

2015 Deputy Administrator's Safeguarding Award: Operation Nursery Time Working Group

The Operation Nursery Time Working Group developed a unique joint-agency, multi-state special operation to intensively inspect targeted Canadian nursery stock at the consignees' final destination. The group innovatively worked around facility limitations at the port and took the initiative to coordinate inspections and data collection across five states.

The hard work of the team resulted in inspections of 87% of targeted trucks, exceeding the goal of 60%. A total of 110 insects, mollusks, and pathology samples were collected, including at least 27 reportable pests. These interceptions represent a significant achievement.

The team not only safeguarded American agriculture during their 105 day mission, but the work also resulted in a change in U.S. Customs and Border Protection's practices that will continue to support our safeguarding mission into the future. The nursery industry must now load shipments with a center aisle to facilitate inspection at Eastport, Idaho, and the port is performing more tailgate inspections on nursery stock. These changes resulted in additional reportable pest interceptions after the conclusion of Operation Nursery Time.

NAME/AGENCY

Mr. Gary Adams/USDA-APHIS-PPQ
Ms. Taelor Anderson/USDA-APHIS-PPQ
Mr. Scot Anderson/U.S. Customs and Border Protection
Mr. Alex Bauer/U.S. Customs and Border Protection
Mr. Larry Cain/USDA-APHIS-PPQ
Mr. Douglas Cappel/USDA-APHIS-PPQ
Ms. Betty Carlson/U.S. Customs and Border Protection
Ms. Judith Dobbins/U.S. Customs and Border Protection
Mr. Joel Fox/U.S. Customs and Border Protection
Mr. Shayne Galford/USDA-APHIS-PPQ
Mr. Jerry Hagel/USDA-APHIS-PPQ
Ms. Paula Henderson/USDA-APHIS-PPQ
Ms. Diana Hoffman/USDA-APHIS-PPQ
Ms. Lynn Hurst/U.S. Customs and Border Protection
Mr. Michael Kirkpatrick/USDA-APHIS-PPQ
Mr. Patrick Marquez/USDA-APHIS-PPQ
Mr. Brian Marschman/USDA-APHIS-PPQ
Mr. Rob McChesney/USDA-APHIS-PPQ
Mr. Patrick McPherren/USDA-APHIS-PPQ
Mr. Richard J Merenz/USDA-APHIS-PPQ
Dr. Andrew Minnis/USDA-APHIS-PPQ
Mr. Bradley Newbry/USDA-APHIS-PPQ
Ms. Julie Orr/USDA-APHIS-PPQ

Ms. Diane Panetta/USDA-APHIS-PPQ
Ms. Kelly Ryan/USDA-APHIS-PPQ
Mr. Bruce Shambaugh/USDA-APHIS-PPQ
Mr. Owen Shiozaki/USDA-APHIS-PPQ
Dr. Allan Smith-Pardo/USDA-APHIS-PPQ
Mr. Tim St. Germain/USDA-APHIS-PPQ
Mr. Ronald VanGundy/U.S. Customs and Border Protection
Mr. Michael Winks/USDA-APHIS-PPQ
Ms. Lori Witham/USDA-APHIS-PPQ
Mr. Stephen Young/USDA-APHIS-PPQ