

## Progress Update on PPQ Biological Control “Strategic Plan”

United States Department of Agriculture  
Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service  
Plant Protection and Quarantine

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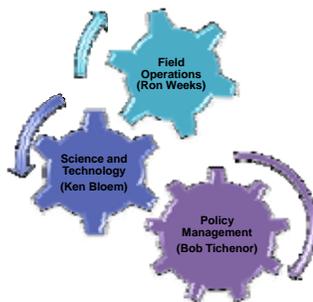


## Why a “Strategic Plan” or Position Document?

Budget constraints and uncertainty in funding require us to strategically position, adjust, and align programs to ensure priority targets are being addressed, goals and timelines are appropriate, and stakeholder support is being leveraged.

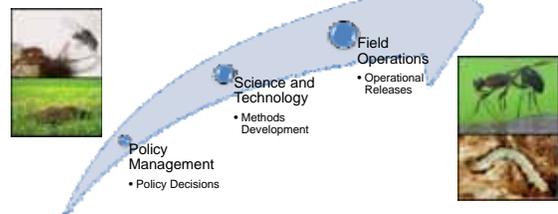


## Biological Control Cross-Functional Working Group (BC-CFWG)



## PPQ BC-CFWG representation on other programs

Pest specific programs should consider adding a representative of the BC-CFWG as an official member of the management team where biological control is a key component of the response strategy.



## PPQ operating definition of BC

- Broad definition of biological control (e.g., classical and bio-manipulation).
- Ensure the most effective and efficient use of available funds to accomplish PPQ’s BC mission.
- ... the deliberate use of living organisms to help manage plant pests, plant diseases, and weeds of Federal Regulatory responsibility, as well as other pests of significant impact and concern.

## Stakeholder and expert input into BC projects

- Engage stakeholders and experts (PPQ, NPB, ARS, FS, Tribes, and others) for input into the PPQ target ID and priority setting process.
- Better identification of pest priorities, roles and responsibilities, agent availability, and utilization of available resources.

**Prevention and Preparedness - Beyond Borders**

- Support and coordinate foreign exploration and pre-release activities for BC agents for high priority pests.
- Work closely with key partners and stakeholders to identify and leverage off-shore opportunities for key pests not yet in the USA.
- Prepare for invasive pest threats to ensure a more rapid deployment of BC for those pests that do arrive.

**PPQ Biological Control Umbrella**

<p><b>Prevention/Preparedness</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Off-shore information</li> <li>• Foreign/Domestic natural enemy surveys</li> <li>• Quarantine processes</li> </ul>	<p><b>Methods Development</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Host range testing</li> <li>• Environmental Assessments</li> <li>• Field/Lab evaluations</li> <li>• Diet development-QA</li> <li>• Rearing/release techniques</li> </ul>
<p><b>Mass Rearing</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Agent quality/diversity</li> <li>• Facility development</li> <li>• Protocol improvements</li> <li>• Expert staff</li> <li>• Shipping/Packaging</li> </ul>	<p><b>Program Implementation</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Site selection</li> <li>• Field release activities</li> <li>• Establishment validation</li> <li>• Spread monitoring</li> <li>• Impact studies</li> </ul>

**PPQ Biological Control Umbrella (cont.)**

<p><b>Technology Transfer</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• White papers</li> <li>• Technical bulletins</li> <li>• Program delivery</li> <li>• Incentive-based transfer</li> </ul>	<p><b>Program Reviews</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Data reporting/analyses</li> <li>• Annual/Program reports</li> <li>• Program validation</li> </ul>
<p><b>Environ. Compliance</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Host specificity TAG/NAPPO reviews</li> <li>• NEPA compliance</li> <li>• Permits</li> <li>• Post-release non-target impacts</li> </ul>	<p><b>Bio-manipulation</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• SIT</li> <li>• Competitors</li> <li>• Integrated approaches (e.g., BC + mating-disruption, competitive exclusion)</li> </ul>

**Additional discussion topics (not exhaustive)**

- Implementation of an annual timeframe to receive ideas from stakeholders for BC projects.
- Structured approach to receive stakeholder input for a national prioritized target list for BC (e.g., every 5 years)
- Follow-up and assessment process (how much/long)
- Internal and external communications (annual report, SharePoint site, PPQ website, permitting process)
- Leveraging existing BC quarantine/rearing facilities (Federal/State)

**Recent BC accomplishments... **

- **Quarantine facilities** established at Rio Piedras, PR.
- **Winter Moth BC** – parasitoid establishment and site expansions.
- **EAB BC** – *Tetrastichus* showing signs of establishment, spread and increasing parasitism (>20%) at sites in MI.
- **Russian knapweed** gall midge permitted in 2009 has now been released at >40 sites in 8 states and is well established.
- **Megacocta** egg parasitoid release permit submitted for review in 2013.
- **Cactus moth** parasitoid identified from Argentina and undergoing host-range testing in quarantine in FL.

**Time for a few questions/suggestions/comments...**





**Thank you on behalf of the PPQ BC-CFWG!**

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