Western Plant Board
95th Annual Conference
March 24-27, 2014
Tucson, Arizona

Monday, March 24th

9:00 AM – 3:00 PM  Tour - Kartchner Caverns State Park (Optional)
4:00 PM  Registration
6:00-8:00 PM  President’s Reception
8:00-?  Hospitality Suite (Nightly)

Tuesday, March 25th

6:30-8:00 AM  REGISTRATION/BREAKFAST ON YOUR OWN

Moderator:  Dr. Brad White, WDA

8:00 AM  Welcome to Arizona
  Jack Peterson, Interim Director, Arizona Department of Agriculture

8:15 AM  President’s Remarks and Committee Assignments
  Mitch Yergert, Colorado Department of Agriculture

8:30 AM  National Plant Board Initiatives
  Geir Friisoe, President NPB

9:00 AM  APHIS-PPQ Modernization and Budget Update
  Rebecca Bech, Associate Deputy Administrator, APHIS-PPQ

9:20 AM  APHIS-PPQ Field Operations Initiatives
  Sherry Sanderson, Associate Executive Director, Field Operations

9:40 AM  APHIS-IES Update
  Liz Kelpis, APHIS-IES

10:00-10:30 AM  BREAK

10:30 AM  CBP Update and Initiatives in the West
  Kevin Harriger, Executive Director, APTL,DHS, CBP, OFO

11:15 AM  Farm Bill Update
  Kristian Rondeau, APHIS-PPQ

11:30 AM  Gypsy Moth – What’s the New Normal?
  Billy Newton, APHIS-PPQ

02/06/14
Tuesday, March 25th con’t.

12:00-1:15 PM  LUNCH (PROVIDED)

**Moderator:** Donna Rise, MDA

1:15 PM  FRSMP Process – Real World Example  
Dan Hilburn, OR Department of Agriculture  
Robert Bailey, APHIS-PPQ

1:45 PM  Liberibacter/Potato/Tomato Issues  
Dr. Judy Brown, University of Arizona

2:15 – 2:45 PM  BREAK

2:45 PM  Programs Moving Toward Deregulation  
Billy Newton, APHIS-PPQ

3:30 PM  Saving Western Ash – EAB and Ash Decline  
Dan Hilburn, OR Department of Agriculture  
Mitch Yergert, CO Department of Agriculture  
Billy Newton, APHIS-PPQ

4:30 PM  ADJOURN

5:00 PM  Depart Hotel for Reception/Dinner

6:00 PM  RECEPTION/DINNER – Arizona/Sonora Desert Museum (Business Casual)

10:00 PM  Return to Sheraton Hotel

Wednesday, March 26th

6:30 – 8:00 A.M.  BREAKFAST ON YOUR OWN

**AGRICULTURE TOUR**

8:15 AM  Load Bus and Depart Sheraton Hotel

9:30 AM  Tour Green Valley Pecan Operations and Promotional Shop

11:30 AM  LUNCH (provided) – Las Vigas Restaurant Nogales, AZ

1:00 PM  Tour Mariposa International Port of Entry

5:00 PM  Return to Hotel - EVENING ON YOUR OWN

8:00 PM - ?  Hospitality Suite
Thursday, March 27th

6:30 – 8:00 AM  BREAKFAST ON YOUR OWN

Moderator:  Dan Hilburn, ODA

8:00 AM  PPQ Biological Control Strategic Plan Impacting the West  
          Dr. Ron Weeks, APHIS-PPQ

8:30 AM  Bio-control Panel - Prioritization, BMSB, expectations, agent availability  
          Dr. Ron Weeks, APHIS-PPQ  
          WPB Members

9:00 AM  Red Imported Fire Ant – Quarantine Status/Issues in the West  
          Dr. Ron Weeks, APHIS-PPQ  
          John Caravetta, AZ Department of Agriculture

9:30-10:00 AM  BREAK

10:00 AM  Asian Citrus Psyllid/Huanglongbing Update/Response Strategy  
          Nick Condos, CA Department of Food and Agriculture  
          John Caravetta, AZ Department of Agriculture

10:30 AM  SANC Update  
          Aurelio Posadas, NPB Executive Secretary

11:00 AM  Cooperative Agreement Process Improvement Initiative  
          Paula Henstridge, APHIS-PPQ

11:30 AM  National Honeybee Survey/Pollinator Health Issues  
          Robert Bailey, APHIS-PPQ  
          WPB members

12:00 PM  ADJOURN/LUNCH ON YOUR OWN

1:30 PM  WPB Business Meeting

PPQ Business Meeting