AmericanHort
Report to Natl Plant Board

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August 15, 2017
“In the End, Old Age and Treachery Will Overcome Youth and Vigor Every Time”
Woman Sees Donald Trump In Her Vegan Butter
Scientists have discovered a caterpillar that looks just like Donald Trump’s hair.

WeirdNutDaily.com
Policy Issues and Updates

- Farm Bill
- **Systems Approach to Nursery Certification**
- Offshore Certification – Cuttings
- Q Biotype Whitefly
- Boxwood Blight
- Pollinator Health
- Pesticide Reviews
- Horticultural Research Institute
2018 Farm Bill

- The Landscape
  - Fewer dollars
  - Crowded calendar
  - Chaotic politics
  - Election year

- AmericanHort top priorities:
  - Sec. 10007
  - National Clean Plant Network
  - Specialty Crop Research Initiative
  - Specialty Crop Block Grants

- Specialty Crop Farm Bill Alliance
Sec. 10007 Recommendations

• Protect and preserve!

• 10007: $75 million for FY2019 – 2021
• $82.5 million thereafter

• NCPN: raise funding floor from $5 million (current) to $7.5 million (2019 – 2021) and then to $10 million thereafter

• Success stories
• Phase 1 has proceeded smoothly (mostly)
• Gets a bit easier every time (mostly)
• Phase 2 – checking some new boxes
• Considerations ahead:
  • Evaluation, training
  • Technology platform
  • Timing of full launch
Offshore Cuttings Cert Pilot
Vegetative Cuttings Pilot

- Over a billion cuttings per year
- Generally admissible annuals, perennials, a few woody plants
- Grown on in US at specialized rooting stations or finished plant growers or both
FY 15 PLANT UNITS INSPECTED BY MONTH

RT
OT

October November December January February March April May June July August September
Pilot Offshore Cert Program

• 4 leading producers, 6 countries

• Meet or exceed minimum standards for *facility design, production, sanitation, traceability*

• Data collection through normal inspection

• If successful, reduced inspection will mean faster clearance, better quality, fewer losses
Whitefly Biotype Q Update, 2016

- First report of established populations outside greenhouses/nurseries in Florida
  - In many cases, infested plant material originated from a retail center and was established in the landscape.
- Identified in ≥ 8 counties in FL
- FL established regulations/quarantine in response
- WTF-Q reconvened
Whitefly Biotype Q Update, 2017

• Severe infestations of B in cotton & veg production, due to mild winter

• Q identified in at least 5 states so far
  • FL, TX, OR, CA, NY + QC,
  • All greenhouse, so far
Whitefly Biotype Q, Impact on Greenhouse & Nursery Production

• Fear of regulation
  • Growers much less likely to send samples for testing (B vs. Q)
    • Reports of professional consultants discouraging testing
  • Overuse and misuse of insecticides
  • Increased insecticide resistance?

• AmericanHort and HRI focus
  • Update members, promote importance of biotyping
  • Participate in WTF-Q
    • Support continued APHIS coordination
    • Support no federal regulations for Q (current)
    • Support harmonized state response
Boxwood Blight

- High interest
- Research & development agenda
- Nursery BMPs being updated

Nursery Industry Voluntary Best Management Practices

For *Cylindrocladium pseudonaviculatum* (Boxwood Blight)

To prevent the introduction of the disease and what to do if it is detected in nursery operations

Version 1.1
Pollinator Health

• Research agenda continues
• First edition BMPs for plant production and landscape management out
• Website: GrowWise.org
Pesticide Reviews

• Pyrethroids undergoing registration review
• Neonics undergoing registration review with emphasis on pollinator impacts
• Both classes of chemistry are vitally important for safeguarding nursery/greenhouse production, quarantine compliance
• AmericanHort filed comments to EPA docket outlining importance, benefits
• HRI grants for FY2017: 13 total projects funded, $289,500
• ~10:1 leveraging of these funds
• Journal of Environmental Horticulture:
  • Broader scope
  • Open-source
  • HRIJournal.org