Resolving Phytosanitary Issues to Facilitate Safe Trade in Plants and Plant Products

Opportunities in Irradiation for Fresh Produce
Chapman University
March 25, 2015
Overview:

- USDA APHIS PPQ and PIM structures
- Role of PPQ and PIM in international trade of plants and plant products
- Export and import market access
- Phytosanitary irradiation and exports
Phytosanitary Issues Management (PIM)

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Commodity Trade Directors
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- George Galaso - Grain Products
- John Tyrone Jones - Forestry Products
APHIS, PPQ, PIM and International Trade:

• **APHIS** is the primary agency within USDA responsible for resolving phytosanitary (and sanitary) issues

• **Plant Protection and Quarantine (PPQ)** safeguards American agriculture and natural resources from the entry, establishment, and spread of plant pests and noxious weeds, and facilitates safe trade of U.S. plants and plant products.

• **PIM** is the recognized National Plant Protection Organization (NPPO) for the United States, acting on behalf of USDA, APHIS, PPQ.
PPQ’s Role in International Trade

**Imports**
- Safeguarding
- Risk assessment
- Inspection of live plants (Plant Inspection Stations)
- Regionalization and equivalence
- International standard setting

**Exports**
- Surveillance
- Market access negotiations
- International standard setting
- Technical assistance for held or delayed shipments
- Phytosanitary certification
Phytosanitary Issues Management (PIM):

• Serves as the U.S. National Plant Protection Organization (NPPO)

• Manages, addresses, and helps resolve import and export phytosanitary issues for plants/plant products

• Trade focuses on:
  – new market access
  – market retention
  – market expansion
Commodity Export Process

New export market access

• **Preparation**: PIM consults with trading partner NPPOs to learn whether a commodity has access and, if not, the trading partner’s prerequisites for new market access.

• **Market access package**: If a commodity does not have access to the trading partner country:
  – PIM consults with APHIS risk assessors, State departments of agriculture, State entomologists/pathologists, and interested U.S. producers to develop a pest list and other prerequisites for the market access package.
  – If the trading partner NPPO requires treatments or other mitigations for one or more target quarantine pests associated with the commodity for export, PIM consults with APHIS, USDA Agricultural Research Service, State scientists, and the affected industries on potential mitigations.

• PIM submits the market access request package to the trading partner NPPO,
• PIM coordinates the U.S. responses to the importing country NPPO.
• PIM negotiates the import conditions for the new commodity with the trading partner NPPO
• PIM develops and negotiates export work plans
Commodity Export Process (continued)

**Market expansion**
- PIM consults with PPQ risk assessors, program managers, and export specialists; USDA’s Agricultural Research Service (USDA ARS) scientists, State scientists and plant protection services, and the affected U.S. industries to develop new treatments or other mitigations to support improvements to current market access.
- PIM negotiates import conditions with the trading partner NPPO to support expansion of export access.

**Market retention**
- PIM consults with other PPQ program areas, USDA ARS scientists, State scientists and plant protection services, and the affected industries to develop new mitigations for new quarantine pests identified by a trading partner NPPO.
- PIM negotiates import conditions with the trading partner NPPO to maintain access of currently-approved commodities to trading partner countries.
Technical plant health bilateral meetings are held annually or scheduled upon request.

**Annual meetings:** Australia, Canada, China, European Union, Japan, New Zealand, South Korea, Taiwan

**Upon request:** Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Ecuador, Egypt, India, Israel, Mexico, Peru, Philippines, South Africa, Thailand, Vietnam, and other countries
Commodity Import Approval Process

If the commodity is not currently approved for importation into the United States (see FAVIR or PPQ manuals), the exporting NPPO must submit to APHIS PPQ PIM the information listed in 7 CFR 319.5(d)

- commodity
- intended use
- shipping methods
- pest lists
- possible risk mitigations
Commodity Import Approval Process

- Upon receipt of a completed request, PPQ prioritizes/initiates pest risk analysis
- Preliminary country consultation done on pest list
- PPQ drafts the PRA
- 30 day stakeholder outreach on draft PRA
- Country consultation on PRA
- PPQ develops Risk Mitigation Document
- Country consultation on proposed mitigations
- Rulemaking or Federal Register notice process
- Operational Work Plan (OWP)
PIM and the Commodity Import Approval Process

- Helps coordinate market access requests through regulatory process
- Originates official correspondence to trading partner NPPOs
- Negotiates import requirements for foreign plants and plant products
# Irradiation Framework Equivalency Work Plans

- by country and date of signature

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Questions?

Thank you!