



Canadian Food
Inspection Agency

Agence canadienne
d'inspection des aliments

CFIA's Role in Protecting Canada's Forests and Implementing International Phytosanitary Measures

Arvind Vasudevan A/Senior Specialist Forestry
22nd January 2020 Beloeil Qc.



Canada

Purpose

- To provide an overview of federal and international plant protection authorities, requirements, obligations and tools.

Outline

- Plant protection in Canada : Canadian Food Inspection Agency
- Plant protection in the world : International Plant Protection Convention
- Some of CFIA's plant protection tools

Plant Health in Canada

- Canadian Food Inspection Agency
 - Government of Canada's key science-based regulatory agency with mandate to safeguard Canada's food supply, animals and **plants and Forests**



CFIA's Core Responsibilities

**Plant Health, Animal Health, Food Safety,
International Trade**

A regulator....
To set rules and
verify compliance
with the rules

A risk manager....
To safeguard diverse
public risks related to
public health, economics
and environment

A facilitator...
To improve the
regulatory interface
with industry and
trading partners

CFIA's Plant Protection Mandate

- Protect Canada's agriculture and forestry sectors and natural resources from the economic and environmental impact of introduced pests
- Prevent import, export and spread of pests
- Regulate the import, export and domestic movement of agricultural and forest products and other things
- Facilitate access to foreign markets - phytosanitary perspective



CFIA's International Interactions and Obligations

- Canada is a member of the International Plant Protection Convention (IPPC)



International Plant Protection Convention
Protecting the world's plant resources from pests

- The CFIA is Canada's National Plant Protection Organization
- Work with international partners on phytosanitary issues:
 - **Bilaterally**
 - **Multilaterally**

What is the IPPC?

- The IPPC (document) is an international treaty; contracting parties are bound by the obligations of the convention
- It aims to:
 - Prevent introduction and spread of pests
 - Promote fair and safe trade
 - Protect plant life
- The IPPC (organization) is the standard setting organization for plant health recognized under the WTO SPS Agreement



International Plant Protection Convention
Protecting the world's plant resources from pests

Scope of the IPPC

- Extends to items capable of harbouring or spreading pests, such as:
 - Storage places
 - Conveyances
- Includes intentional introduction of organisms, such as:
 - Biological control organisms
 - Research, industrial or other organisms
- Covers a wide range of plants and protects them from a wide range of pests
 - Plants: cultivated plants and wild flora
 - Plant pests: invertebrates, diseases and weeds
 - Harm: includes direct and indirect effects



IPPC: Key Principles and Obligations

- Countries have the **right** to use phytosanitary measures
- Measures should be:
 - Technically justified
 - No more restrictive than necessary to address risk
 - Non-discriminatory
 - Transparent
- Countries have the **obligation** to establish a National Plant Protection Organization (NPPO) to:
 - Follow the IPPC and standards developed under it (ISPMs)
 - Publish phytosanitary requirements
 - Share information on pests and regulations
 - Conduct surveillance, treatments and certify exports
 - Notify trading partners of non-compliance



Canada: Requirement to report pests to CFIA

- The federal *Plant Protection Act* includes a general requirement to report pests:
 - “Where a person becomes aware of the existence of a thing that the person suspects to be a pest in an area where the pest has not previously been known to exist, the person shall immediately notify the Minister of the suspected pest and provide the Minister with a specimen of it” (section 5)

Pest

- From federal Plant Protection Act:

Pest: Any thing that is injurious or potentially injurious, whether directly or indirectly to plant or to products or by-products of plants

- From IPPC:

Pest: Any species, strain or biotype of plant, animal or pathogenic agent injurious to plants or plant products

Quarantine pest: A pest of potential economic importance to the area endangered thereby and not yet present there, or present but not widely distributed and being officially controlled

Some of CFIA's Plant Protection Tools

- The Act and Regulations prohibits any person from moving, growing, raising, culturing or producing pests or infested things, or anything suspected to be a pest or infested or a biological obstacle to the control of a pest
- Authorities include
 - Enter and inspect (to detect, verify, prevent)
 - Remove or destroy unlawful imports
 - Prohibit or restrict movement of persons or things
 - Declare places to be infested
 - Compensate

Plant Health Surveillance 2018-19

Purposes of Plant Health Surveillance:

- Detect new populations of quarantine pests,
- Delimit populations of pests with limited distributions in Canada,
- Maintain pest-free areas for export purposes and
- Provide data for science-based regulatory decisions.

Summary of survey activities prioritized for 2018-2019

Target	Nb
Forestry	7
Horticulture	7
Grains	0
Potato	2
IASDP	3
Total surveys delivered	19
Total # sites	> 13 000

An additional 483 sites were surveyed by **organizations external to CFIA** in accordance with the CFIA plant health survey protocol and in coordination with CFIA staff.

Outreach and public awareness:
A key component of early detection for plant pests



CFIA Risk Prevention Strategies

Prevention is the most effective strategy to stop plant pests from being introduced into Canada

Regulatory policies and programs for pests and pathways based on Risk Analysis

At Origin Mitigation

- Import requirements
- Treatment or systems approaches
- Certifications
- Pre-clearance programs
- Audits
- Education and outreach

At Border Mitigation

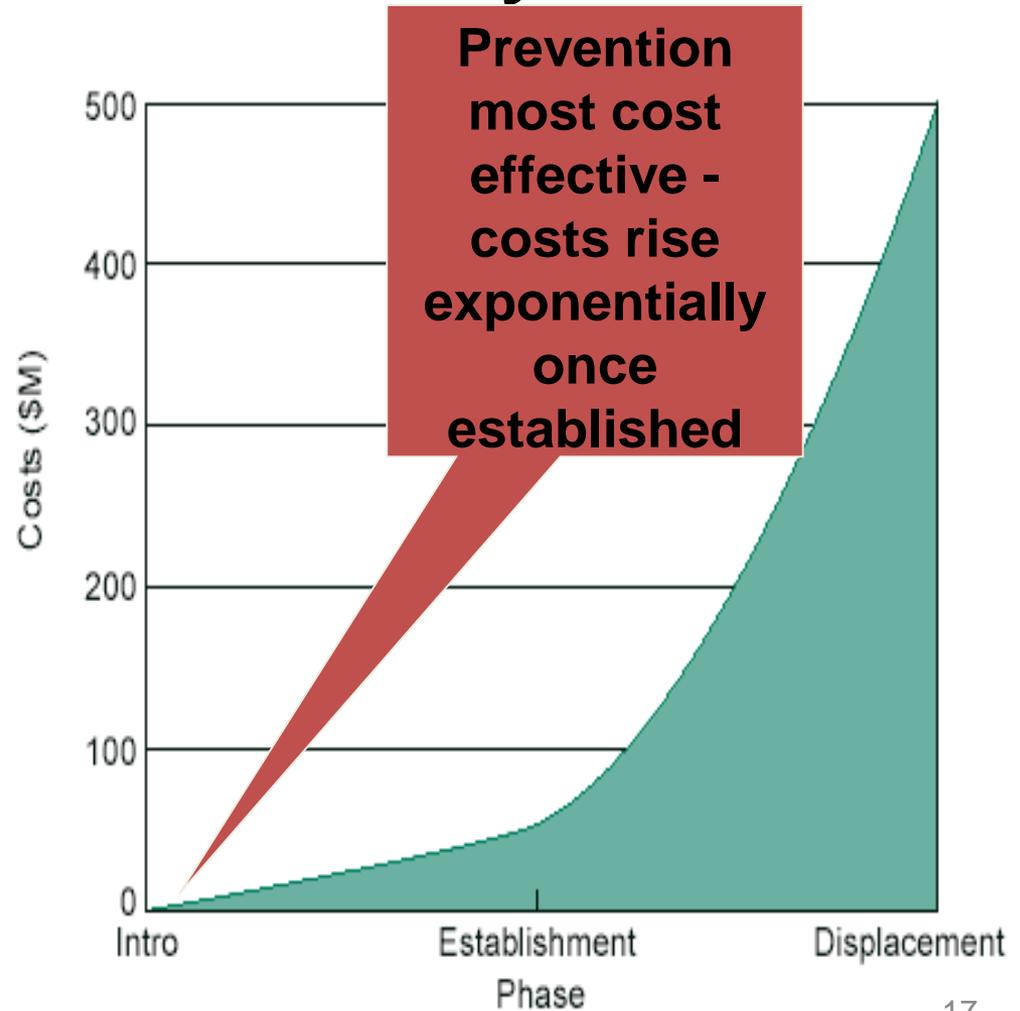
- Inspection (Canada Border Services Agency for wood packaging material and soil)
- Document review
- Sampling
- Border lookout and blitzes
- Education and outreach

Post-border Mitigation

- CFIA inspection at destination
- Audits
- Regulatory response
- Surveillance/early detection
- Lab analysis
- Domestic movement
- Education and outreach
- PCP/Compliance Agreements

Prevention is key

- Since the detection of emerald ash borer in the United States in 2002, the USDA has spent more than \$200 million to survey and control this pest.
- Costs associated with the removal and replacement of ash trees damaged or killed by this one insect will exceed \$10 billion by the year 2020.



CFIA Risk Response Strategies

- **Eradication** – Asian Long Horn Beetle (ALHB)
- *Anoplophora glabripennis*, is an exotic invasive pest native from eastern Asia.
- Serious pest of hardwood trees, mostly maples..
- Detected in Toronto in 2003 and eradicated in 2013
- Current Area under regulation approximately 20 square kilometres.
- The ALHB monitoring survey in the regulated area will be delivered over 6 years.
- Should be declared eradicated in 2020.



CFIA Risk Response Strategies



- **Slow the spread approach** – Emerald Ash Borer-
Agrilus planipennis
- EAB was first detected in 2002 in Windsor, Ontario,
- Detected in five provinces (Manitoba, Ontario, Quebec, New Brunswick, and Nova Scotia).
- EAB continues to spread by both natural and human-assisted means (e.g. firewood movement)
- Difficult to detect new introductions. Scientists believe that new detections represent populations that have been established for 3-4 years.
- Currently regulation implemented by county.

CFIA Risk Response Strategies

- **Dual Hybrid/approach** – Hemlock Woolly Adelgid (HWA) *Adelges tsugae*
- HWA is an aphid-like insect that attacks and kills hemlock trees.
- Its spread by wind, animals, and human movement of nursery stock, and other wood products including firewood.
- (1) Slow the spread for established HWA populations, and (2) Eradication for newly discovered HWA incursions.
- Possibly release biological control agents.



CFIA's outreach program



Summary

- The CFIA's mandate includes protection of Canada's plant resources
- Plant protection is fundamentally different from food safety or animal health
- The CFIA is Canada's NPPO
- The federal *Plant Protection Act and Regs* provides tools that we can use to manage quarantine pests in import, export and domestic pathways