

Priorities for research and extension in the Southern Plant Diagnostic Network

(from the 2014 and 2016 SPDN regional meetings)

Improved PCR diagnostic methods for crown gall, *Xylella fastidiosa*, and phytoplasmas

Diagnostic protocols for virus groups (Potyvirus, Geminivirus, etc.) and RNA viruses

Development of positive control clones for PCR diagnostics for phytoplasmas, viruses, *Xylella*

Seed testing/plant indexing efforts for tropical plants

Development/dissemination of information relating to use of membranes for capturing diseased-plant sap in the field for PCR in labs.

Development of a universal evaluation tool for diagnostic services – for regional evaluation of network effectiveness

Updates and additions to the Pathogen Profiles

Updates and additions to the Bugwood Diagnosticians' WikiCookbook

Development of a diagnosticians' exchange network – one- or two-week stints in each other's labs to get ideas, share information, improve diagnostics

Working group or exercises to connect state and federal regulatory agency with our lab personnel – there has been a lot of turnover in both, and some of the connections have become tenuous

Webinars on data entry, use of the national data repository, LIMS updates, and reporting

Webinars on research and diagnostic updates