

**Notes from the
Thousand Cankers of Black Walnut National Conference
November 3-4, 2009 - St. Louis, Missouri
Doubletree Hotel—St. Louis at Westport**

This is based on notes taken by Julia Thompson and David Johnson (both of the Missouri Department of Agriculture) and typed by J. Thompson (CAUTION: This is not a transcript, but notes. Remarks are often paraphrased and may have been accidentally omitted or misunderstood by the note-takers. It has not been compared with the event recording to check for accuracy.)

Tuesday, November 3, 2009

Key to some abbreviations used:

WTB = walnut twig beetle = *Pityophthorus juglandis*

TCD = thousand cankers disease

Gm = *Geosmithia 'morbida'* ('*morbida*' is proposed species name of this newly discovered species)

BW = black walnut = *Juglans nigra*

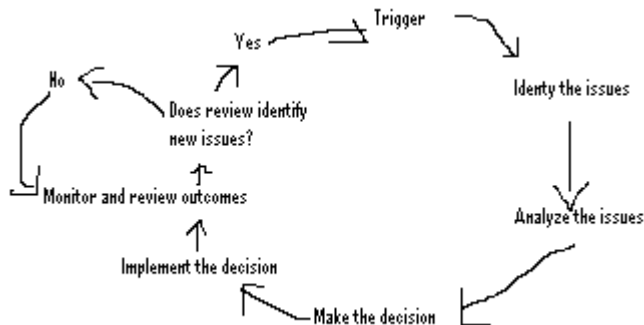
Scott Pfister (USDA APHIS PPQ) – Thousand Cankers Pathways Analysis and Regulatory Considerations.

- Pathway analysis
 - Identifies commodities; industries that needs to be regulated
 - Characterizes approach rate
 - Determines how to regulate
 - ◆ Quarantines are not an invisible force field
 - How to target enforcement
 - Use to craft additional management strategies
 - Is not risk analysis
 - Snapshot in time; new knowledge can change analysis
 - *Geosmithia*—WTB movement from W to East very new concern

- Potential Pathways of Movement
 - Timber
 - ◆ Raw timber moves of beetles
 - ◆ *Pityophthorus juglandis* intercepted in New Zealand on *Juglans* log from United States
 - ◆ Sawmills may purchase within a 300 miles / 14 mills problematic
 - ◆ Approach rate of TCD is low, but persistent
 - ◆ Orchard trees replaced every 40-70 years
 - Logs may be processed locally, shipped out of country, placed on the open market
 - Not a lot of movement but consistent
 - Claro walnut' - prized (Claro walnut is from graft union on orchard trees; fancy grain)
 - ◆ Management

- Treatment at the source.
 - Require mills to be under compliance agreements.
 - Focus on high risk mills.
 - Cyber policing
 - Talk to trade and hobby groups
- Firewood: important pathway for the movement of forest pests
 - ◆ Moved by campers and distributors
 - 50 mile radius for distributors
 - 250 mile radius for campers
 - Experience with EAB and ALB indicates we don't have this problem solved
 - ◆ National firewood strategy—working on this
 - ◆ National firewood task force
- Wood packaging material (WPM)
 - ◆ 1.2 billion pallets/year
 - ◆ Pallets manufacturers –makers and rebuilders
 - ◆ use low-grade or scrap wood 25% interceptions on pallets
- Nursery stock
 - ◆ To date, no reports of TCD affected nursery stock
 - ◆ Probably lower risk than WPM or firewood
 - ◆ found 9 nurseries in affected counties on West Coast that ship walnut
- Scion wood for grafting
 - ◆ Undocumented trade is a problem
- Nuts
 - ◆ TCD probably not a risk in seed
- Natural spread
 - ◆ Riparian areas bridge West to East

- PPQ decision framework



- Management option review

- Require treatment at the source
- Compliance agreements at mills.
- Focus survey at high risk places
- Enforce firewood at destination.
- cyber policing and pop-ups for internet sales
- Work with trade / hobbyists
- Address firewood and WPM issues

Comment: Wood workers move it; hard to contain and get a hold of this

Question: Who makes pallet regulations? USDA or State? Answer: Either can do in particular situations

Question: Is there any regulation of pallets coming in from Mexico where walnut may have been used?

Answer: Yes, ISPM-15 implemented; tested regularly; fraud exists

Question: Aphis ID to species- *Pityophthorus*? At ports? Answer: Probably yes; hopefully

Question: Any evidence that Geosmithia could be vectored by other insects? Answer: Maybe

Question: Is there a law that allows APHIS to condemn dangerous trees? Answer: Probably not; primarily state laws.