

FOR INFORMATION
DA-2008-55
August 27, 2008

SUBJECT: Selection of Dr. Robyn Rose as the National Program Manager for Cactus Moth and Honey Bee Programs

TO: STATE AND TERRITORY AGRICULTURAL REGULATORY OFFICIALS

The Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) is pleased to announce the selection of Dr. Robyn Rose as the Plant Protection and Quarantine (PPQ) National Program Coordinator for Cactus Moth and Honey Bee Programs, effective September 1, 2008. This position is in PPQ's Emergency and Domestic Programs (EDP) staff in Riverdale, Maryland.

Dr. Rose is a native of Washington, D.C. and grew up in Baltimore, Maryland. She received her BS degree in Agronomy from the University of Florida, and her MS and PhD degrees in Entomology from Iowa State University and the University of Maryland, respectively. She has over 10 years of experience as a regulatory scientist with the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and APHIS. From 1997 to 2003, Dr. Rose was an Entomologist for EPA's Office of Pesticide Programs where she developed and conducted risk assessments for biological pesticides and genetically-engineered crops. In 2003, Dr. Rose joined APHIS and worked on the regulation of genetically-engineered crops and insects. Recently, Dr. Rose joined EDP's Environmental Compliance Team. She brings a diverse range of experiences in entomology, along with regulatory experiences from both EPA and USDA, that will be beneficial in her new position.

As the National Program Coordinator for cactus moth, Dr. Rose will work with PPQ regional offices, State cooperators, the Agricultural Research Service (ARS), and stakeholders from Mexico in order to prevent the spread and eradication of the cactus moth from the U.S. The cactus moth is an exotic pest of prickly pear cactus. As the National Program Coordinator for Honey Bee Programs, Dr. Rose will work with APHIS, ARS, and other stakeholders to determine what honey bee pests and diseases warrant APHIS input. There is increased concern regarding pests and diseases in honey bee colonies due to the onset of colony collapse disorder (CCD) which has been identified in the U.S. Dr. Rose will be responsible for establishing relationships with many APHIS and ARS partners in order to articulate requirements and leverage resources for both the Cactus Moth Program and the Honey Bee Program.

Please join us in welcoming Dr. Rose to her new position. She can be reached at Area Code (301) 734-7121, and her email address is robyn.i.rose@aphis.usda.gov.

Rebecca A. Bech
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