The temperate climate in the northeast region allows for a wide variety of agricultural crops to be grown in the region. The Northeast has a dubious distinction as the entry point to the United States for historically significant pathogens that caused white pine blister rust, chestnut blight, beech bark disease, and Dutch elm disease, and pests such as the Asian longhorned beetle, hemlock woolly adelgid, golden nematode, gypsy moth and sirex woodwasp. Economically-important crops grown primarily in the Northeast include fruits and vegetables, corn, soybean, alfalfa, ornamentals, and Christmas trees.

Regional Center Contact Information

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Protecting Agriculture and Natural Ecosystems in the Northeast

The mission of the NEPDN is to protect American agriculture and natural plant systems by facilitating early detection of pests and pathogens through outreach and education, performing rapid and accurate diagnoses, ensuring timely reporting, and supporting response through partnerships and coordinating surge capacity.
The National Plant Diagnostic Network

The National Plant Diagnostic Network is made up of five regional centers located at Cornell University (Northeast Plant Diagnostic Network), Kansas State University (Great Plains Diagnostic Network), Michigan State University (North Central Plant Diagnostic Network), University of California at Davis (Western Plant Diagnostic Network), and the University of Florida (Southern Plant Diagnostic Network). Diagnostic data collected in each region are stored and categorized at the NPDN National Repository located at Purdue University.

As the regional center, Cornell University provides training, guidance, and sample diagnosis for the region, as well as back-up for the four other NPDN regional centers. The NEPDN regional center also serves as the national leader for diagnostics, laboratory accreditation, and the national database within the network; provides direction when producing standard operating procedures and coordinating workshops with our USDA collaborators.

The NEPDN is a collaboration of experts in Plant Pathology, Entomology, Nematology, & Weed Science from land grant university plant diagnostic laboratories, as well as agencies and other federal stakeholders, in 12 states. Our experts provide diagnostic services, support, knowledge, and experience in performing diagnostic testing and analysis to determine the cause of plant problems and to report outbreaks to help safeguard our food, forests, and communities.

To accomplish our mission, the NPDN has

- invested in plant diagnostic laboratories infrastructure and training,
- developed an extensive network of First Detectors through education and outreach,
- enhanced communication among agencies and stakeholders responsible for responding to and managing new outbreaks.

Do you want to help in this effort? Visit http://cbc.at.ufl.edu/ and become a First Detector.

NEPDN Members

Connecticut—University of Connecticut
Connecticut Agricultural Experiment Station

Delaware—University of Delaware

Maine—University of Maine

Maryland—University of Maryland
Home & Garden Center

Massachusetts—University of Massachusetts

New Hampshire—University of New Hampshire

New Jersey—Rutgers University

New York—Cornell University
Plant Disease Diagnostic Clinic at Ithaca
Insect Diagnostic Laboratory at Ithaca
Long Island Hort. Research & Extension Center

Pennsylvania—Pennsylvania State University
Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture

Rhode Island—University of Rhode Island

Vermont—University of Vermont

West Virginia—West Virginia University
West Virginia Department of Agriculture