

*Growing Better with*  
**SANC**

A **S**ystems **A**pproach to **N**ursery **C**ertification

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# Nursery Certification Challenges

- Increased volume of trade
- More regulated pests
- Variety of state regulations
- Diminished resources for state regulatory programs



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## *Growing Better* Goal

- A risk based nursery certification system that:
  - Uses *existing* state programs
  - Reduces pest distribution threats
  - Increases effectiveness of nursery inspection processes
  - Engages industry



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## Approach

The NPB SANC workgroup *strongly* believes that the current state nursery certification and quarantine programs are sound!



A risk-based system will build on the current system to further reduce potential pest and pathogen movement.

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## Approach - Outreach

- Promote a systems approach compatible with needs of individual states and industry.
- Develop education and outreach materials
  - For regulatory and industry audiences
  - Describe benefits and components of the systems approach
  - SANC “Snapshots for SPROs”

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## Approach – Training Materials

Training materials to help identify:

- Critical Control Points (**CCPs**) for pest/pathogen introduction
- Best Management Practices (**BMPs**) specific to CCPs

Engage HIS, SPROs, Industry, and others



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## Approach – Templates

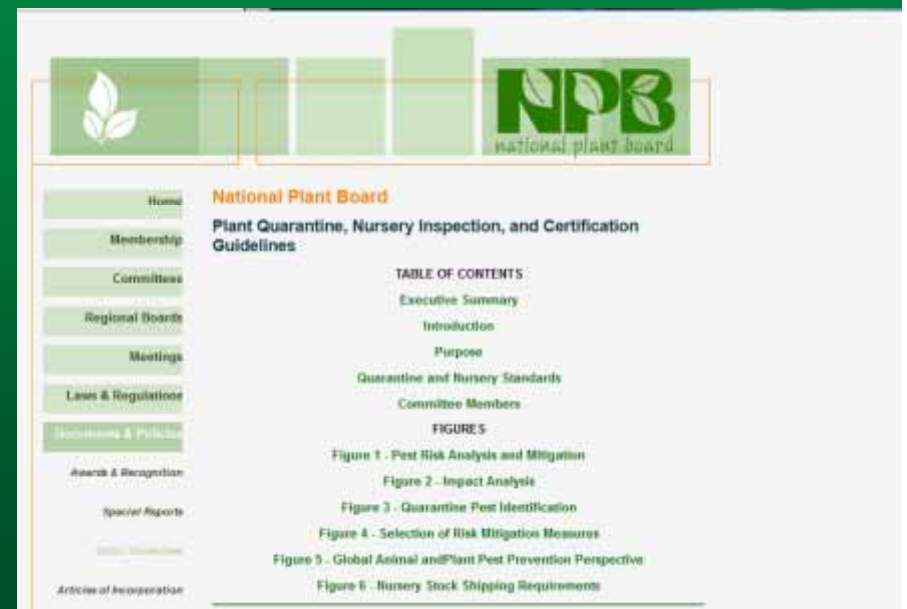
- Compliance Agreements
- Certification Documents
- CCPs and BMPs developed by partners



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# Approach - Consistency

- Updating and revising the model nursery and plant pest laws
- Develop examples of compliance agreements and other components of the systems approach.





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## Approach

- A ***voluntary*** nursery certification process
  - Nurseries may ship inter-state without load-by-load shipping point inspections.
- Continue to meet quarantine requirements
- Blend with existing certification programs (e.g. USNCP, JBHP, PSB) where appropriate.



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## Benefits of the Systems Approach

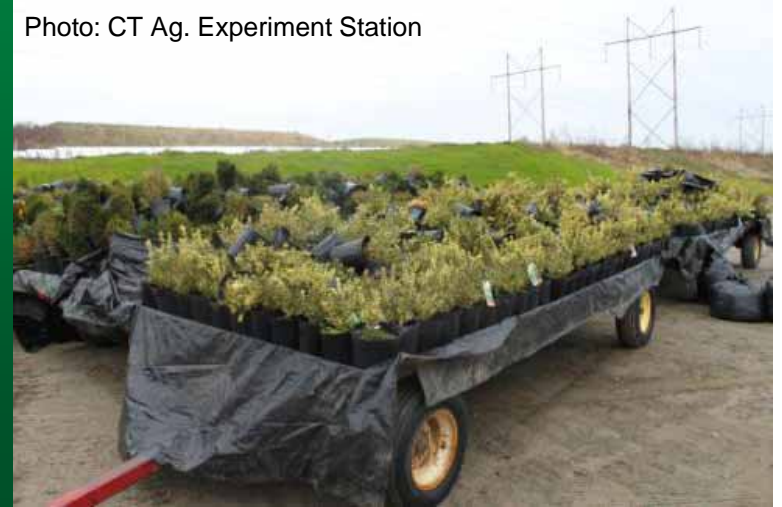
- Focus resources to manage risk more effectively
  - More cost efficient
- Reduced pest risk
- More direct interaction between nursery staff and regulators.
- Increased uniformity among state programs
- Tiered approach to certification that supports economic means of individual producers and the market.

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# Boxwood Blight

- Challenge
  - New pest of important nursery crop
  - Industry demands for state certification
- Solution
  - Voluntary participation
  - Model compliance agreement
  - CCPs and BMPs developed by industry

Photo: CT Ag. Experiment Station



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## The SANC Team

### **Core Group**

Gray Haun TN \* Aurelio Posadas NPB \* Carl Schulze NJ \* Mike Cooper ID \* Geir Friisoe MN \*  
Ken Rauscher, Project Associate

### **Training Subcommittee**

Collin Wamsley MO \* Gary McAninch OR \* Ann Gibbs ME \* John Rochelle TN \* Terry Walker AR

### **Education and Outreach Subcommittee**

Ruth Welliver PA \* Carol Holko MD \* Karen Rane MD \* Tad Hardy LA \* Susan Ehlenbeck MO

### **Compliance Agreements Subcommittee**

Dan Kenny OH \* Mike Colvin CA \* Sarah Scally ME \* Dana Rhodes PA \* Tyson Emery FL \*  
Tom Wessels WA \* David Gordon CO

### **Model Law Subcommittee**

Wayne FL \* Gene Cross NC \* Gray Haun TN \* Dan Hilburn OR \* Jeff Zimmer MI \*  
Vicki Smith CT \* David Blackburn AR \* Mark Taylor \* MD

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