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2006 ANNUAL MEETING Milwaukee, Wisconsin

RESOLUTION NO. 7

PROGRAM ACTIVITIES FOLLOWING THE *Phytophthora ramorum* FEDERAL ORDER

Phytophthora ramorum is the casual agent of the disease commonly called Sudden Oak Death, Ramorum Blight and Ramorum Die-back of certain trees, shrubs and plants. *P. ramorum* causes fatal bark cankers in California tan-oak, California live oak, and several other native California oaks. *P. ramorum* can also cause leaf blights on species of Camellia, Rhododendron and California bay, spreading rapidly in an area from plant to plant. This disease remains a critical problem for all states.

The USDA Emergency Order regulating the movement of nursery stock from the west coast states has been useful and functional in greatly reducing artificial spread of *P. ramorum*. However, at this time, *P. ramorum* has not been completely eliminated from the nursery trade.

The current USDA, APHIS, PPQ Emergency Order is scheduled to end in December 2007.

RESOLVED, by the membership of the National Plant Board at its annual meeting in Milwaukee, Wisconsin on August 16, 2006, that we support USDA, APHIS, PPQ's efforts to work with the National Plant Board, industry, and states to implement an enhanced Emergency Order. This program must protect uninfected areas, focus on regulatory activities for high-risk plant material, improve the effectiveness of the Confirmed Nursery Protocol, and establish criteria for regulating and deregulating an area. This program must eliminate the risk of artificial spread via infected nursery stock, and encourage nurseries to adopt effective management practices. *P. ramorum* activities must be properly funded by USDA.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the National Plant Board fully supports the research and development of improved and economically viable field diagnostic tools for the early determination of *P. ramorum*.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that USDA-APHIS-PPQ regularly convene the NPB *P. ramorum* working group to develop the enhanced Emergency Order and actions requested in this resolution.

Motion to Adopt: Gene Cross, Chair, Resolutions/Policy Committee
Seconded by: Gray Haun, TN Member

Distribution:

Honorable Michael Johanns, Secretary of Agriculture, USDA
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