

## **2014 Deputy Administrator's Safeguarding Award:**

### **Honorable Mention –**

#### **CBP's Inspection and Targeting Team, Portal, ND**

U.S. Customs and Border Protection's (CBP) Inspection and Targeting Team, Portal, North Dakota, made significant contributions in 2014 to our safeguarding mission. Together, the team increased the number of emergency action notices issued by 379% and the number of pests sent for identification by 2,400%. While on detail to the National Targeting Center – Cargo (NTC-C), a query set up by the Portal team was adopted for use by NTC-C. The Portal team's success includes two first in nation interceptions of *Xylocopa aestunas* (carpenter bee) and *Xylosandrus amputatus* (ambrosia beetle) as well as a new pest *Mycodiplosini* (type of gall midge). In addition to these significant finds, during the first three months of 2015 the Portal team wrote 37 emergency action notices and sent 133 pests in for identification.

The Portal Agriculture Specialists have created a program that should be an example for other locations to follow. This team has shown great motivation and willingness to adapt and learn new, more effective ways to target incoming shipments and conduct inspections. Each member of the team believes in the mission of CBP and the mission of PPQ and the United States benefits every day from the high level of commitment.

#### **Members of the team**

1. Ms. Kristi Lakefield, CBP Chief
2. Mr. Peter Makoweski, CBP Agricultural Specialist
3. Mr. Norvin Beaver, CBP Agricultural Specialist
4. Ms. Kelly Elliott, CBP Agricultural Specialist
5. Mr. Rolland Melton, CBP Agricultural Specialist
6. Ms. Brenda Green, CBP Agricultural Specialist