Federal Regulatory, State Inspection, Nursery Survey and Other Finds

The National Agricultural Pest Information System (NAPIS) currently reports that Virginia has surveyed in two counties, obtained 119 samples, with no positives. To date, Virginia is the only state that has reported survey results through the Cooperative Agricultural Pest Survey (CAPS) program.

Best Management Practices Workshop

On May 23-24, APHIS hosted the Best Management Practices (BMPs) Workshop in Beltsville, MD. Representatives from Plant Protection and Quarantine (PPQ), National Plant Board (NPB), American Nursery and Landscape Association (ANLA), and research were present. These key stakeholders were brought together to discuss and gain consensus on BMPs relating to the implementation of a pilot and nationwide program. Agenda topics included: complete and effective BMPs, finalized draft pilot program for BMPs for the three Western states, and a draft strategy for implementing BMPs for the three Western states. A Steering Committee has been developed to move the BMPs forward.

Protocol Updates

Updates have been made to the:

- Official Regulatory Protocol for Wholesale and Production Nurseries Containing Plants Infected with Phytophthora ramorum v 8.0 (Confirmed Nursery Protocol); and
- Nursery Survey Manual

Protocols can be viewed at: http://www.aphis.usda.gov/plant_health/plant_pest_info/pram/protocols.shtml

Water Detections

Water finds have been reported in Mississippi and Washington. These finds have largely been detected through the USDA Forest Service (FS) Sudden Oak Death National Detection Survey. The MS find was adjacent to a positive nursery, while the WA sites were downstream from current and previously positives nurseries. FS will be surveying water courses in approximately half the states, targeting water downstream of nursery properties with some association with P. ramorum.