Challenges Encountered by Regulatory Agencies Charged With Controlling Invasive Species
Primary Program Mission

Protect South Carolina’s agricultural resources and natural ecosystems from the introduction and spread of invasive species and honey bee pests.
Responsibilities

Physical inspections

Plant pest surveys

Quarantines

Control and eradication programs

Tracking and communication about invasive species
Challenges?
The Number of Regulated Species

- Federal Noxious Weed List
- SC Plant Pest Laws
- SC Noxious Weed Laws
- SC Aquatic Weed List
Exotics and Invasive Species

The US has approximately 809,000 potential insect species waiting to invade... and more are discovered each day.
Expanding Global Economy
New Exotic and Invasive are Being Added Every Year...And Old Ones Don’t Go Away

Cactus Moth

Susan Ellis
Issues Between States and Other Countries Over Invasive Species is Challenging
The amount of material that enters uninspected or escapes detection is problematic.
The movement of regulated materials inside of our country

Red Baron

Contaminated Nursery Stock

Natasha Wright

LBAM
Enforcement of Regulations and Quarantines Difficult
Difficulty of Risk Assessment

- Major seaports
- Physical location traversed by thoroughfares
- Suitable host
- Favorable climate

Where Do We Look?
Limited Resources and Personnel

Funds to protect the environment are shrinking due to the economic situation. What will be funding sources to fight the needed battles?
What Can We Do?

Form a partnerships in which early detection, rapid response, and control of invasive species take place in a timely manner.
Preventing, identifying, reporting, predicting, and monitoring invasive species should be part of our daily routine.
Communication is an important tool to protect our resources.
All citizens should join the front line against the invasions of exotic species
Volunteers are an important asset in these trying economic times. We need help!
The End ?
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