



APHIS *Phytophthora ramorum* Program 2010, 1st Quarter Summary

Background and History:

The APHIS-PPQ *P. ramorum* regulatory program initiated with the First Interim Rule February 14, 2002, is now in its 9th year. Currently 14 counties in California and 162 square miles in Curry County, Oregon are designated as quarantine areas for *P. ramorum* regulated articles. The remaining counties in California and Oregon, and the entire state of Washington are designated as regulated areas for inter-state shipment of nursery stock. The USDA *P. ramorum* quarantine program, in place since 2002, has been successful in limiting the pathogen's artificial spread into the environment beyond the currently quarantine areas. Of the 3,800 nurseries that were surveyed nationwide in 2009 through agreements with state department of agriculture, 10 nurseries on the East Coast and 15 on the West Coast had positive detections. The *P. ramorum* program in consultation with stakeholders has funded and developed several survey and remediation protocols, outreach and training initiatives. These efforts have benefitted the nursery industry by assuring the commercial movement of disease-free plants.

Program Update:

Dialogue with Stakeholders/Meetings on *P. ramorum* program:

- **On March 29th**, The *P. ramorum* National Review report was posted as of 3/29/2010 on APHIS *P. ramorum* web site.
http://www.aphis.usda.gov/plant_health/plant_pest_info/pram/downloads/review_2009/NationalReviewReport.pdf.

For more information on the *P. ramorum* National Program Review, please visit http://www.aphis.usda.gov/plant_health/plant_pest_info/pram/program_review.shtml.

- As a follow-up of *P. ramorum* National Program Review APHIS-PPQ-EDP has consulted National Plant Board to establish a Regulatory Coordination Group. APHIS is also working with CPHST to put together a Research Coordination Group consisting of Federal and state agencies, Universities, industry groups, and NGO's which will be charged with sharing information on ongoing *P. ramorum* research and recommending solutions. APHIS is also discussing with the Industry on sustaining some of the initiatives on Best Management practices, and also to obtain feed-back on Industry issues and concerns. The above groups would replace the previous working groups and would focus on carrying out the recommendations from the December, 2009 National Program Review, as well as past recommendations.

Recent *Phytophthora ramorum* Detection in Pennsylvania

Since the discovery of *P. ramorum* in bay laurel (*Laurus nobilis*, European bay laurel) plants in a Nursery in Lancaster PA extensive trace-forward efforts are underway. So far all trace-forward investigations of over 45 samples from both Eastern and Western states have tested negative. APHIS released a note clarifying that the infected plants **were found, in seedling flats in a commercial greenhouse, not in the forestry environment**

as several blogs had stated. To date, there have been no detections of *P. ramorum* in the forestry environment on the East Coast; however, since 2004, the pathogen has been found in a number of East Coast nurseries. APHIS appreciates the support provided by several individuals, organizations and states to get the facts out to the stakeholders.

Nursery Detections to date (2000 – 2010 March)

	# 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	26	11	Also, 6 landscape detections in 4 states; Data 2009 , Dec 31st
2010	5	5	1 landscape detection

Details of detections up to March 2010:

In 2010, new detections of diseases caused by *P. ramorum* occurred in 5 states at 6 sites: 5 nurseries and 1 in the landscape:

California – No nurseries positive during regulatory inspections from Jan-Mar.

Oregon – 1 nursery - regulatory inspection.

Washington –1 nursery through trace forward inspection, and 1 landscape.

Alabama – 2 nurseries through nursery assessment inspections, initially determined positive in 2009.

North Carolina –1 nursery through follow up inspection.

Pennsylvania – 1 greenhouse detection.

South Carolina – 1 nursery as the result of an unrelated incoming nursery shipment inspection.

Operational Items:

Protocols: Up-dated Water baiting protocol published on APHIS *P. ramorum* website http://www.aphis.usda.gov/plant_health/plant_pest_info/pram/survey.shtml

Regulations: Federal Order

http://www.aphis.usda.gov/plant_health/plant_pest_info/pram/regulations.shtml

10 hosts added to the *P. ramorum* host lists are, *Cornus kousa*, *Daphniphyllum glaucescens*, *Magnolia cavalieri* and *Magnolia foveolata* (reported by CFIA Canada) and *Choisya ternate*, *Ilex aquifolium*, *Lithocarpus glaber*, *Ribes laurifolium*, *Vaccinium vitis-idaea*, *Vaccinium myrtillus* (reported by CSL, United Kingdom)

Dated: March 31st 2010, Prakash K. Hebbar *Phytophthora ramorum* National Program Manager, USDA-APHIS-PPQ, APHIS Headquarters, Riverdale, Maryland 301.734.5717

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