NCPN and the Linkage to State Nursery Certification Programs

Needs and Opportunities
Farm Bill Section 10201(d)(1)

(d) SPECIALTY CROP CERTIFICATION AND RISK MANAGEMENT SYSTEMS.—

The Secretary shall provide funds and technical assistance to specialty crop growers, organizations representing specialty crop growers, and State and local agencies working with specialty crop growers and organizations for the development and implementation of—

(1) audit-based certification systems, such as best management practices—

(A) to address plant pests; and

(B) to mitigate the risk of plant pests in the movement of plants and plant products;
Role of State Certification Programs

- Recipient of NCPN germplasm
- Maintain clean germplasm
- Increase clean germplasm
Audit-based Certification: Definition

Quality management process used to validate that specialty crop production systems meet standard requirements pertaining to target pest risk mitigation
Farm Bill 10201(d)(1) Projects: FY09

- Develop a harmonized regulation for fruit tree certification
- Pilot the harmonized regulation for fruit trees using audit-base certification
- Train PPQ officers in auditing technique
- Education and outreach to State and industry stakeholders on audit-based certification systems
Farm Bill 10201(d)(1) Projects: FY10

- Expand the harmonized regulation and piloting projects to grapes and berries
- Expand the audit training to State inspectors and industry stakeholders
- Establish a National Plant Board Governing Body to assess the needs for a unified audit-based certification framework
- Fund economic and efficacy studies comparing audit-based certification systems to conventional certification systems
Goal

Work with State regulatory partners and industry stakeholders to establish a unified audit-based certification framework that will ensure clean stock from NCPN centers or otherwise moving through nursery systems remains clean during the propagative increase stage in State certification programs.