

FOR INFORMATION  
DA-2007-49  
October 11, 2007

SUBJECT: Selection of Joel Floyd, Domestic Diagnostic Coordinator

TO: STATE AND TERRITORY AGRICULTURAL REGULATORY OFFICIALS

We are pleased to announce the selection of Joel Floyd as the Domestic Diagnostic Coordinator, effective September 30, 2007. This is a new position in National Identification Services (NIS), Plant Safeguarding and Pest Identification, Plant Health Programs, in Riverdale, Maryland.

Joel is responsible for coordinating diagnostic support for domestic surveys and emergency programs. He will serve as the primary contact for information on the identification status of potential pests of regulatory significance found in these programs. In his new role, Joel will work closely with Emergency and Domestic Programs, the Regions, SPHD's, and National Plant Board and pest identification and diagnostic personnel in PPQ, Agricultural Research Service, States, museums, and universities.

Joel brings a wealth of expertise and experience in pest identification and domestic programs to this critical position. He received a BS degree from Northern Arizona University in biology and a MS degree from the University of Arizona in entomology. Joel first worked with APHIS/PPQ as a technician at the pink bollworm methods laboratory in Phoenix, AZ. He then spent 7 years as a PPQ Officer and back-up entomology identifier at Los Angeles air and seaports and the following 11 years at the port of Nogales as a plant pathology identifier and supervisor. Before joining NIS, Joel worked in Emergency Planning, Emergency and Domestic Programs, where he developed New Pest Response Guidelines for a variety of pests and worked on emergency programs such as citrus canker, fruit flies, Karnal bunt, Ralstonia, citrus greening, and light brown apple moth. Joel also worked on preparedness planning for soybean rust and red palm mite and served as the program manager for Cactoblastis and mollusk programs. Additionally, Joel is a member of the APHIS Native American Working Group; and we are sure you know Joel for his scientific illustrations and graphics for many PPQ programs.

Please join us in welcoming Joel to his new position and in wishing him the best in this new phase of his career.

/s/ Paul R. Eggert for

Richard L. Dunkle  
Deputy Administrator  
Plant Protection and Quarantine