

**FOREST HEALTH PROTECTION INTERNATIONAL ACTIVITIES
ACCOMPLISHMENT REPORT FOR FISCAL YEAR 2003**

**Prepared by the
Forest Health Protection International Activities Team**

April 2004

FOREST HEALTH PROTECTION INTERNATIONAL ACTIVITIES FOR FISCAL YEAR 2003

Summary

During fiscal year 2003, Forest Health Protection (FHP) specialists were involved in approximately 42 activities in 22 countries. These activities included, providing technical assistance and training, cooperating in studies, gathering information on pest risk assessments, giving presentations and participating in international meetings. Funding came from a variety of sources including FHP staff units and International Activity Team (IAT) funds, USDA Forest Service International Programs (IP), USAID, UN/FAO, and support from hosting countries.

The FHP International Activity Team (IAT) had three specific focus areas in 2003. These were:

1. Cooperation and assistance to Empresa Brasileira de Pesquisa Agropecuaria (EMBRAPA) in Brazil with *Sirex noctillio*,
2. Technical assistance and cooperation with Mexico, and
3. Professional development through international experience.

Sirex noctillio, an introduced wood wasp, has caused considerable damage to pine plantations in Brazil, and could potentially cause serious damage in other countries as well, including Argentina, Uruguay, and Chile. It is also considered a high-risk pest for southern pines in the United States. Through the Forest Health Technology Enterprise Team (FHTET), a three year cooperative agreement with EMBRAPA was developed that would lead to the technology transfer and development of a detection and monitoring, and biological control for this insect. This program was completed in 2003. Once developed, the program could then be used as a prototype for other South American countries that are, or will be, dealing with *Sirex*, now or in the future. Activities in 2003 in this program included: a) providing aerial detection survey training and assistance, b) complete the accuracy assessment of LANDSAT imagery for a host type map, and c) providing assistance and review of the biological control program for *Sirex*. Funding for the *Sirex* program was through the IAT, IP, FHP and EMBRAPA. Activities under the current agreement were completed. Further efforts for *Sirex* in South America will be evaluated.

Cooperation and assistance with Mexico addresses FHP International Activity Plan Goals 2 (North American countries have strong pest management programs), and 4 (technical expertise is shared worldwide). The primary activities with Mexico this year included a cooperative roundheaded pine beetle semiochemical project, and providing assistance and a grant for establishment of long term monitoring plots for oak decline. Funding for these activities was primarily from IAT, IP, and FHP. FHP and Rocky Mountain Research Station personnel also participated in the logistics and coordination for the joint meeting of the XII Simposio Nacional De Parasitologia Forestal and 54th Western Forest Insect Work Conference.

Activities in Russia included the continued cooperation in trapping for Asian gypsy moth and pink gypsy moth in Russian Far East ports.

The USDA FS/APHIS Import Wood Risk Assessment Team completed its assessments of pests in Eucalyptus from Australia and was beginning the assessment for radiata pine from Australia.

A number of activities identified for China in fiscal year 2003 were postponed or cancelled as a result of the SARS outbreak in that country in early summer.

Thanks to Helen Butella, the IAT database for FHP specialists is now on line. The database identifies experience and skills of FHP personnel who are interested in international opportunities.

The attached table summarizes the primary FHP international activities in fiscal year 2003 by geographic area and country. Source of funding and participation are listed in order to show the cooperation and participation that goes to support FHP international activities.

Additional information can be obtained either through the IAT or the regional FHP international activity coordinators listed below.

IAT – Dayle Bennett, Allan Bullard, Ken Knauer, Iral Ragenovich, Denny Ward

Regional FHP Coordinators:

WO and FHTET - Allan Bullard

R1 and R4 – Dayle Bennett

R2 – Tom Eager

R3 – Douglas Parker

R5 – John Dale

R6 – Iral Ragenovich

R8 – Denny Ward

R10 – Ed Holsten

NA – Ken Knauer

Summary of Forest Health Protection International Activities by Country and Participant for FY2003.

COUNTRY	ACTIVITIES	TECHNICAL SPECIALIST (S)	SOURCE OF FUNDING
Asia and the South Pacific			
Australia	<p>Participate as members of USDA FS/APHIS Import Wood Risk Assessment and Mitigation Evaluation Team on Eucalyptus Risk Assessment including scientists from APHIS, and FS Research</p> <p>Finalize Pest Risk Assessment on Eucalyptus</p> <p>Begin preparation of risk assessment on pests of radiata pine.</p>	<p>DeNitto (R1) Eglitis (R6) Haugen (NA) Kliejunas (R5) Haverty Burdall (retired research) Micales Podleckis Levy</p>	<p>FHP</p> <p>FS Research</p> <p>APHIS</p>
New Zealand	<p>Attend and give a presentation at the International Plant Pathology meeting</p> <p>Attend symposium on weed biocontrol and present a poster on the biocontrol of kudzu</p>	<p>DeNitto (R1)</p> <p>Britton (WO)</p>	<p>IAT, FHP</p> <p>FHP</p>
Secretariat of Pacific Communities Including the Federated States of Micronesia	<p>Conduct an evaluation of the health of Mangrove Forests in several island countries of the South Pacific, including Tuvalu and Kiribati</p> <p>Conduct a four-day workshop on the Conservation and Management of Mangrove Forests in the South Pacific.</p>	<p>Ward (R8)</p> <p>Ward (R8)</p>	<p>FHP, Federated Islands</p> <p>FHP, Federated Islands</p> <p>IP, FHP, PSWRS,</p>

	Provide training on invasive plant species control to foresters and forestry technicians from the F.S.M., Palau, and other islands, as part of a 2-week Forestry Short course held in Hilo, HI	Bake (R5) Friday (PSW, IPIF) And cooperators	IPIF
China	Continue to participate on the Forest Service/China Coordination Team Attend a meeting in Yunnan Province on invasive species of interest to 26 Pacific nations Provide spray technology training and assistance for UN/FAO in China and Mongolia	Bullard (FHP, FHTET) Bullard (FHP, FHTET) Beatty (FHP, WO) Ghent (R8) A. Onken (NA)	FHP, IP, FHTET FHP, FHTET, IP UNFAO, FHP
Japan	Continue to provide assistance to Dept. of Defense on Ruyku pine wilt management plan for Okinawa	Flanagan (R6 for NA)	FHP
South America			
Argentina	Provide travel and living expenses for a month for an Argentine scientist while working at Oregon State University on molecular studies of various species of Phytophthora of Argentina; esp. a potential causal agent of cypress decline.	Hennon (R10)	FHP
Brazil	Provide assistance to EMBRAPA for <i>Sirex noctilio</i> populations in southern Brazil. - Provide aerial survey training and assistance to trainees representing EMPRAPA, private industry, and the Federal University of Panama	Mason (FHTET) Johnson (R2) Rhea (R8)	FHP, IAT, IP, FHTET

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Complete classification and accuracy assessment of LANDSAT images for host-type map. - Continue monitoring and evaluation of biological control activities and coordinate parasitoid shipments from Australia to Brazil. 	<p>Ellenwood (FHTET)</p> <p>Haugen (NA),</p>	
Central America			
Belize and Honduras	Serve as international consultant for UN/FAO technical Cooperations Programme on bark beetle infestations – examine the extent and severity of the outbreak, meet with managers and provide recommendations on procedures, technologies, coordination and training to facilitate bark beetle management.	Clarke (R8)	UN/FAO, FHP
Nicaragua	<p>Continue to provide assistance and complete strategic plan for southern pine beetle</p> <p>Evaluate potential for fire in southern pine beetle killed timber, and potential for erosion in control areas</p> <p>Work on Central American website with University of Georgia, and Universidad Nacional Agraria.</p>	<p>Ward (R8)</p> <p>Ward (R8)</p> <p>Ward (R8)</p>	<p>USAID, FHP</p> <p>USAID, FHP</p> <p>FHP, IAT</p>

	Provide assistance for entomologist and acting president for Universidad Nacional Agraria to attend Southern Forest Insect Work Conference and develop cooperative agreements with universities and organizations within the U.S.	Ward (R8)	IAT
North America			
Mexico	Provide grant, grant administration, and technical assistance in potential oak decline identification and survey and establishing long term forest health monitoring plots throughout several States	Kleijunas (R5) O'Brien (NA) Oak (R8) Davidson (PSWRS)	FHP, IAT, PSWRS
	Continue cooperative seed and cone protection project	Gillette (PSWRS) Stein (FHP, FHTET)	IP, IAT, FHP, PSWRS
	Conduct project to test use of semiochemicals in management of roundheaded pine beetle	Gillette, PSWRS Stein, FHP, FHTET	IP, FHP, PSWRS, IAT, FHTET
	Produce publication on the parasitic plants of Mexico and Guatemala	Mathiasen (NAU) Beatty (FHP, WO)	NAU, FHP
	Helped organize the first joint meeting of the XII Simposio Nacional de Parasitologia Forestal and the 54 th Western Forest Insect Work Conference in cooperation with the Comision Nacional Forestal, Secretaria de Medio Ambiente y Recursos Naturals, and the Universidad de Guadalajara	McMillian (R3) Steed (R4) Representatives from Mexico, Canada, and NAU	Respective Organizations

Canada	<p>Continue cooperative agreement with Canadian Forest Service, PFC for rearing DFTM Goose Lake strain and preparing manuscripts on the Bio-assays of TM-BioControl.</p> <p>Continue cooperative study with Univ. of Northern B.C. and R10 on Tomentosus root disease incidence</p> <p>Conduct a 3-year biological control project against amber-marked birch leaf miner in south-central and interior Alaska in cooperation with the Canadian Forest Service and the University of Alberta (Edmonton).</p> <p>Attend a workshop sponsored by the World Trade Organization on trade, in Ottawa</p>	<p>Reardon (FHTET) Ragenovich (R6)</p> <p>Trummer (R10)</p> <p>Holsten (R10) Reardon (FHTET)</p> <p>Britton (WO)</p>	<p>FHTET, FHP</p> <p>FHP</p> <p>FHP, FHTET</p> <p>FHP</p>
Russia and Eastern Europe			
Russia	<p>Continue Far Eastern Ports AGM Monitoring Program</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Meet with Russian Forest Protection and State Plant Quarantine Inspection Service of Russian Federation officials to renew the Cooperative Agreement and Financial Plan for 2003 2. Retest new attractant for pink gypsy moth 	<p>Munson (R) Leonard (R8)</p> <p>Levy (APHIS) Mastro (APHIS) Fussell (APHIS)</p>	<p>FHP, APHIS</p>

	<p>3. Port monitoring in 7 ports will continue, and add two additional ports (Palsun & Terney) to the monitoring program.</p> <p>4. Continue funding assistance</p>		
Slovakia	Meet with scientists with the University of Forests in Slovakia to develop a proposal for modeling susceptibility of high elevation European spruce to <i>Ips typographus</i>	Negron (RMRS) Eager (R2)	IAT, FHP, RMRS
Poland	Provide financial support to a scientist from Poland to attend, and present a poster, at the American Phytopathological Society meeting in Charlotte, NC and conduct a field tour of oak decline sites in MN, MO, and TX.	Oak (R8) Juzwik (NCRS)	FHP
Western Europe			
Austria	At the request of the Federated European Forestry Organization, give presentation on the use of models projecting spread and loss from root disease.	E. Goheen (R6)	FEFO, FHP
Italy	Attend the NAPPO meeting on Nursery stock in Rome	Hofacker (WO)	FHP
England and the Netherlands	Participate in a tour for the European Union on Sudden Oak Death – Amsterdam and York	Britton (WO)	FHP
Cyprus	Participate in forest management and aerial application training for pine processionary caterpillar for USAID	Ciesla (contract consultant) Ghent (R8)	USAID, IAT, FHP

Africa			
Kenya & Tanzania	Complete final report for Eastern Arc Forest Health Project	Hertel (West Chester University) Ward (R8)	USAID, IP FHP
	Attend meetings in Eritrea and South Africa. Give presentation on wrap up of the Eastern Arc Mountains Project	Dull (WO)	USAID
General	Serve as member of the FHP International Activity Team	Knauer (NA), Ward (R8), Bennett (R4), Bullard (FHTET), Ragenovich (R6)	FHP
	Attend North American Forestry Commission, Forest Insect and Disease Study Group	Mangold (WO)	FHP
	Participate in Western International Forest Disease Work Conference held in Powell River BC	Various Regions	FHP
	Develop International Activity Team Database of FHP specialists with interest and experience/skills in international activities.	IAT, Butella	FHP
	Serve as U.S. Delegate on the United Nations Forum on Forests	Samman (WO)	FHP