SOCIETY OF AMERICAN FLORISTS: ISSUES OF IMPORTANCE TO THE GREENHOUSE INDUSTRY

2014 NATIONAL PLANT BOARD
88\textsuperscript{th} ANNUAL MEETING
July 29, 2014

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Society of American Florists
POLLINATORS, POLLINATORS, POLLINATORS
The issue of our time.
Whiteflies versus U.S. cotton and ornamentals
THE MEDIA vs. POLLINATORS vs. AGRICULTURE

WE NEED TO CHANGE THE DIALOGUE

The science is being ignored.

STEWARDSHIP
RESEARCH
MARKETING
WE ALL WORKED HARD ON IT… AND ACHIEVED BIG SUCCESSES…

THANKS TO APHIS FOR A GREAT JOB OF GETTING RESEARCH PROJECTS OUT, REVIEWED AND ORGANIZED

ONE CONCERN WE ARE WORKING ON: MANDATE OF AN UNDER SECRETARY FOR TRADE
NEW RISK-BASED SAMPLING

- All plants for planting will be sampled at a rate to provide sufficient data to evaluate the level of risk.
- Categorization of risk will be updated regularly in response to data from all inspections.
- Allows PPQ to target resources towards taxa of plants for planting that pose the greatest risk.
New Risk-Based Sampling

APHIS-SAF-AmericanHORT have worked hard, and together on this new effort!

We support it – agree it’s important to be able to prove what we think we already know – P4P are generally safe.
RISK-BASED SAMPLING

Risk-based Sampling

Estimation of sample size and identification of units to sample based on commodity risk

**Inspectional Unit Inputs**

(A) Total number of taxa in the inspectional unit: 1

(B) Total number of sampling units in the inspectional unit: 240

(C) Total number of plant units in the inspectional unit: 10000

(D) Commodity Risk Level: [High, Medium]

**Analysis Outputs**

(E) Number of boxes to inspect: 3

(F) Box numbers to inspect: 686166

[Calculate, Clear]
New Risk-Based Sampling

Began Fall, 2013, at PIS in
New Jersey
Puerto Rico
Hawaii
Texas

Closely monitored, data being collected.
New Risk-Based Sampling

On August 4, 2014, will add:
Seattle
Los Angeles
Atlanta
Jamaica, NY
Miami, FL (air cargo only)
New Risk-Based Sampling

On September 2, 2014, will add
Los Indios, Texas
Miami, FL (maritime cargo)
San Francisco, Calif. (air cargo)
New Risk-Based Sampling

We do still have (of course) a few concerns, believe that APHIS is working to address them.

“Plants for Planting” is NOT homogenous
New Risk-Based Sampling

Identification to genus is inadequate … some genera are so large that the information collected will not be helpful or indicative of real risk

Increased rates at high-volume ports could cause slowdowns that would impact product quality, cost us $$
Our comments on the newly proposed Overtime Rates stress that we understand the need to maintain cost recovery.

However, particularly in light of RBS, we have concerns re ability to schedule overtime (and economically, in less than 4-hour blocks)
PLANTS FOR PLANTING: NOT ALL ALIKE!!!

-- Tissue Culture
-- Unrooted Cuttings
-- Bare-root plants (budwood, etc.)
And more…
Industry’s Need for Importation

- Production of ornamental flower seed and cuttings has gone off-shore – especially to Central and South America, and Africa
• Importation of ornamental cuttings has increased SIGNIFICANTLY

• An estimated BILLION cuttings are imported into the U.S. per YEAR

• TRANSPORTATION IS A CHALLENGE!
Cuttings are harvested from the stock plants
Those cuttings are taken to a cooler or packing shed, sorted for quality, and packed into plastic bags for shipment.
Barcode Scanning for Tracing

- Each QC tag has unique barcode
- Identifies variety
- Identifies greenhouse
- Identifies Ship Week
- Identifies harvester
- Troubleshooting

Unique Number linked to Bag
Only # Needed for Reference
Bags are Picked from Flow Racks, Scanned and Loaded into Boxes – packed BY CUSTOMER ORDER!
Filled Boxes Sent to Trucks for transport to the nearest airport – often several hours’ drive
MULTIPLE SHIPMENTS ARE SENT FROM THE FARM EACH WEEK...

TO THE U.S. PORTS...

CLEARED (WE HOPE) AND SENT VIA FED EX OR TRUCK TO THE COMMERCIAL GROWER
SO IT’S VERY IMPORTANT NOT TO HAVE DELAYS AT ANY POINT…

THE CUTTINGS ONLY SURVIVE FOR ABOUT 48 HOURS...

AND THE “COLD CHAIN” MUST BE KEPT UNBROKEN …
The “Systems Approach” to Voluntary Audit-Based Certification: Where Are We?
Check out the SANC website…
http://sanc.nationalplantboard.org/

AND the beauty is that we believe that the SANC program will be compatible with international programs:

WORKING WITH APHIS IN THE SAP-P GROUP: International Standards

AND WITH THE U.S.-CANADA GREENHOUSE CERTIFICATION PROGRAM
Critical Control Point (CCPs) – The “What”
Producer identifies specific points where risk can be effectively managed.

Best Management Practices (BMPs) – The “How”
Actions taken to mitigate the concerns raised by a critical control point.
1. Standard
   To Participate You Must Address XYZ

2. Application for Designation
   To Participate We Will Address XYZ

3. Pest Management Plan (Operation Manual)
   Describes How We Will Address XYZ

4. Records
   Confirm That We Are Doing XYZ as Described in PMP

5. Audits
   Evaluates Records and Confirms that PMP is Being Adhered to.
The Grower’s Responsibilities

2.2 SANC Nursery and Greenhouse Requirements

2.2.1 – Policy and Resources
2.2.2 – Facility
2.2.3 – Internal Audits
2.2.4 – Training
2.2.5 – Records and Documents
2.2.6 – Pest Management Plan
BASED ON BEST MANAGEMENT PRACTICES AND CRITICAL CONTROL POINTS – SPECIFICS OUTLINED FOR BOTH GREENHOUSES AND NURSERIES

The facility works to design its OWN program based on its OWN specifics

The regulator works with the facility to approve the program and periodically audit it.
COMMON BEST MANAGEMENT PRACTICES ARE ON THE SANC WEBSITE

CATEGORY EXAMPLES

Plant Inputs
Media/Containers
Shipping
Water management
SCOUTING
Training
Recordkeeping
Sanitation/Disposal
Pilot Program – Kickoff 2014

- 8 or 9 Operations Nationally
- Farm Bill funding to recoup fees for phytos
- Contractor provided to help develop PMP
- Farm Bill funding to attend Training Courses

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All Aboard!

• Voluntary. Existing Options Remain
• Avoid Pest by Pest Solutions
• Shipping Flexibility
• Lower Phyto Expenses
• Potential for Marketing Advantage
• More Collaborative Approach with Regulators
AND SPEAKING OF THE U.S.-CANADA GREENHOUSE CERTIFICATION PROGRAM...

APHIS (Alan Dowdy, Terri Dunahay, Kimberly Merentz) deserve a huge shout-out for their negotiations with our beloved northern neighbor.
SPEAKING OF THE U.S.-CANADA GREENHOUSE CERTIFICATION PROGRAM…

DRAFT new program announced – comments until September 2. It’s on the APHIS website.

RCCPlantProtection@aphis.usda.gov
APHIS has AMBITIOUS SERIES OF PUBLIC MEETINGS and TOURS in FLORIDA

August 5 – Apopka
August 8 – Homestead

And tours of 5 greenhouses/nurseries

Public Webinars will also be held August 14 and August 19, details to be announced by APHIS.
Q-37, NAPPRA

Waiting for the shoe to drop on NAPPRA Round 2.

Important to focus on the plant and pest lists … we learned from Round 1.

APHIS very collaborative on this one… hope to meet early August.

CIP Permits remain a concern.
GLADIOLUS RUST
CHRYSANTHEMUM WHITE RUST

Borlaug: “Rusts never sleep...”
GLADIOLUS RUST

Scott Pfister will discuss tomorrow…

June 2, California asked APHIS to deregulate. California industry supports.

Lin is putting together a power point to help inform industry in other states what this all means.

Stay tuned – and listen to Scott!
CHRYSANTHEMUM WHITE RUST
Meeting with industry 2 years ago… probably need to reconvene a smaller industry group, perhaps via webinar.

APHIS put mums (P4P) on NAPPRA Round 2. We have some concerns.

Farm Bill research project has one more year. Research results should be helpful.
Questions – FARM BILL PROJECT IS ANSWERING

- Does *P. horiana* overwinter?
- Does it go systemic?
THANK YOU!!

QUESTIONS??

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