistency, efficiency, and effectiveness.

- **Objective 1.3**

Use innovative, risk-based, and/or alternatives to rulemaking approaches, when possible, to facilitate the safe movement of agricultural goods.

# Integrate and Streamline our Safeguarding System

## Updates:

- **AQI Summit**
  - Discussed issues facing the program
  - Set and prioritized program goals for next 2-3 years
  - Identified short- and mid-term actions
  - AQI Board
- Improved Coordination - PPQ/CBP Meetings
- Proposed Rule – AQI User Fees
- Lacey Act

# Integrate and Streamline our Safeguarding System

## Updates:

- AQI Summit
- **Improved Coordination - PPQ/CBP Meetings**
  1. Focus on high level, strategic issues
  2. Communicate past practices, discuss and resolve regulatory and operational challenges, share current and future initiatives, jointly develop and implement new processes and procedures
- Proposed Rule – AQI User Fees
- Lacey Act



# Integrate and Streamline our Safeguarding System

## Updates:

- AQI Summit
- Improved Coordination - PPQ/CBP Meetings
- **Proposed Rule – AQI User Fees**
  - Comment period closed July 24
  - Next steps: review and consider all comments
- Lacey Act

# Integrate and Streamline our Safeguarding System

## Updates:

- AQI Summit
- Improved Coordination - PPQ/CBP Meetings
- Proposed Rule – AQI User Fees
- **Lacey Act**
  - Phased Implementation
  - Lacey Act Web Governance System (LAWGS)
  - “de minimus” Rule
  - Enhanced Compliance

# Optimize Pest Management/ Eradication Programs

- **Objective 2.1**

Work with PPQ's partners to determine where collective efforts should be focused to minimize damage to agriculture and natural resources.

- **Objective 2.2**

Leverage the unique capacities of all partners and balance the use of regulatory and alternatives to rulemaking solutions to strengthen the management and coordination of domestic programs.

# Optimize Pest Management/ Eradication Programs

## Updates:

- **Industry Sector Meetings**
  - Started in August 2013
  - Understand key issues
  - Identify collective actions
- HLB Multi-Agency Coordination Group

# Optimize Pest Management/ Eradication Programs

## Updates:

- Industry Sector Meetings
- **HLB Multi-Agency Coordination Group**
  - Federal, state, industry representatives
  - Highly collaborative, coordinated effort
  - Identify and quickly put practical tools in the hands of producers

## Increase the Safety of Exports and Imports

- **Objective 3.1**  
Enhance services to increase the safety of U.S. plant and plant product exports.
- **Objective 3.2**  
Collaborate with other U.S. federal agencies, state governments, industry, and other countries to reduce threats in high-risk pathways.
- **Objective 3.3**  
Promote the development and use of harmonized, science-based phytosanitary measures in trade.
- **Objective 3.4**  
Resolve international phytosanitary issues and reduce export-import barriers.



# Increase the Safety of Exports and Imports

## Updates:

- **Bilateral Activities with Canada, Mexico**
  - Potato Cyst Nematode
  - Seed Potatoes
  - Fresh Table Stock Potato Exports
- Regulatory Cooperation Council and Beyond the Border
- International and Regional Standards
- Seed Health Summit

# Increase the Safety of Exports and Imports

## Updates:

- Bilateral Activities with Canada, Mexico
- **Regulatory Cooperation Council and Beyond the Border**
  - RCC Forward Plan
  - Perimeter Approach to Plant Protection Framework
  - Greenhouse Certification Program
  - Wood Packaging Material Inspections Feasibility Study
  - Asian Gypsy Moth
- International and Regional Standards
- Seed Health Summit

# Increase the Safety of Exports and Imports

## Updates:

- Bilateral Activities with Canada, Mexico
- Regulatory Cooperation Council and Beyond the Border
- **International and Regional Standards**
  - Adopted and Draft Standards
  - International ePhyto Strategy
  - RPPO-to-RPPO Cooperation
  - State/Stakeholder Engagement
- Seed Health Summit

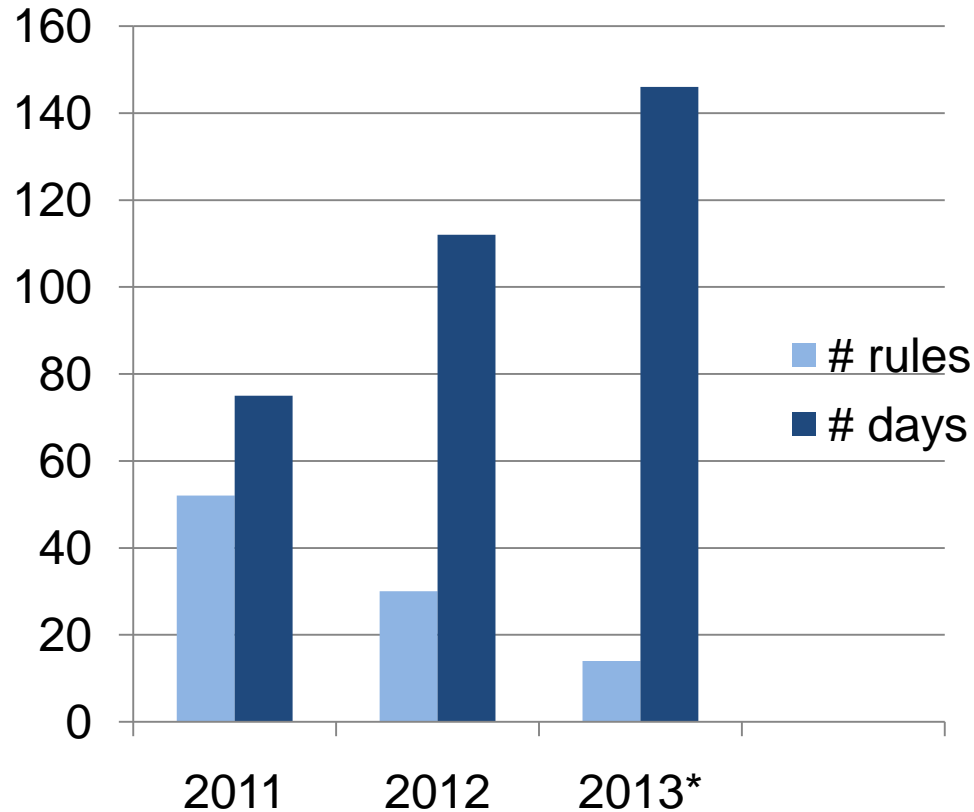
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# Alternatives to Rulemaking

Average review time by OIRA = 140 days in 2013

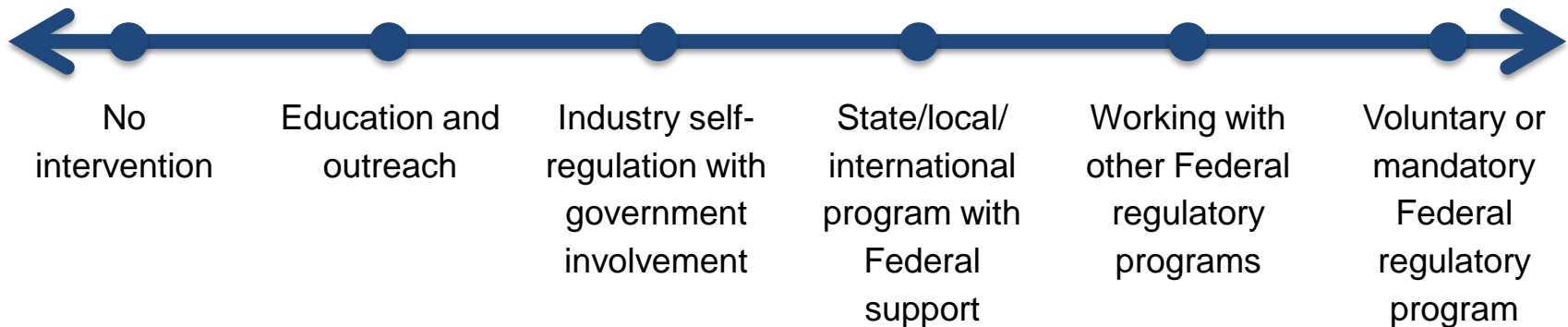


\* Partial year data

# Alternatives to Rulemaking

**Executive Order 13563:** Identify and use the best, most innovative and least burdensome tools to achieve regulatory ends.

## Range of Solutions





We lower the risk of plant health threats to growers.

We safeguard natural resources.

And we expand economic opportunities in the global marketplace by increasing the safety of agricultural exports and imports.



Plant Protection and Quarantine



State Departments of Agriculture



Customs and Border Protection