



First Detector Training

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Extension Plant Pathology

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Why take the training?

- To help prevent the spread of “high risk” pests in gardening and agriculture.
- To learn how to send us samples.
- Most important we need “eyes and ears” out in the field.



Where to take on-line course?

- www.NPDN.org
- Click the First Detector Training Link
- Register, go to online training module.
- Modules can be taken at your own pace at any time you prefer.



Content of the online course

- Mission of the National Plant Diagnostic Network
- Monitoring for High Risk Pests
- Diagnosing Plant Problems
- Submitting Diagnostic Samples
- Photography for Diagnosis
- Disease and Pest Scenarios



Mission of the National Plant Diagnostic Network

- “To enhance national agriculture biosecurity by quickly detecting introduced pests and pathogens.”
- Introduces the origin and mission of the NPDN
- Importance of biosecurity
- Partner agencies
- Role of a first detector



Monitoring for High Risk Pests

- What is a high risk pest?
- USDA Select Agent List
- USDA - APHIS
- Effective monitoring



Diagnosing Plant Problems

- Regional knowledge of pests and practices
- Plant pathogens and types
- Disease signs and symptoms
- Insect signs and symptoms



Submitting Diagnostic Samples

- Plant samples
- Insect samples
- Weed samples
- Communicating with regulatory officials



Photography for Diagnosis

- Bad/Good photos
- Digital Photography
- Taking photos in the field
- Saving and submitting photos



Disease and Pest Scenarios

- This section gives you three “real life” situations.
- It asks questions you have to answer correctly before continuing



Wrap Up

- Go to www.npdn.org and sign up to take the online modules.
- Good luck in becoming a First Detector!