



STATE OF CALIFORNIA
DEPARTMENT OF FOOD AND
AGRICULTURE
1220 N Street, Room A-372
Sacramento, CA 95814

PEST EXCLUSION ALERT

NO. 1-2004

DATE: March 9, 2004
TO: All County Agricultural Commissioners
FROM: Plant Health and Pest Prevention Services
SUBJECT: *Phytophthora ramorum* Detected at Monrovia Nursery in Los Angeles County

This is to notify all County Agricultural Commissioners of the detection of *Phytophthora ramorum*, causal pathogen of Sudden Oak Death (SOD), on several varieties of *Camelia* sp. at Monrovia Nursery in Azusa, California (Los Angeles County).

Samples of SOD-host material were collected and submitted to the California Department of Food and Agriculture (CDFA) Pathology Laboratory as part of a SOD-nursery survey that is being conducted at all nurseries located outside of the SOD-regulated counties in California. State, federal, and county agricultural inspectors are conducting the surveys, and it is expected that the surveys will be complete in approximately two months. To date, surveys have been conducted in six counties in southern California (Los Angeles, Orange, San Diego, Santa Barbara, Ventura, San Luis Obispo). Laboratory analysis is still pending on SOD-samples submitted from other nurseries in those counties. If samples from additional nurseries are confirmed positive for *P. ramorum*, CDFA Interior Exclusion staff will notify all county agricultural officials.

As a result of the detection of *P. ramorum* at Monrovia Nursery, all SOD-host plants and associated hosts at the nursery have been placed on hold. All *Camelia* sp. in the infected lots will be destroyed, and all SOD-host plants and associated hosts within 10 meters of the infected lots will remain on hold for 90 days and will be inspected twice for symptoms of SOD prior to release. All other SOD-hosts and associated hosts will be inspected once and released if no symptoms of SOD are found. Additionally, the United States Department of Agriculture and CDFA will conduct trace forward investigations for all SOD-host material shipped from Monrovia Nursery in Azusa, California during the past twelve months. These regulatory actions are prescribed by the federal Protocol for Nurseries with Plants Infected with *P. ramorum*. The protocol is attached for review by all county agricultural commissioners.

If you have any questions concerning this advisory, please contact Nick Condos at (916) 653-1440 or by email at ncondos@cdfa.ca.gov.

Attachment