Plant Protection and Quarantine Updates

Osama El-Lissy
Deputy Administrator
USDA APHIS Plant Protection and Quarantine
National Plant Board 86th Annual Meeting
Louisville, KY
August 4-8, 2013

News from APHIS and PPQ Realignment

- Kevin Shea - Administrator
- Mike Gregoire – Acting Associate Administrator
- Osama El-Lissy – Deputy Administrator
- Jeff Grode – Associate Deputy Administrator for Policy Management
- Rebecca Bech - Associate Deputy Administrator for Field Operations
- Matt Royer – Executive Director for Field Operations

PPQ Management Team

Field Operations
Rebecca Bech
Deputy Administrator
Matt Royer
Ginger Murphy, AQI

Policy Management
Osama El-Lissy
Deputy Administrator
Jeff Grode

Science & Technology
David Kaplan
Mike Watson
Phil Berger

PPQ Organizational Structure

Change Management

- PPQ Modernization Efforts
  - Flexibility
  - Consistency
  - Collaboration
  - Efficiency
  - Risk Focus

PPQ Priorities

- Employees
- Modernization
- Cooperative programs and partnerships
- Safeguarding initiatives
- Domestic programs
- Agricultural trade (export-import)
- Beyond regulation
- Information management
- Budget management
Our Partnership with the States
- Indispensable
- Strong Pest Detection Networks
- Responsive to Plant Pest Emergency Outbreaks
- Highly Credible Export Certification System
- Effectively Meet Challenges Together

Cooperative Agreements
- 600 agreements
- Enhancing Stewardship and Accountability
- Evaluating Findings and Providing Recommendations
- NPB Providing Input to the Recommendations

Support to the CBP/APHIS Shared Mission

Our Partnership with Industry
- Commodity sector strategic discussions
- Leveraging resources
- Compliance and enforcement
- Communication and outreach to public

Facilitating Safe Trade
Exports:
- Strong and credible phytosanitary export certification program
- Last year, several new state phytos were added to PCIT, and over 600,000 certificates were issued in the system.
- Better track new and ongoing U.S. export requests
- Negotiations on a Transatlantic Trade and Investment Partnership (T-TIP) agreement

Exports:
- New or Expanded Market Access:
  - New: U.S. table stock potatoes to the Philippines
  - New: U.S. peaches and nectarines access to Australia
  - New: U.S. table grapes to Western Australia
  - New: Pacific Northwest and California pears to China.
  - Expanded: Idaho cherries to Japan (all varieties of cherries)
- Imports to the United States:
  - Importation of fresh citrus fruit from Uruguay into the United States.
International Partners

Harmonization Advisory Group

• Focus on international plant health standards
• Small, cross-sectional team comprised of representatives from all sections of PPQ
• Technical support for international plant health standards to ensure the needs of stakeholders are represented in the IPPC and NAPPO
• Need comments and feedback on standards and IPPC and NAPPO activities from State and industry

International Partners

International Plant Protection Convention (IPPC) and the North American Plant Protection Organization (NAPPO)

• States can participate in the IPPC and NAPPO by:
  – Providing experts
  – Providing feedback and comments through PPQ
  – Raising issues on plant health standards
  – Implementing standards: certification programs, authorization and accreditation, nursery stock programs, and surveillance
• Electronic phytosanitary certification and reduction in oversight are high priority
• Facilitating Export of U.S. Commodities:
  – Grain
  – Sea containers
  – Soil and growing media
  – Seeds
  – Wood

Plant Health Quadrilaterals (PH Quads)

• PPQ works with the Quads countries to:
  – coordinate priorities and positions for IPPC standards
  – promote and secure international collaboration in various areas of plant protection
  – influence the work of the IPPC and the future development of standards
  – collaborate in the area of science and technical information exchange
• The Quads’ priorities for standards are:
  – electronic certification and hub concept
  – risk management
  – determination of host status
  – wood handcrafts
  – grain
  – sea containers

Regulatory Cooperation Council (RCC) Projects

• Wood packing Material
• Greenhouse Certification Review
• Chrysanthemum White Rust

Beyond the Border (BtB) Projects

• Asian Gypsy Moth

Seeking your input:
  – Mechanisms for ongoing regulatory alignment with Canada
  – Draft framework for a Perimeter Approach to Plant Protection

Program Updates

Emerald ash borer

• Complete: contiguous quarantine area and redirect of activities to the perimeter of impacted area
• Forest Service’s risk-based survey design continues to enhance survey results
• Biocontrol remains a top program priority

P. ramorum

• Implementation of changes recommended by the P. ramorum regulatory working group.
• Refocus efforts, activities, and resources on the highest risk areas

Asian Longhorned Beetle

• August is Tree Check Month
• New York (109-square miles)
  – Eradicated in Islip in 2011 and in Staten Island and Manhattan in 2013
  – Eradication in Long Island, Queens, and Brooklyn by 2020.
• Massachusetts (120-square miles)
  – Detections of infested trees in Worcester County continue to dwindle
  – Expects to declare ALB eradicated from Boston in 2014
• Ohio (61-square miles)
  – APHIS completed the environmental assessment for Clermont County in 2013.
  – In 2013, the program began chemical treatments in the two satellite infestations in Batavia and Stonelick Townships.
  – Surveys have found more than 10,000 infested trees and continue to pick up more each week. The program continues to delimit the infestation.
• ALB eradicated from two states
  – In 2013, the remaining quarantine area of New Jersey.
Program Updates

European grape vine moth

- Detections of EGVM decreased 99.9 percent between 2010 and 2012.
- Surveys have detected 40 moths this year in Napa County.
- Program success results from strong collaboration with the California Department of Food and Agriculture, counties, and industry.
- With continued resources, eradication is possible.

Program Updates

Fruit Fly

- Current fruit fly detection situation:
  - Texas is eradicating the Mexfly outbreaks
  - California is experiencing multiple detections - levels appear to be higher than normal.
  - Guatemala, Mexico, and Belize are experiencing a Medfly outbreak; situation first occurrence in 3 to 4 years
  - No detections in Florida
- Resource reductions and streamlining

Program Updates

Pale Cyst Nematode

- The current PCN-regulated area is 13,053 acres, of which 2,300 are infested fields.
- Viable nematode cysts are no longer detectable in 9 of the 21 infested fields due to annual eradication treatments.
- There have been no PCN detections in the U.S. outside of the quarantine area of Idaho.
- Canada, Japan, Korea, and Mexico reopened the export markets with various requirements since the 2006 detection of PCN.
- Potatoes produced outside regulated areas are not regarded as a biological risk for introduction of PCN.

Program Updates

Citrus

- Citrus greening (Huanglongbing - HLB) and other pests and diseases are a real threat to U.S. citrus production
  - Short- to medium-term strategy: Prevent spread and conduct area-wide management
  - Long-term strategy: Sustainable management of HLB and other pests

Inspired by the past
Driven by the future!

Thank You.