

## Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service Pest Detection and Management Programs - Program Update

Program: *Phytophthora ramorum* Date: July 2, 2004

Trace forward surveys continue and the national survey is underway as PPQ determines the distribution of *Phytophthora ramorum*. The number of confirmed positive locations from the trace forward, national, and other surveys is 140 in 19 states.

PPQ confirmed the presence of *Phytophthora ramorum* in Nassau County, NY. A joint PPQ, US Forest Service, NY Department of Agriculture team collected sample in the county after PPQ received information from a member of the public. The team collected the positive sample from a mature red oak tree located in a 192 acre forested county park. Further surveys are underway to identify other possible infected plants and infested sites. PPQ is currently working on determining the most appropriate regulatory response to the find.

Trace forward surveys are continuing at nurseries and garden centers that received stock from an Oregon production and wholesale nursery. More than 950 facilities received 844,000 plants.

As of June 30, *P. ramorum* has been confirmed in plants traced forward from the initially positive Los Angles County wholesaler remains at 118 locations in16 states. The numbers of nurseries or garden centers with positive trace forward samples from the wholesaler by state are California (43), Alabama (3), Arkansas (1), Florida (6), Washington (11), Oregon (9), Texas (10), Colorado (1), Georgia (13), Louisiana (5), Maryland (1), North Carolina (9), New Mexico (1), Tennessee (2), and Virginia (1). The Federal confirmed nursery protocol was implemented at infested facilities. One residential sample from South Carolina linked to Monrovia has been found positive.

To date, 21 Eastern Region states/territories have started or completed National Survey activities (AL, CT, DE, FL, GA, IN, KY, MA, MD, ME, MS, NC, NJ, NY, PA, PR, RI, SC, TN, VA, and WV). The states have 394 nurseries and collected 7,047 samples. MD and NJ had one positive facility each. The Deep Southern states have had to curtail national survey activities because of hot, dry summer weather. Some states have had a spate of cooler, wetter weather and are attempting to try and survey as possible. Also, nurseries that are shaded with overhead watering are being targeted for continuing survey. It may be necessary to have a second survey in the fall to get better results. The Western Region reports that National Survey activities are complete in 6 states (AK, AR, AZ, CA, LA, and OK) and are ongoing for 6 other states (ID, IA, MO, OR, TX, and WA). These states have inspected 444 nurseries and have collected 17,420 samples; 17 facilities in three states, CA, WA and OK, have tested positive.