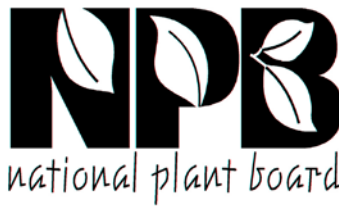


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*August 8, 2013*  
*Louisville, Kentucky*

**RESOLUTION No. 5**

**CONTINUED SUPPORT FOR LABORATORY TESTING OF REGULATORY SAMPLES**

WHEREAS, Plum Pox Virus (PPV) eradication efforts in New York lack adequate resources to process samples to complete the program. Currently there appears to be a shortage of ELISA test kits for ramorum blight screening. There is limited accredited laboratory capacity for testing for regulated soil nematodes or screening for a range of foreign-sourced plant viruses.

WHEREAS, several states do not have adequate laboratory facilities or trained staff to process sample loads.

WHEREAS, the National Plant Diagnostic Network (NPDN) has sustained over a 50% budget reduction. This affects the surge capacity of these labs to deal with time sensitive diagnoses and limits the number of laboratories accredited to process regulatory samples. Some states have not been able to retain NPDN lab directors because of the instability of the funding.

RESOLVED, that the NPB requests USDA-APHIS-PPQ conduct a comprehensive review to determine the federal and state lab capacity to process regulatory samples, identify gaps, and develop a plan to modernize and optimize the national system. Further that, USDA-APHIS-PPQ, USDA National Institute of Food and Agriculture (NIFA), Regional Plant Boards, and States need to leverage resources focusing on the importance of continued support for laboratory testing of regulatory samples.

**Distribution:**

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