

## California Sudden Oak Death Update March 17, 2004

- There are currently 12 infested counties, and 28 types of host plants including Douglas-fir, coast redwood, coast live oak, tan oak, camellia, rhododendron, etc. and there are 20 associated host plants.
- On February 24, 2004 CDFA initiated a statewide nursery survey outside of the 12-regulated counties.
- Currently sixty nurseries have been surveyed in San Diego, Orange, Los Angeles, Ventura, Santa Barbara and San Luis Obispo counties.
  - 2,357 samples were collected
  - PCR testing and confirmation for *P. ramorum* by culturing and isolation of the pathogen are used for diagnosis.
  - Statewide survey will continue in the San Joaquin Valley and Northern California in late March and early April.
- Current Survey Results
  - Two positive nurseries identified by culturing
    - Monrovia Nursery, Azusa, Los Angeles County
    - Specialty Plants, Inc, San Marcos, San Diego County
  - During initial screening thirteen (13) nurseries found positive by PCR testing
  - All PCR positive nurseries have agreed to not ship host or associated host plants out of state. USDA and CDFA will be placing a hold on host and associated host plants at these positive PCR nurseries on Thursday March 18, 2004.
  - Culturing and isolation of the pathogen is in progress for PCR positive nurseries.
  - PCR cultures were read March 17, 2004, however not enough growth has occurred to make a determination. Based on culture growth results may not be available until Monday (3/22/04) of next week.

- Traceforward & Tracebacks
  - Monrovia Traceforward information submitted to USDA on March 12, 2004
    - Approximately 330 shipments (5,540 host plants) were sent to 4 provinces in Canada and 8,450 shipments (292,450 host plants) sent to 39 U.S. states.
  - Specialty plants, Inc. traceforward information is expected on March 18, 2004
- Florida and Georgia have closed their borders to all California Nursery stock.
- Mississippi has closed their border to regulated articles.
- CDFA is working with USDA and other state departments of agriculture to resolve this issue.