

APHIS *Phytophthora ramorum* Program 2009 2nd Quarter Summary

www.aphis.usda.gov/plant_health/plant_pest_info/pram

Background:

The *P. ramorum* program is in its 8th year as an APHIS regulatory program. The program started with regulations in 9 counties in California and part of one county in Oregon and focused on regulating the movement of risk articles such as wood, soil, foliage and nursery stock. The infested areas have grown to 14 California counties and a larger part of the one county in Oregon which has been under an aggressive survey and control program by Oregon since 2001.

Due to the detection of nursery infestations along the west coast, in January 2005 regulation of nursery stock was extended to the entire states of California, Oregon, and Washington.

Nursery Detections

	# Nurseries	# States	Notes
2000 and prior	Zero		There were no reported nursery detections prior to 2001
2001	One	California	In infested area
2002	Zero		
2003	20	3 - CA, OR, WA	
2004	176	21	125 linked to one nursery's shipments
2005	99	7	
2006	62	11	
2007	23	6	
2008	28	8	
2009	19	9	2009 to date

Program Goals:

1. To **mitigate the risk** of *P. ramorum* being moved out of currently infested/quarantined and regulated areas.
2. To **stabilize and maintain markets** for nursery stock taking the least restrictive actions.
3. To **shrink regulation** from the entire three states back to the infested areas.
4. **Detecting and eradicating** *P. ramorum* caused diseases in the nurseries in the three states and any other nurseries in which it is detected.
5. Maintain nursery shipments free of *P. ramorum* which will require adaptation of self inspection and **best management and cultural practices** by nurseries.
6. Keep the regulations, policies and procedures **current with science** and risk.
7. Identify where infected plants and other articles have come from and gone - **conduct traces** - and to address that risk.

Detections in 2009:

To date in 2009, diseases caused by *P. ramorum* have been detected in 23 sites: 19 nurseries and 4 landscape plantings.

Here are details on the site detections:

California – 3 nurseries found by regulatory inspection.

Oregon – 4 nurseries by regulatory inspection.

Washington – 2 nursery by nursery stock cleanliness inspection, 3 found by regulatory inspections, and 3 landscape plantings found in trace forwards.

Alabama – 1 nursery found in routine nursery inspection

Georgia – 2 nurseries found in *CAPS survey.

Mississippi – 1 nursery that was also positive in 2007 and 2008, found by follow-up inspection.

New Jersey – 1 nursery found by *CAPS survey.

North Carolina – 1 nursery found by follow up inspection, 1 nursery found by *CAPS survey

South Carolina – 1 nursery found by routine state nursery inspection and 1 landscape find by trace forward

Operational: This includes protocols, Federal Orders, Regulations, Diagnostics, Web Updates, and New Hosts

Protocols:

- No updates

Regulations:

A number of regulations are pending and in the process (unchanged from last report):

- **Final rule** of the February 2007 Interim Rule is in process
 - We had nine commenters and all have been addressed and some program-enhancing changes are being considered for publication of the final rule
- In process is a “performance based” rule that would allow the “APHIS List of Regulated Proven Hosts and Associated Plants” to be the official list of what species are regulated. Plants would only be listed if specific, established criteria were first met.
- In process is a Proposed Rule for the wood of bole hosts, compost, green waste, and mulch.

Diagnostics:

- No update

Web Updates:

- One additional response from a PPQ Technical Working Group posted from a total of three

New Hosts:

Five new species have been reported this quarter, one in the UK and four in Canada.

- **April** four species pending: *Ilex aquifolium*, *Lithocarpus glaber*, *Magnolia cavalieri* and *Magnolia foveolata* (reported by Canada) and *Vaccinium vitis-idaea* (reported by United Kingdom)

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