



Plant Health Division
59 Camelot Drive
Ottawa, Ontario
K1A 0Y9

04 MAR 2005

Chris Andrews
Executive Director
Canadian Nursery Landscape Association
7856 Fifth Line South
RR#4, Station Main
Milton, Ontario
L9T 2X8

Dear Mr. Andrews,

Subject: **Current Status of *Phytophthora ramorum* (Sudden Oak Death) in Canada**

The following is a brief description of *Phytophthora ramorum* (*P. ramorum*) incidents in Canada in 2004 and Canadian Food Inspection Agency (CFIA) activities to date in 2005.

In 2004, there were two sets of incidents of *P. ramorum* in Canada.

The first cluster of *P. ramorum* finds were all directly related to shipments of infected *Camellia sp.* from Monrovia Nursery Company of Azusa, California. All detections were at retail garden centres in British Columbia (B.C.). All affected garden centres completed official eradication activities. The final stage of this incident was a public recall of suspect *Camellia* with eradication activities taking place at all locations where *P. ramorum* was detected.

The second cluster of *P. ramorum* finds were associated with the CFIA National *P. ramorum* Survey. In all, three wholesale nurseries were detected in BC through the national survey and subsequent trace out activities. All three nurseries completed official eradication activities in 2004.

There were no *P. ramorum* finds in the rest of Canada in 2004.

To date in 2005, there have been no finds of *P. ramorum* in Canada and there are no CFIA investigations currently under way.

.../2

Based on the above, the CFIA has determined that mandatory national certification for *P. ramorum* is not required at this time. This being said, please recognize that the CFIA is pursuing a harmonized, phased in approach to *P. ramorum* with the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) and this includes management of *P. ramorum* using nursery certification as a delivery mechanism.

For buyers of Canadian nursery stock who wish further assurance beyond the regulatory activities of the CFIA, the Canadian nursery industry has developed the voluntary Canadian Nursery Landscape Association (CNLA) *P. ramorum* Certification Program, which is described at www.canadanursery.com/canadanursery/cnla/sodcertification.lasso

This is a systems approach based program, with participating nurseries required to obtain mandatory training, implement best management practices and receive an annual audit, as well as requiring sample collection and laboratory testing. I understand that the majority of program participants are located in British Columbia and that there is growing interest in other parts of Canada. Parties interested in the details of this program should contact the CNLA.

I hope this answers your enquiry. Please feel free to contact me if there are further questions.

Sincerely



Sor/ R.D. Ormrod
A/National Manager
Horticulture Section