

Preventing and Managing Plant Diseases

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USDA APHIS

U.S. Department of Agriculture's Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service's (APHIS) Plant Protection and Quarantine (PPQ) safeguards U.S. agriculture and natural resources against the entry, establishment, and spread of economically and environmentally significant pests, and facilitates the safe trade of agricultural products. PPQ uses the latest science and technology to develop methods for detecting, identifying, and keeping harmful plant pests and diseases out of this country. PPQ has established a system of safeguards called the Safeguarding Continuum that begins overseas, continues through U.S. ports of entry, and extends across the nation. PPQ analyzes data from around the world to figure out which pests could harm U.S. agriculture, how these pests might get here, and what we need to do to keep them out of the U.S. PPQ works with State departments of agriculture and others to continuously scan the U.S. landscape and quickly find and respond to new pests and diseases before they can cause large-scale damage to our Nation's farms and forests. When foreign pests become established in the United States, PPQ works closely with Federal, State, Tribal, and industry partners to control and, when possible, eliminate them from our country.