

Peer Review Plan

Title of Review:	<u>Pest Risk Analysis for the Importation of Avocados from Peru</u>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Influential Scientific Information
Agency:	<u>USDA, Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service</u>	<input type="checkbox"/> Highly Influential Scientific Assessment
Agency Contact:	<u>Dr. Kenneth R. Lakin, APHIS, Plant Protection and Quarantine, Center for Plant Health Science and Technology, Plant Epidemiology and Risk Analysis Laboratory, 1730 Varsity Drive, Suite 300, Raleigh, NC 27606-5202, (919) 855-7517</u>	
Subject of Review:	<p>Pest risk analyses (PRAs) are prepared by USDA-APHIS-PPQ-CPHST-PERAL in response to requests for importation into the United States of commodities for consumption that are not currently authorized entry into the United States. The process is consistent with the principles embodied in the Agreement on the Application of Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures of the World Trade Organization. A list of plant pests is developed, followed by in-depth analyses of the quarantine pests identified with the commodity and country of proposed exportation and determined likely to follow the pathway of importation into United States. Risks associated with the proposed importation are assessed for two basic components, each of which has several parameters. The first assessment component evaluates the Consequences of Introduction, including the following parameters for each pest: climate/host interaction, host range, dispersal potential, economic impact and environmental impact.</p> <p>The second assessment component considers the Likelihood of Introduction, evaluating parameters such as: quantity of the commodity to be imported annually, ability of the pest to survive post-harvest treatment, likelihood of the pest to survive shipment, likelihood of the pest not being not detected at a port-of-entry, likelihood of it being moved to suitable habitat and the potential of the pest coming into contact with suitable host material. It is important to note that the PERAL working definition of introduction includes the pest both entering and becoming established in the United States. An analysis of the applicable mitigations are identified and included as part of the PRA. Upon the completion of a draft PRA, it will undergo a review process within CPHST-PERAL comprised of an editorial review, an entomology review and a plant pathology review.</p>	
Purpose of Review:	<p>It is anticipated that external peer reviewers will supply certain benefits, such as a working knowledge of one or more organisms for which individual analyses were conducted, thus providing an in-depth understanding of the biology and behavior of the pests being analyzed. Such experts could also possess an understanding of the likelihood of these pests following the proposed pathway and becoming established in the United States. Additionally, such reviewers may provide an overview from a non-regulatory viewpoint. They will not be asked to evaluate the regulatory decision, but the quality and completeness of the Pest Risk Assessment.</p> <p>These reviewers will be expected to focus on areas such as:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. The Pest List, checking for items such as inclusion of all appropriate plant pests, accuracy of the worldwide distribution and association of a plant pest with the plant parts affected by the pest;2. Evaluation of the quality and completeness of the individual components of the actual assessment, i.e. the consequences of introduction and the likelihood of introduction;3. Review the list of mitigations in respect to 1) completeness of the list, and	

- 2) mitigation effectiveness. This information will be considered by APHIS decision makers in selecting the most appropriate mitigations;
4. Ensuring all assumptions and uncertainties have been clearly stated; and
 5. Appropriate selection of references in support of the PRA.
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Type of Review: Panel Review Individual Reviewers
 Alternative Process (Briefly Explain):

Timing of Review (Est.): Start: 5-25-06 End: 7-24-06 Completed: _____

Number of Reviewers: 3 or fewer 4 to 10 More than 10

Primary Disciplines/Types of Expertise Needed for Review: Entomology, Plant pathology

Reviewers selected by: Agency Designated Outside Organization
Organization's Name: _____

Opportunities for Public Comment? Yes No

If yes, briefly state how and when these opportunities will be provided:

How: The public will be given an opportunity to comment on the PRA for 60 days via a *Federal Register* notice at the same time the PRA is made available to peer reviewers.

When: Comments obtained from the public as well as peer reviewers, as appropriate, will be incorporated into a subsequent draft PRA which will be available for public comment at the same time a proposed rule is published with a 60 day comment period.

Peer Reviewers Provided with Public Comments? Yes No, see above.

Public Nominations Requested for Review Panel? Yes No

Other: _____



Location of Document Being Reviewed The latest version of the Pest Risk Analysis for the Importation of Avocados from Peru will be available by clicking [HERE](#) when a notice is published in the *Federal Register* and the PRA is made available to the peer reviewers.

To Comment on This Plan To comment on this plan or send an email message regarding it, click [HERE](#) or send an email to: APHIS_Peer_Review_Agenda@aphis.usda.gov
On the subject line of the message, please write: Peruvian Avocado Peer Review

You may also send a letter in hard copy to the following address:

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Policy and Program Development, Unit 120
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