RESOLUTION NO. 5

SURVEY ENHANCEMENT/LIABILITY MITIGATION

The National Plant Board and USDA, APHIS, PPQ recognize the importance of pest survey and early detection. In 2007, the Cooperative Agricultural Pest Survey (CAPS) proved its worth in providing early detection of Pale Cyst Nematode in Idaho and Plum Pox in Michigan and New York. These two early detections alone will help secure the continued production and trade opportunities for potatoes and stonefruit in the U.S.

As we continue to enhance survey activities however, we experience more reluctance on the part of producers to participate in these detection programs. As an example, the Potato Cyst Nematode (PCN) survey, proposed for 2006-08, has met great resistance as a result of producer fear of quarantine action resulting from pest detection on their farms. Without proper indemnification for growers for losses or other ways to manage risk, state and federal agencies will see increased resistance to critical survey efforts.

RESOLVED, by the membership of the Central Plant Board at its 83rd annual meeting in Columbus, Ohio on February 7, 2007, that the USDA, APHIS, PPQ with the full support of NASDA and the NPB seek to provide for indemnification for producers for losses due to quarantine enforcement through the 2007 Farm Bill and amendments to the U.S. Plant Protection Act.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that USDA, AMS, RMA expand its inventory of crops eligible for insurance protection and seek novel avenues to mitigate the risks resulting from quarantine actions.

Distribution:
Honorable Michael Johanns, Secretary of Agriculture, USDA
Bruce Knight, Under Secretary, USDA, Marketing and Regulatory Programs
Dr. Richard Dunkle, Deputy Administrator, USDA, APHIS, PPQ
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