

# Plant Protection & Conservation

Board of Agriculture February 23, 2023



#### The Programs

COMMERCIAL HEMP NOT MARIJUANA HEMP COMERCIAL NO MARIJUANA				
Industrial Hemp	IPPM	Native Plant	Noxious Weeds	Nursery
Alan	Cody	Troy	Troy	Chris
Hanson	Holthouse	Abercrombie	Abercrombie	Benemann
May 2022	Aug 2022	February 2023	February 2023	Nov 2020



#### **National Plant Board**





GOAL: Protect U.S. agricultural and natural resources.

METHOD: Collaborative leadership to develop and implement:

- Regulatory policies and plant health programs
- Facilitate trade

#### **BENEFIT:**

*Fosters relationships with other plant regulatory agencies.* 





### **Oregon Invasives Species Council**



- Government, NGO, academic members
- ODA is the fiscal agent
- Outreach & Education
- Source for reporting invasive species



## Hemp Program



#### 2022 Program Updates



- Tested approximately 50% of licensed growers throughout the State
- Approximately 4% failed Presumptive Testing compared to 13% in 2021



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#### 2023 Plans

- We will begin to conduct inspections on licensed Handlers beginning early summer.
- Develop website inspections to identify licensee who are selling artificially derived cannabinoids online.



#### Hemp Program Challenges

- The number of hemp licenses continue to drop, which directly impacts the program budget.
- Two positions have become vacant and will not be replaced until we have a better picture of our 2023 budget position.



## Insect Pest Prevention & Management Program



### **Insect Pest Prevention & Management**





- Survey & Detection of invasive insect pests
  - Protects market access
  - Protects Oregon through EDRR approach
- Identification lab & Museum
  - Provides identification services, pest risk assessments, and inspections for several state and federal permit programs
- Data shared statewide, nationally, and internationally





- 16 permanent staff
- 4 limited duration
- Up to 40
   seasonals hired
   annually for
   survey/trapping
   work.



### Activities

#### **Surveys & Detection**

- Spongy moth\*
- Japanese beetle
- Grasshopper & Mormon cricket\*
- Solonaceous pests\*
- Orchard pests\*
- Emerald ash borer
- Vine mealybug
- Apple maggot
- Invasive woodborer & hornet\*
- Spotted lanternfly, railways\*

#### **Biocontrol**

- Brown marmorated stink bug\*
- Emerald ash borer\*

#### **Treatment Programs**

- Japanese beetle
- Spongy moth\*



#### Accomplishments

- 60% decrease in Japanese beetle catches between 2019-2022
  - 30% decrease in treatment area planned for 2022-2023
- Secured ~\$1 million in federal funds (PPA 7721) to implement work for 13 different statewide projects
- Emerald ash borer statewide response:
  - Granted \$550,000 (E board) to provide initial monetary support to on the ground efforts and bolster ODA resources.
  - Established temporary quarantine
  - Implemented strategic & collaborative response effort to SLAM



### Challenges

- Consistent threat of new invasives with limited resources
  - Who else?
- Lack funding to execute EDRR framework
  - Sometimes early detection and response is not often rapid





- Oversees the conservation and management of Oregon's threatened and endangered plant species.
- Ecological and cultural significance
- Can be indicators of ecosystem health & functionality





- Four permanent staff + seasonal staff
- Based in Corvallis
- OSU Botany & Plant Pathology Labs
- State funds, grants & assistance agreements





- Assist state/local governments with management
- Conduct research that supports recovery
- Permitting for restoration & external research





- 2021-2023 Accomplishments
  - Critical mitigation & restoration w/ODOT & ODOE
  - Recruited and convened key stakeholder group
- 2023 Goals & Priorities
  - Buildout of partner network
  - Candidate species evaluation & supporting data collection
  - Targeted support & coordination
- Current challenge(s)
  - Backlogs, scale and capacity
  - Vacancies within partner agencies/orgs





- Protect agricultural and natural resources from the introduction and spread of state-listed noxious weeds.
- Severe economic & ecological impacts
- Ag productivity, habitats, ecosystem services





- Nine permanent staff + seasonals
- Six regional specialists
- Three Salem staff
- State lottery, federal & grant funds





- EDRR projects
- Biological control
- Federal, state, county, local assistance
- Education & Outreach
- Grant administration





- 2021-2023 Accomplishments
  - Biocontrol agent for knotweed species
  - 1,000+ hours of continuing education credits

#### • 2023 Goals & Priorities

- Strengthen relationships with agency partners
- Enhance technical bulletins, increase access
- Establish biocontrol nursery/monitoring sites
- Current Challenges
  - Capacity for aquatic weeds, invasive annual grasses
  - Lack of permanent funding source





## Nursery & Christmas Tree Program



### Nursery & Christmas Tree Program



- First line of defense
- Inspection & Certification
- Educate industry & public
- → Supports Oregon's \$1 billion industry





#### 12 staff:

- Manager
- 1 Program Lead
- 10 Regional Inspectors



### **Interception & Prevention**







2 nurseries; dead adults





>30 private residences



1 resident; 6 plants



State-wide big box stores

### 2021-2022 Accomplishments

- Quarantine enforcement
  - ALM, Grape, Japanese beetle
- Revision of our Boxwood blight program
  - Fewer nurseries, increased monitoring
- Updated grapevine pest quarantine
  - Fulfills multi-year harmonization effort



### Challenges

- Consistent risk of invasive species
- Resources to balance EDRR vs. industry needs
- Online commerce



**OREGON DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE FACT SHEETS AND PEST ALERTS** 

## Quarantine Pest Alert: Vine mealybug *Planococcus ficus*





~\$271 million (OWB, 2021)

- Detection in 2021 by OSU
- Wide host range beyond grapes
- Transmits grapevine viruses
- Already a quarantined pest



#### What's at Stake?

#### Agriculture:

- Nurseries
- Seedbeds
- Orchards
- Field crops
- \$43 million annually
- Costly quarantines

#### **Residential Areas:**

- Personal yards
- Parks
- Golf courses
- Cemeteries
- Businesses parks

#### **Natural Areas:**

• Forests, wildlands



hoto: Frank

