

Main Topic:	Export Certification Workgroup – Meeting
Date:	Wednesday, August 23, 2017
Time:	2:30 - 4:30 PM Eastern
Facilitator:	Maggie Smither
Scribe:	Sarika Negi
Location:	Teleconference Access: 888-844-9904; Code: 3774032

Meeting Invitees:

Name	Contact Information	Present
National Plant Board		
Joe Collins, President	Joe.Collins@uky.edu	No
Ann Gibbs, Vice President	ann.gibbs@maine.gov	No
Aurelio Posadas, Executive Secretary	aureliop@elkgrove.net	No
John Caravetta, Secretary	jcaravetta@azda.gov	No
Brad White, Western	BWhite@agr.wa.gov	No
Carl Harper, Southern	carl.harper@uky.edu	Yes
Mike Bryan, Central	bryanm@michigan.gov	Yes
Sarah Scally, Eastern	Sarah.H.Scally@maine.gov	alt
Carole Neil, Eastern (alt for Sarah)	Carole.J.Neil@maine.gov	Yes
CACASA		
Marilyn Kinoshita, Tulare County	mkinoshi@co.tulare.ca.us	Yes
State Department of Agriculture		
Charles Elhard, North Dakota Dept. of Agriculture	celhard@nd.gov	No
PPQ Field Operations		
Clint McFarland, Associate Director for North East	Clint.D.Mcfarland@aphis.usda.gov	No
Gwen Servies, National Operations Manager	Gwen.A.Servies@aphis.usda.gov	No
Laney Campbell, National Operations Manager	Laney.E.Campbell@aphis.usda.gov	No
Bob Bishop, National Operations Manager	Robert.M.Bishop@aphis.usda.gov	Yes
Wendy Beltz, Field Operations Director	Wendolyn.Beltz@aphis.usda.gov	No
Katherine Hough, Associate Executive Director	Katherine.P.Hough@aphis.usda.gov	No
PPQ Policy Management / Trade		
Ingrid Watson, PIM Deputy Director	Ingrid.E.Watson@aphis.usda.gov	No
Jill Wallace, PIM Deputy Director	Jill.Wallace@aphis.usda.gov	No

Export Services Staff Christian Dellis, Sarika Negi, Michael Perry, Allen Dawson, Maggie Smither	ppqexportservices@aphis.usda.gov	Yes
Additional Participants: Patricia Abad, NAPPO Technical Director APHIS-PPQ-IPS Tom Tucker, Tulare County Assistant Ag. Commissioner/Sealer Christopher Greer, Tulare County Ag. & Standards	Patricia.V.Abad@aphis.usda.gov ttucker@co.tulare.ca.us CGreer@co.tulare.ca.us	Yes

Agenda:

No.	Topic	Lead
1.	<p>PCIT/PExD</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> PCIT/PExD Updates <p>PCIT 8.1 Release will include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Implement a QR code on PPQ Forms 578 and 579 Nevada State certificate Remove specified units of measure from PCIT standard list ACO replacement wizard causes Printed Certificates to have NO time-stamp Scrolling in long lists will pop the cursor back to top of lists; My Workload, View Attachment <p><i>8.1 has completed internal user acceptance testing and is looking good for release very soon. It includes the QR code on 578 and 579 (just like how the QR code is on 577s now), data clean up and bug fixes.</i></p> <p><i>Next release, 8.2, will include functionality for increased handling and tracking of foreign notices of noncompliance and held shipments and enhanced reporting ability; No updates are currently pending for PExD.</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Electronic Exchange <p>On July 7, eCert version 1.7.1 was released to PCIT. This release updated the eCert outgoing XML mapping and Web Service Definition Language (WSDL) while also preparing for the centralized United Nations International Computing Centre (UNICC) Hub Pilot (ePhyto Solution) that is intended to start this summer. APHIS has been testing with IPPC trading partners in preparation for the ePhyto Solution. Necessary modifications have also been performed within PCIT and associated data structures to accommodate incoming and outgoing ePhyto data. Once the final UNICC interface requirements and associated WSDL is published for the ePhyto Solution, another eCert Release will be developed</p> <p><i>The UNICC released the HUB for initial testing which is going well. We're working with New Zealand to send and receive PCs. Likely Oct. 10 the pilot will begin with countries including Argentina, New Zealand, Netherlands & Australia. Korea and China are interested and pilot countries (not sure when they're joining). If that pilot goes well then it may be open to additional countries Feb/Mar 2018. Hopefully by summer 2018 we'll be exchanging with multiple countries.</i></p> <p><i>Sri Lanka and Samoa are going to be piloting the generic system first and if that goes</i></p>	Christian Dellis

	<p><i>well the generic system will be open to more countries to join (such as Caribbean countries who have shown interest).</i></p> <p><i>There’s still internal discussion needed so we can determine how to share electronic PCs with CBP customs when received from foreign trading partners. When that is figured out we would have the ability to go paperless (in theory) with imported consignments.</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • PCIT Signature Image Use <p>Reminder to ACOs- Submit signature images for use with PCIT if desired; the use of signature images is voluntary.</p> <p>The following link provides the document needed to submit a physical signature to be converted to a signature image in PCIT: http://www.aphis.usda.gov/import_export/plants/manuals/domestic/downloads/PCIT_signature_image_form.pdf</p> <p>Completed forms may be sent by mail to Export Services at: USDA, Plant Health Programs – Export Services 4700 River Road, Unit 131. Riverdale, MD 20737</p> <p><i>Mexico is getting closer to accepting PCIT signature images due to the discussion about electronic exchange.</i></p> <p><i>Q: Does the PCIT External Certificate Viewer work with State PCs?</i></p> <p><i>A: No, The PCIT certificate viewer is a tool that is used to authenticate United States Federal export certificates. If many states are interested in that functionality we can discuss it with PCIT developers.</i></p>	<p>Carl Harper</p> <p>Christian Dellis</p>
<p>2.</p>	<p>Did You Know?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How to link specific shipment order numbers to PCs in PCIT <p>The applicant can link order numbers or specific shipment detail when applying for a PC in PCIT. On the application page, after “Requesting Duty Station”, use “Reference Information” to enter shipment details (e.g. Order Number: 789654). Entered Reference Information will not appear on the PC; Reference Information will appear on PCIT reports (e.g. “Applicant Certificate Summary” report). <i>See end of page 4 for PCIT report example.</i></p> <p><i>This is part of the follow up regarding the situation with applicants listing order numbers on PCs in the distinguishing marks section. The report was developed in the past based on industry request; a lot of features in PCIT industry doesn’t realize are there, are useful for tracking and internal business use.</i></p> <p><i>Q: Can we have webinars/instructions added to PCIT for these helpful features so that industry can use them?</i></p> <p><i>A: Yes, we have the PCIT Support page you can get to by clicking on “PCIT Help” where PCIT Quick Reference Guides are located- that may be a good place to house new</i></p>	<p>Maggie Smither</p> <p>Christian Dellis</p> <p>Carl Harper</p> <p>Christian Dellis</p>

	<p><i>information for users. Send your ideas and summary to Export Services and we can work together on it.</i></p> <p><i>Q: Is reference to botanical name on a certificate more important than the common name to importing countries? How do you know what common names a country accepts? What about common/botanical names for crosses, such as hybrid stone fruit?</i></p> <p><i>A: Generally importing countries focus on botanical name and common names carry less importance. If the common name is not a Trademark name then ES can add the common name to PCIT as a standard commodity. In general when both parent species are permitted entry to an importing country, crosses/hybrids of the parents are also permitted entry under the import requirements associated with parent species (ultimately depends on the importing country).</i></p>	<p>Chris Greer</p> <p>Christian Dellis</p>
<p>3.</p>	<p>Phytosanitary Certificates, Use of “Other” Fields</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 577 • 579 <p>The selection of “other” on drop down lists in PCIT can complicate PCIT reporting efforts. ES strives to capture entries cited in “other” fields for incorporation into the dropdown selection lists. ES encourages users not to use “other” if possible. Requests to ES for additional entries to dropdown lists must not reference quality, condition, trade names, or commercial terms.</p> <p><i>Warning: the “other” selection will be removed eventually. It’s imperative to prepare in advance and request the addition of needed terms to dropdown selections from ES (at ppqexportservices@aphis.usda.gov). ES can add new terms to dropdowns quickly.</i></p>	<p>Maggie Smither</p>
<p>4.</p>	<p>Export Certification Specialist (ECS) & Trade Specialist (TS) Meeting</p> <p>To be held in Riverdale, MD (week of Sept. 11 & Sept 25) will include ECS Functions in PCIT to improve quality assurance of the Export Program.</p> <p><i>As a group we are going to go over ways the ECS should use PCIT and discuss Export Policy. Topics will include: foreign notices of noncompliance protocols, presentations by PPQ (from HQ and FO personnel), Accreditation programs, wood/wood product certification issues, ECS auditing of processed certificates.</i></p>	<p>Christian Dellis</p>
<p>5.</p>	<p>Certification of Wood Veneer</p> <p>Wood veneer is now eligible for a PPQ Form 577, Phytosanitary Certificate and PPQ Form 579, Phytosanitary Certificate for Reexport. Wood veneer is no longer eligible for a PPQ Form 578.</p> <p><i>Q: Why was this change made? Should we treat veneer as we have treated other processed products with regard to phytosanitary certification 577/579 and level of inspection?</i></p> <p><i>A: The change was driven by a large trading partner; yes treat this product as other processed commodity eligible for 577/579 are.</i></p>	<p>Maggie Smither</p> <p>Mike Bryan</p> <p>Christian Dellis</p>

6.	<p>Fumigation of Non-Agricultural Commodities</p> <p>SAG Chile requested APHIS' assistance with fraudulent fumigation certificates (of US treatment companies) submitted with cargo for import; used clothes/vehicles/toys from the US must be fumigated as mitigation for brown marmorated stink bug (hitchhiker). Note, PCs are not associated with the commodity export to Chile.</p> <p><i>Does anyone know of a National fumigator's organization we could contact so they can work to resolve this issue? We've located international representative organizations, but nothing just for US applicators/companies.</i></p> <p><i>State registration with the state regulatory body is how most are coordinated. Perhaps the EPA can assist?</i></p> <p><i>Unfortunately the EPA doesn't maintain inclusive lists of applicators in each state as we understand.</i></p> <p><i>Group stated they'd consider the question and supply possible solutions/contacts to Maggie (at Margaret.r.smither@aphis.usda.gov).</i></p>	<p>Maggie Smither</p> <p>Marilyn K. Mike Bryan</p> <p>Maggie Smither</p>
7.	<p>National Plant Board 2017 Annual Meeting (August 12-17, Savannah, GA)</p> <p><i>The meeting went well, not much discussion on exports. Ash log/lumber export to Hong Kong was discussed with regard to phytosanitary inspection. Need for uniformity of ECS guidance was discussed.</i></p>	<p>Mike Bryan</p>
8.	<p>Open Discussion</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Upcoming/Past Meetings <p><i>NAPPO annual meeting will be Oct. 16-19 in Merida, Yucatan Mexico</i> <i>Plant Board Annual Meeting 2018 will be held Aug. 12-16 in Cleveland, OH</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Staff Changes/Announcements <p><i>Export Services has moved from PPQ PHP Policy Management to PPQ-Phytosanitary Issues Management. Nothing changes regarding daily work etc. FYI- ES was under PIM in the past prior to being moved to PHP Policy Management.</i></p> <p><i>NPB Officers have changed:</i> <i>Ann Gibbs – President (ME), John Caravetta – Vice President (AZ), Julie Van Meter – Secretary/Treasury (NE)</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ideas for agenda topics for next ECW <p><i>Provide an update/outcome regarding the ECS & TS Meetings in Riverdale</i> <i>Provide more PCIT functionality descriptions in "Did You Know" agenda item</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Other Issues <p>Draft International Standards: <i>Export Services is reviewing two draft ISPMs and NPB</i></p>	<p>All</p>

	<p>may want to review as well. The draft ISPMs (Requirements for the use of fumigation as a phytosanitary measure; Requirements for the use of temperature treatments as phytosanitary measures) will be emailed to the group later today. Note the reference to probe use on the temperature treatment draft, which may or may not be a feasible option for some export consignments. If you want to comment please have comments submitted by Thurs. Aug. 31st. Please submit comments to Maggie (at Margaret.r.smither@aphis.usda.gov) by 8/31.</p> <p>Pomegranate export to Australia: Due to interceptions it is likely import requirements will be modified, requiring treatment of the fruit in origin. Is pomegranate exported from CA, and is a fumigation achievable in the event import requirements change? A: Yes, pomegranate is exported from Tulare; fumigation is feasible. Packhouses that do not have a chamber on site would need to use a neighboring county to perform the treatment. California Dept. of Pesticide Regulation is responsible for treatment oversight in CA.</p> <p>Rice to China: China import requirements are complicated and need review ahead of time for those desiring to export rice to China. Does CA perform grain inspections or FGIS? A: The county does the commodity inspection; the county is working through the China protocol to prepare for exporting. CA rice exports come from North of Sacramento; storage exams for rice shippers may be needed. A conference call could be set up with the PIM Trade Director (George Galasso) for discussion and clarification of import requirements, such as the requirement for inspection of containers prior to loading.</p> <p>Dried Distillers Grain (DDG) to Vietnam: Vietnam is modifying import requirements for DDGs, including commodity storage exams and labeling. If there are counties exporting that would like to have a conference call regarding the protocol let ES know.</p> <p>Aglearn & IT Security Training: Aglearn is changing platforms soon; ES has a conference call arranged with PDC to better understand any implications for external users and ACOs with regard to training. ES will provide updates as clarification/more info is available. PDC noted there should be no impact due to the platform change.</p>	
9.	<p>Next ECW Meeting</p> <p>Scheduled for Wednesday, November 15, 2017 2:30-4:30 PM Eastern Is that date OK for the group? If you can't make the calls, please arrange for an alternate to represent your area. Dates look good for upcoming meetings.</p> <p>Future ECW Meetings: Wednesday, February 21, 2018 2:30-4:30 PM Eastern May 16, 2018 2:30-4:30 PM Eastern; August 15, 2018 2:30-4:30 PM Eastern</p>	All

“Applicant Certificate Summary” report example

Exporter Name	Cert Type Status	Certificate Number	Reference Information	Certificate Issue Date	Status	Duty Station Name	Consignee & Destination Country	Commodities	Fed/Rate Description	Rate Units	Fee/Rate Charged	Total Charges
Export Test Training	Federal Phytosanitary Certificates (PPQ Form 577)	F-F-02068-00036416-7-N	Order number: 495206 & 495208	6/13/2017	Printed	AK- Training Airport (PPQ)	EU Importer, Italy	Orange	No Charge	0	0	\$0.00