PRIORITIZING PLANT PESTS AND PROGRAMS IN APHIS

Plant Protection and Quarantine
Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service
U.S. Department of Agriculture
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Facilitate trade
SAFE TRADE
Protect resources
**What exotic pests should we be concerned about?**

- Q-56;Q-37
- CAPS
- OPIP

*Estimate consequences and probability of introduction (entry & establishment),*

**Should we do something?**

- NPAG
- Pests of imminent threat

*Estimate spread and expected impacts with and without mitigations*

**Should we continue?**

- OPAG
- DEEP

*Evaluate program effectiveness based on observed impacts*
New Model for Evaluating Impacts

• Multiple choice yes/no questions (criteria) predictive of impacts
• Selected factors considered in evaluating expected impacts:
  - unmitigated damage
  - frequency/severity of outbreaks
  - current production practices
  - private cost of control
  - research
Can the pest cause economically and/or environmentally significant damages to U.S. agriculture or natural resources? *

Can the pest spread and cause damage to other states or affected entities?

Is containment or management of the pest technically feasible?

Can the cost of a program be justified by the expected losses to affected parties?

Besides economic, are there other overriding considerations (e.g., statutory or judicial directives, political concerns) that call for Federal action?

* Economic significance is based on established thresholds for acceptable level of risk.