Plum Pox Virus Eradication

Plum Pox Virus is a disease of *Prunus* species which has the potential to devastate the stone fruit (peaches, plums, apricots, nectarines) industry of the United States. The United States Department of Agriculture in cooperation with the states of Pennsylvania, Michigan and New York has worked diligently and extensively to eradicate this disease from the United States. Eradication has been completed in both Pennsylvania and Michigan. Significant progress has been made in New York and eradication is in sight.

The most serious threat from this disease now resides in Ontario, Canada directly across the Niagara River from New York. The Canadian government’s shift in policy to have the Plum Pox Virus program be one of management as opposed to eradication creates a new challenge. By not removing known infested trees a reservoir of Plum Pox Virus inoculum now resides mere miles from a United States commercial stone fruit orchard. As the virus remains unchecked the disease titer will increase and aphid transmission will become a significant and ongoing threat of continual reintroductions of this disease.

RESOLVED, by the Central Plant Board at its 88th annual meeting in Traverse City, Michigan, June 7, 2012, request USDA, APHIS work with Canada to eradicate Plum Pox Virus from all of North America.

**Distribution:**

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