

GROWING BETTER WITH

SANIC

A Systems Approach to Nursery Certification

Growing Better....

with SANC

A **S**ystems **A**pproach to **N**ursery **C**ertification

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The SANC Framework

What is a Systems Approach?

A Systems Approach is a Strategy:

- Incorporates specific operational nursery practices (BMPs) to minimize the likelihood of introduction, establishment and spread of plant pests and pathogens in a nursery
- Requires 2 or more control measures (BMPs) that are independent of each other
- Is flexible to address variability and uncertainty
- Improves our acceptance of a plant product beyond that single “end-product inspection” of current state nursery certification programs

For any nursery, the framework is built on several elements:

- Pest Risk analysis of the nursery
- Critical control points identified by/for the nursery
- Development and implementation of appropriate best management practices
- Monitoring and recording of pests found on plants when received and grown in the nursery and when plants are shipped
- Recording of actions at the nursery, including IPM practices, staff training and production methods
- Documenting the source and distribution of plants to allow for traceability

This Framework for SANC is based on a HACCP-type approach and reduced to a Critical Control Point System (CCPS)





SANC is
a Critical Control Point System
and

It is Preventive, not reactive

(Current nursery certification programs
are reactive)

Examples

- Critical Control Point (CCP):
 - Plant By Ins – plants purchased from another nursery.
 - Where are they from?
 - A GWSS or *P.r.* quarantine county?
 - Are they bringing GWSS or *P.r.* on to your nursery?
- (Possible) Best Management Practice (BMP):
 - Buy plants from a nursery that is free from these pests
 - They are certified by Ag. Dept. after following specific steps (may include BMPs, treatment, etc.) to deal with these pests.
 - AND

Examples

- Second (Possible) BMP
 - Set up a separate Plant Buy In (quarantine) area for new plants entering your nursery. Keep them there and inspect them periodically for the pest of concern before integrating them with other plants.
 - The specifics (i.e. inspect periodically) are dependent on the pest of concern.

Systems Approach Not New

- IPPC*, NAPPO, USDA and States have been using it for years.
- The term “systems approach” may not have been used – but it was/is a systems approach.
- NPB coordinated a review on “The Role and Application of the Systems Approach” (2002)
- Unshu Oranges from Japan and Korea – US initiated 1967
- (*IPPC and NAPPO are international plant protection organizations. NAPPO (North American Plant Protection Organization) is part of the IPPC and the US is a member of NAPPO)

Systems Approaches (IPPC)

ISPM No. 14– “The Use of Integrated Measures in a Systems Approach for Pest Risk Management” defines a systems approach as:

- The integration of different pest risk management measures, at least two of which act independently, and which cumulatively achieve the appropriate level of phytosanitary protection.

From: Walter Gould
Senior Risk Manager
Regulations, Permits and Manuals

Ralstonia – Offshore Geranium cutting production



Greenhouse production required
Minimum standards for facilities and equipment
Required wash stations for sanitation
Required personnel Training
Traceability
Water sources for irrigation, sterile potting media
NPPO oversight – APHIS audits
**Separation of Nucleus (tissue culture), Increase and
Production blocks including dedicated
equipment and work plans.**

http://www.aphis.usda.gov/plant_health/plant_pest_info/ralstonia/downloads/ralstoniaworkplan.pdf

Other International Activity

IPPC

- ISPM 36, 2012: Integrated Measures* for Plants for Planting
- “Plants for planting are generally considered to **pose a higher pest risk than other regulated articles** and therefore additional specific guidance on pest risk management is needed to help address this higher pest risk.”
- *Basically - Integrated Measures Approach = Systems Approach

Other International Activity

NAPPO

- RSPM ,2005: Integrated Pest Risk Management Measures* for the Importation of Plants for Planting
- “... these measures have been based mainly on quarantine restrictions supported by end product inspection and phytosanitary certification. Recent experience demonstrates that **these systems may not always be adequate** as evidenced by an increasing rate of pest introduction associated with the import of plants for planting.”
- *Integrated Pest Risk Management Measures = Systems Approach

Nursery Certification Challenges



- Increased volume of trade
- Diminished resources
- Varying state laws and regulations
- More quarantine and regulated pests

What Could We Gain from a Systems Approach?

- Focus resources to manage risk most effectively
- Increase compatibility among state programs
- Reduce pest risk
- More direct interaction between nursery production staff and regulators (Partners in quality).
- Tiered approach to certification to meet the economic needs and means of individual producers and state regulatory agencies.

A Systems Approach Strategy:

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Example:

The Boxwood Blight Threat

Developed a compliance agreement template to facilitate orderly shipment of boxwood...



<http://nationalplantboard.org/policy/index.html>

SANC is working with:

- American Nursery and Landscape Association
- Calif. Association of Nurseries and Garden Centers
- Society of American Florists
- USDA, APHIS, PPQ
- Horticultural Inspection Society Chapters
- National Plant Board Members
 - State departments of agriculture

The SANC Team

Core Group

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Thank you!

SANC Website: <http://sanc.nationalplantboard.org/>