

# Implementation Plan

## 1. Name of Standard

RSPM No. 16: *Guidelines for the Importation of Citrus Propagative Material into a NAPPO Member Country*

## 2. Country Reporting

United States

## 3. Relevant Authority

### 3.1 Current Authority

- A. Legislative Authority – Yes, Plant Protection Act
- B. Regulatory Authority – Yes, but revisions will be necessary

### 3.2 Revisions to authority

- A. Revision to our import regulations will be needed to comply with the provisions within the Standard to ensure that imported Citrus plant for planting from all countries meet the production and phytosanitary conditions outlined in the Standard. A PRA needs to be developed to initiate the process of regulatory change. If the PRA support the change, publication of a final rule is expected by 2015.
- B. Based on the requirements of the importing country, Federal oversight over the existing State operated Citrus plant for planting certification programs can be implemented, including requirements that these nursery certification programs meet the conditions of this Standard.

## 4. Obtaining Authority to Adopt the Standard

A. Current regulation 319-19 prohibit the importation of Citrus plants and any plant part, except fruit, of all genera, species and varieties of the subfamilies Aurantioideae, Rutoideae, and Toddalioideae of the botanical family Rutaceae, with some exceptions. PPQ is revising 319-37 and other regulations governing the importation of plant for planting. A principal component of this revision is the establishment of regulatory systems approach protocol programs, utilizing performance-based criteria. The criteria in the Citrus plant for planting standard would be also used as a basis for this regulation change. However, the legality of using performance-based criteria needs to be determined for this application. Actual implementation of the criteria outlined in the Standard will be based on bilateral negotiations and result in the development of an acceptable operational

workplan for the production and export of Citrus certified plants. Additional resources will be necessary for the implementation of the standard.

- B. The USA currently has Citrus certification programs which have been implemented by interested States. These programs already meet most of the criteria outlined in the Standard. However, PPQ needs to establish NPPO oversight and minimum conditions for certification as outlined in the Standard. Citrus plant or plant products only for experimental purposes can be imported under Departmental Permits.

The accreditation group will initiate the implementation process as their next new project, estimate completion time 2-4 years.

**Activity Estimated Completion Date**

Activity	Estimated Completion Date
Changes to legal authority, analyze current authority and draft necessary changes including publication of a proposed rule, comments, and clearance	2012
Publish final rule	2015

At this point APHIS has the authority to legally implement the conditions of the standard.

**5. Implementation of standard**

Activity	Estimated Completion Date
Actual implementation, develop bilateral work plan, perform site reviews, check compliance, audit material that would enter, etc.	On going after 2015