

FOR INFORMATION  
DA-2005-7  
March 15, 2005

SUBJECT: New Appointment – David Kaplan

TO: STATE AND TERRITORY AGRICULTURAL REGULATORY OFFICIALS

I am pleased to announce the appointment of Dr. David T. Kaplan as the new Assistant Deputy Administrator for Pest Detection and Management Programs in Plant Protection and Quarantine (PPQ). He will begin serving in his new position on May 1, 2005, and will provide national leadership to PPQ's pest detection activities, pest management programs, and emergency response.

David began his career with PPQ as the National Science Program Leader for Integrated Pest Management (IPM) and Emergency Programs in the PPQ's Center for Plant Health Science and Technology. As National Science Program Leader, he has been responsible for planning, coordination, and oversight of science based support to PPQ initiatives for the protection of U.S. crops from pests. Before joining PPQ, David was the Research Leader for the USDA Agricultural Research Service Subtropical Plant Pathology Research Unit in Orlando, Florida where he was also responsible for research on nematodes attacking citrus.

He received his Ph.D. in Plant Pathology from the University of California, Riverside, an M.S. in Plant Pathology from the University of Massachusetts, and a B.A in Botany from Drew University. He has authored more than 125 scientific publications and presentations, and his research has improved management of crop losses attributed to plant parasitic nematodes. David is internationally recognized for his scientific contributions in the areas of host-parasite interactions, crop improvement, biological control, and genetic and molecular characterization of nematodes.

***Richard L. Dunkle***

Richard L. Dunkle  
Deputy Administrator