

United States Department of Agriculture



# **U.S. Country Overview**

#### **Rebecca Bech**

Associate Deputy Administrator Field Operations Plant Protection and Quarantine

United States Department of Agriculture Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service

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# Challenges

- Numerous pest finds and introductions
- Increasing complexity of global trade
- Congressional demands for smaller government
- Reduced or uncertain budgets
- Increasing numbers of retirements
- Public demands for less regulation
- Pressure to open more markets both here (for international products) and abroad (for U.S. products)

Osama El-Lissy Deputy Administrator

#### **Field Operations**

Rebecca Bech Associate Deputy Administrator

U.S. NAPPO Executive Director

Matthew Royer Executive Director **Policy Management** 

Vacant Associate Deputy Administrator

> Mike Watson Executive Director

Science and Technology

Ron Sequeira Associate Deputy Administrator

> Phil Berger Executive Director

## **Emphasis on Trade**

#### International Phytosanitary Standards (IPS) John Greifer

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 Promotes technically sound approaches to harmonize plant health measures with international standards

#### Phytosanitary Issues Management (PIM) Alan Dowdy

- Primary point of contact for trading partners
- Manages safe trade of ag commodities
- PIM director is a member of the HAG

#### **Export Services** Christian Dellis

Provides
 phytosanitary
 certification

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Manages the Phytosanitary Certificate Issuance and Tracking (PCIT) database

#### Harmonization Advisory Group (HAG)

Cross-functional working group to strategically manage international plant health standards.



## Analysis and Information Management

- APHIS PPQ has organized a staff and program that is intended to better coordinate all analytics. This coordination will:
  - Analyze data collected from both APHIS and U.S.
    Customs and Border Protection sources to hone AQI regulatory and operational decision making
  - More accurately assess pest threats, focus inspection activities, and target higher risks

# **Strategic Safeguarding Initiatives**

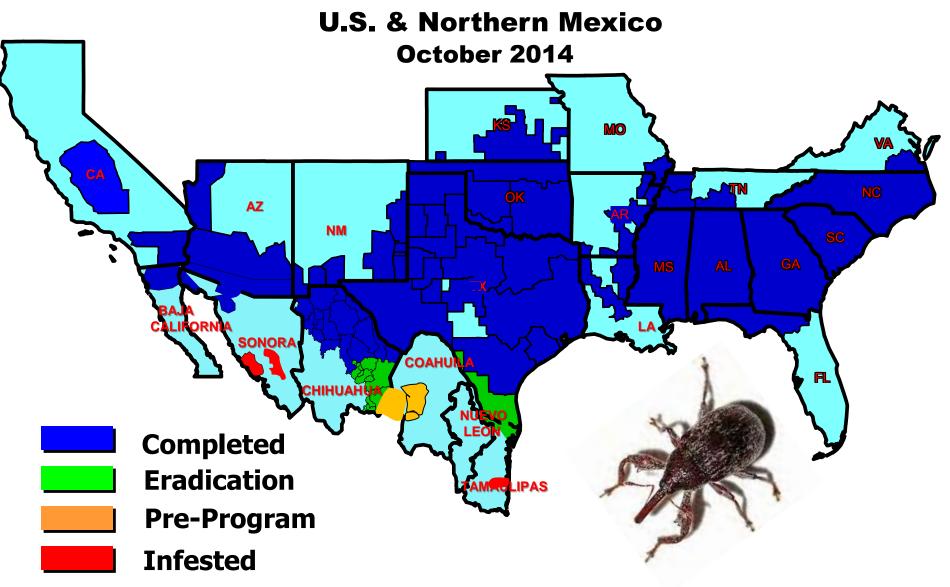
- Development of alternative treatments
- Regulatory streamlining (i.e., plants for planting, domestic programs)
- Risk-based sampling at plant inspection stations
- Agricultural Quarantine and Inspection (AQI) program
- New technologies to improve pest identification and detection
- Improvements to the permitting process
- Industry group summits



# **Domestic Program Updates**



#### **Boll Weevil Eradication**



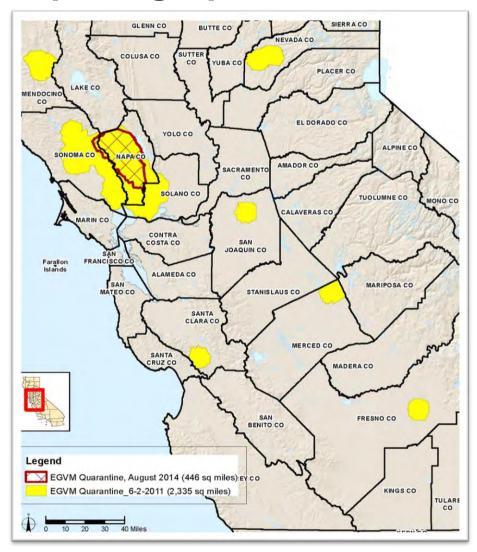
# Pink Bollworm Eradication

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### **European grapevine moth**

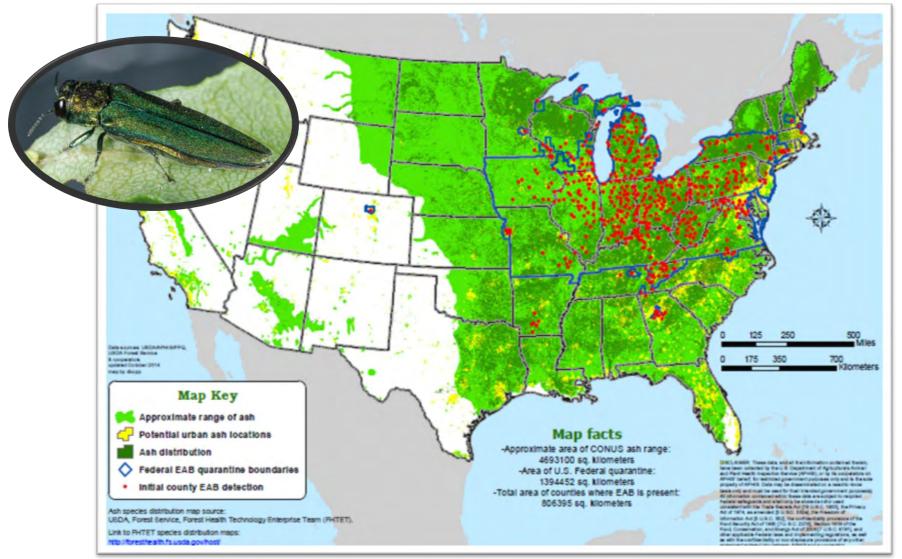




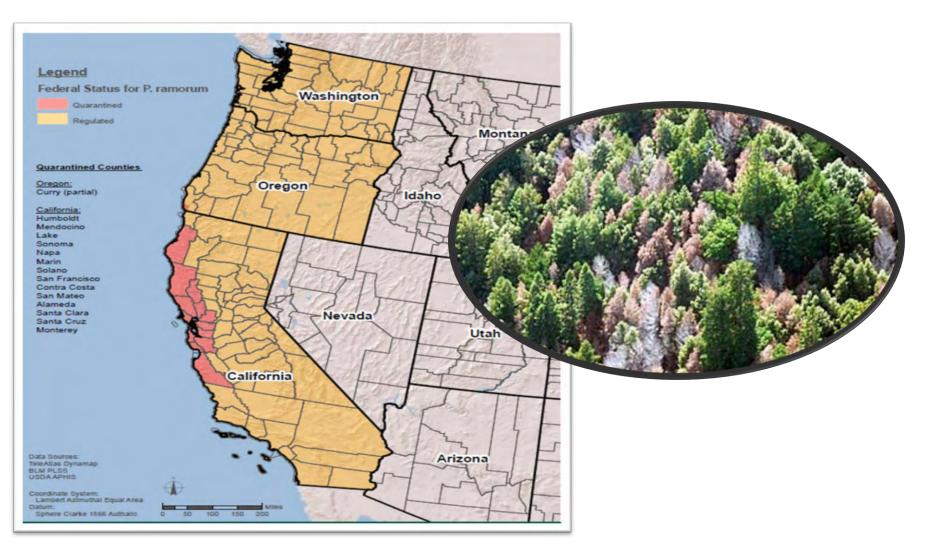
## **Asian longhorned beetle**



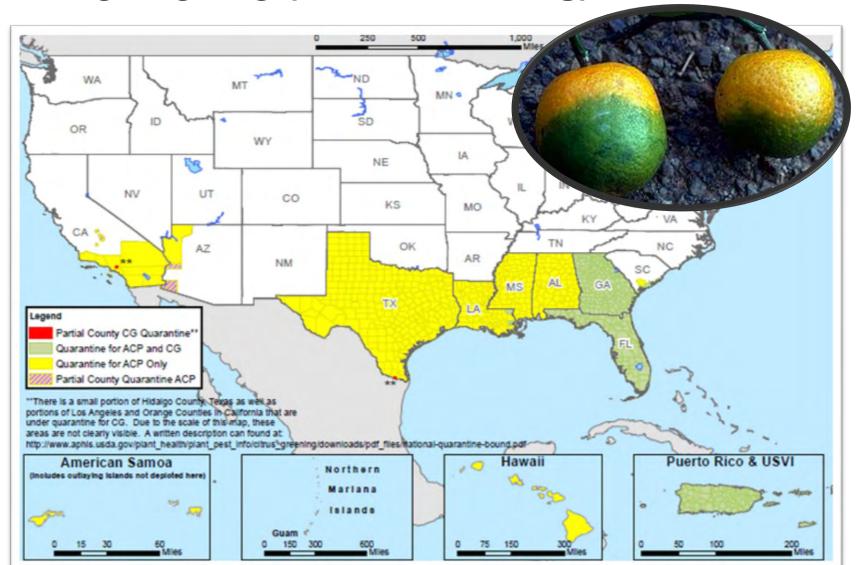
### **Emerald Ash Borer**



### Phytophthora ramorum



## Huanglongbing (Citrus Greening)



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## Asian gypsy moth



# **International Initiatives**

- High-level Regulatory Cooperation Council (HLRCC) with Mexico
- Negotiations on a Transatlantic Trade and Investment Partnership (TTIP) agreement
- Trans-Pacific Partnership (TPP) talks
- Regulatory Cooperation Council (RCC) with Canada
- Beyond the Border (BtB) with Canada
- E-Phyto Strategy
- Collaboration with Asian Countries ISPM 15



## **Thank You! Questions?**