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Exotic pest information collection and analysis (EPICA): plant pest early warning as a safeguarding tool

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The U.S. government needs early warning about potential pest threats to safeguard U.S. agriculture and natural resources from the risks associated with the entry, establishment, or spread of exotic pests. Exotic Pest Information Collection and Analysis (EPICA) conducts plant pest biosurveillance for the U.S. government by continuously monitoring internet and other global information sources and collecting, analyzing, distributing, and archiving relevant news about exotic plant pests. EPICA subscribers receive weekly notifications with worldwide coverage of plant pest events. EPICA offers a dedicated team of full-time analysts with expertise in entomology, plant pathology, weed science, and technical communication.

Key Words: Early warning, biosurveillance, safeguarding, exotic pest, plant pest, information

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