

Plant Protection and Quarantine By the Numbers, Fiscal Year 2024



Budget

\$789,722,256

Annual appropriations (45.4%), Plant Protection Act Section 7721 (8.9%), Agricultural Quarantine and Inspection user fees (27.6%), export certification fees (2.7%), reimbursable overtime fees (1.6%), trust funds (1.7%), Commodity Credit Corporation emergency funds (12.1%)



Cooperator Funding

Provided nearly **\$228 million** to State departments of agriculture, universities, and other entities for pest surveys, research, and other critical work



Workforce

2,152 permanent employees, **301** term employees, **551** seasonal employees



Facilities

270 field offices, **7** laboratories, **16** plant inspection stations, **3** training facilities



Around the World

We fought pests offshore before they could reach the United States and helped U.S. agriculture thrive in the global marketplace.

Inspected and cleared **4.9 billion** pounds of fresh fruits and vegetables from **19** countries before they were shipped to the United States and oversaw the inspection of **2.2 billion** pounds of avocados in Mexico as a part of a systems approach to facilitate safe trade

Certified **190** treatment facilities, including **83** facilities in Mexico, **6** facilities in Central America, **6** facilities in the Caribbean, **88** facilities in South America, and **7** facilities in Asia

Worked with the U.S. Department of Defense to inspect **22,426** shipments of personal goods and **3.6 million** pieces of cargo from **16** countries before they returned stateside

Conducted technical negotiations to open, maintain, and expand export markets; and facilitated the release of held shipments—an added value of approximately **\$459.3 million**

Helped expand the Global Electronic Phytosanitary (ePhyto) Solution, which makes the exchange of export certificates fast, efficient, and fraud-resistant; sent **352,000** ePhytos to **107** trading partners and received **548,000** ePhytos from **61** trading partners

Completed **287** risk analyses associated with imports, exports, invasive pest threats, and program requirements to support safe trade and protect American agriculture

Positioned more than **50** Agency and U.S. Government, State, academic, and industry experts, who served in over **15** active North American Plant Protection Organization initiatives, ensuring strong U.S. stakeholder involvement in standard setting activities

Processed **2.7 million** Lacey Act declarations, helping to combat illegal trade of protected plant species

Read more about the impact of PPQ's work: www.aphis.usda.gov/plant-health



At the Border

We kept potentially damaging plant pests out of the country.

Issued nearly **34,223** import permits and regulatory guidance letters for plants and plant products and responded to over **31,329** inquiries about imports and plant health permits

Cleared **26,813** shipments containing over **1.8 billion** plant units and **584,887** kilograms of woody seeds, intercepting **1,830** quarantine-significant pests at plant inspection stations

Continued to implement risk-based sampling at U.S. ports of entry to focus inspections on higher risk shipments,

automating inspections in the maritime pathway, adding **9** countries for plantains and **8** for bananas, covering **99** percent of these shipments from the Western Hemisphere

Continued use of molecular testing at inspection stations near major ports of entry for *Ralstonia solanacearum* race 3 biovar 2, a visually undetectable pathogen; used a testing tool **5,001** times on **24,756** geranium cuttings sourced from **10** certified growing facilities with **0 detections**, validating PPQ's offshore programs' effectiveness

Identified approximately **61,313** pests found during U.S. Customs and Border Protection inspections of cargo, mail, and express carrier shipments and took quick action to prevent those of concern from entering the United States

Facilitated entry of regulated agricultural cargo through the monitoring of **13,775** fumigations, **42,521** cold treatments, **6,862** irradiation certifications, and **163** heat treatments of niger seed

Intercepted over **289,855** prohibited agricultural products and **3,008** quarantine pests during baggage inspections of approximately **16.7 million** passengers bound for the U.S. mainland from Hawaii and Puerto Rico

Conducted **375,740** inspections of agricultural commodities before they left Hawaii and Puerto Rico for the U.S. mainland; conducted **7,284** treatments to mitigate pest risks



Across the Nation

We fought back against the spread of invasive plant pests that threatened our Nation's crops and forests.

Removed nearly **36,892** acres from Karnal bunt-regulated areas on Tribal and non-Tribal lands in Arizona

Allocated an additional **\$89 million** in USDA Commodity Credit Corporation emergency response funding to respond to several new exotic fruit fly outbreaks, resulting in the eradication of **7** concurrent exotic fruit fly quarantines in California and **5** in Texas

Worked with State and industry partners to reduce boll weevil captures by **92** percent in the Lower Rio Grande Valley; worked with Mexican government partners to reduce boll weevil captures in Tamaulipas by **78 percent**

Conducted **202** plant pest surveys with cooperators in **50** States and **4** Territories and coordinated the

response to approximately **45** pests detected in 2024 and prior years

Monitored grasshopper and Mormon cricket populations in Western States and treated **371,002** rangeland acres—which protected over **812,923** acres—to control outbreaks and protect valuable forage and at-risk agricultural production areas

Shipped **750,000** sterile navel orangeworm moths per day for release over participating almond and pistachio orchards

Provided parasitoid wasps to **119** sites (**117** in the United States and **2** in Canada) to combat emerald ash borer; they were released across **22** States and **2** Provinces

Allocated more than **\$70 million** to support **374** projects under the Plant Protection Act's Section

7721 program as part of a nationwide effort to strengthen the country's infrastructure for pest detection, surveillance, and mitigation, as well as protect the U.S. nursery system

Provided **\$7.75 million** to support **22** National Clean Plant Network projects in **15** States and Puerto Rico that diagnose, clean, and distribute disease-free stock of fruit trees, grapes, hops, berries, citrus, sweet potatoes, and roses to nurseries and growers

Provided nearly **\$3 million** for projects in Florida and Texas that help give citrus growers proven, science-based strategies to combat citrus greening

Issued more than **663,000** Federal phytosanitary (plant health) certificates directly or through authorized State and county cooperators to

aid the export of U.S. plants and plant products to approximately **200** trading partners

Cleared through our quarantine facility **250** normally prohibited high-risk cultivars and germplasm from more than **20** different plant genera, making safe new plant varieties available to U.S. importers and producers

Seized **208,791** pounds of prohibited and/or restricted plants, plant products, meat, and meat products valued at approximately **\$1.9 million**, the result of **17,650** surveys and **3,782** seizures in non-port-of-entry locations; this helped protect U.S. crops and livestock from potentially devastating and costly plant pests and foreign animal diseases