National Plant Board Meeting
U.S. Customs and Border Protection
July 28, 2014

Nikki Thomas, Director Safeguarding

Field Operations
CBP Agriculture Program Engagements

• Partnership
• Training
• Outreach
• Targeting
• Enforcement/Penalties
Pest Risk Committee
Directions and Focus

• Established to collaborate with State and Federal Agencies to mitigate pest and animal disease risk
• 54 committees nationwide
• Co-hosted by APHIS, FDA, FWS, CBP, and State Departments of Agriculture
Pest Risk Committee Highlights

- **Blaine** and FWS combat aquatic invasive species
- **Boston** held five Special Operations for FY13 and held joint KB training for local FDA district offices/field inspectors
- **New York** - PRC operations yielded 20 pest interceptions, 53 EANS – One operation targeted KB
- **Atlanta** Special Operations targeted KB and AGM
- **Houston** - Operation Clean House targeted personal effects coming from high risk countries – one KB intercepted
- **Laredo** – 2 operations conducted focusing on ACP and rail compliance
- **San Francisco** discovered first in nation pest (Paraputo aracearum)
• **Detroit FO** - 6 Special Ops targeting: pests in reusable produce containers, noxious weeds in the rail environment, and hitchhiking pests in the cargo holds of aircraft

• **Miami / Tampa** - 3 operations targeting summer travelers, conveyances, and WPM pests

• **Tucson** - 13 Special Ops with 206 civil penalties for undeclared prohibited products

• **San Diego PRC** - Special Operations for ACP/HLB host materials and AGM in maritime vessels

• **Chicago** discovered first in nation pests in snowberries

• **San Juan FO** intercepted pests on Christmas trees from Canada

• **El Paso FO** Operations resulted in 112 pests, 8 penalties, and 9 EANs
Khapra Beetle (KB)  
*Trogoderma granarium*

National KB Interceptions

- CY 11 - 232
- CY 12 - 190
- CY 13 - 196

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Asian Citrus Psyllid (ACP)  
Huanglongbing

National ACP Interceptions

• CY 11 – 29
• CY 12 – 65
• CY 13 – 65
Asian Gypsy Moth (AGM)

National AGM Interceptions

- CY 11 - 21
- CY 12 - 44
- CY 13 – 42
Asian Gypsy Moth (AGM)

- 2014 Hotwash Efforts
- Vessel Risk List
# CBP Wood Packaging Material (WPM)
## Top Interceptions Jan-Dec 2013

### Top 5 Countries
- Mexico
- China
- Italy
- Germany
- India

### Top 5 Ports of Entry
- Pharr, TX
- Laredo, TX
- Nogales, AZ
- Louisville, KY
- Brownsville, TX

### Top 5 Commodities
- Machinery and machine parts
- Metal products and raw material
- Plastic and plastic products
- Stone products: ceramic tile
- Stone products: other stone products
Carrier Conveyance Contamination

• Inform trade of the potential threat contaminants present to the United States (look at the supply chain)
• Describe CBP’s efforts to prevent entry of contaminants
• Identify best practices the industry can take to ensure conveyances are free of contaminants

*Cernuella cisalpina*  
Maritime Gardensnail

*Tridax procumbens*  
Coat Buttons

*Avena sterilis*  
Sterile Oat

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Resources and Targeting Initiatives

• Enhancements to Targeting (ECO and Rail)
• Seasonal Trend Tools
• Agriculture Canine
• National Agriculture Cargo Targeting Unit
AK9 WG Accomplishments

- Distribution of AK9 supplies (collars, leashes, vests, treat pouches)
- Creation of a centralized AK9 homepage for memos, musters, and forms
- Developed outreach material (coloring book, trading cards)
- Developed tracking module for secondary passenger exams associated with AK9
- Canine Tracking System - roll out July 1, 2014
- Developed Standard Operating Procedures
- Developed musters
AK9 WG Initiatives in Progress

• Development of CBP Agriculture Canine Operations Manual (handler and supervisor modules)
• Development of AK9 Team Management Course
Internal Web Page: Trend Tools

Contaminant Container Data
The frequency of invasive plant and seed interceptions, that have occurred at our borders, can be seen in this report. The continued efforts to prevent entry and mitigate risks remain active.

Seasonality of Fruits & Vegetables
Fruits and vegetables are traded throughout the nation year round. The top commodities that have the potential to cross U.S. borders during each season throughout the year can be found in the Seasonality of Fruits & Vegetables Chart.

Seasonal Pests
Pest interceptions are recorded and analyzed for patterns of occurrence. In this calendar you will see the top pest interceptions, occurring at our borders, and the season they commonly occur in.

QMI Holiday Calendar
The information depicted on the calendar highlights some of the major holidays that are celebrated throughout the nation. Each holiday references the agriculture products that are commonly associated with the celebration.
NACTU

Focusing solely on agriculture targeting, the NACTU would:

• Target for potential and repeat violators that may import shipments with:
  • Pests (e.g. emerging pest trends, repeat WPM pest violations)
  • Prohibited products
  • Contaminants (e.g. Federal Noxious Weeds, soil)
  • Smuggled products
Smuggling of Agriculture Products

25 Live Birds Smuggled in Hair Curlers

Chorizo Body Carry (Strapped Around Waist)
Concealment in Agriculture Products

Marijuana Concealed in WPM of Corn

Cocaine Intercepted in Custard Mix

1,118.6 kg of Marijuana Concealed in Jalapeno Peppers

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Field Operations
Concealment in Agriculture Products

Marijuana Concealed in Peppers

Marijuana Concealed in Shipment of Carrots

Heroin Intercepted in Soup Mix

Drugs Concealed in Empanadas

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Field Operations
Concealment in Agriculture Products

1,110 Pounds of Marijuana Concealed in Firewood

Cocaine Intercepted inside Bread and Cheese

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Thank You