

**ANNUAL REPORT OF THE BSA CONSERVATION COMMITTEE**  
presented at The Botanical Society of America Council Meeting  
August, 2002, Madison, WI

At the request of President Judy Jernstedt, the Conservation Committee reviewed a proposal by the US Department of Agriculture, Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service to modify certain phytosanitary rules, a summary of which follows.

"SUMMARY: We are proposing to revise our regulations regarding the movement of plant pests by adding risk-based criteria for determining the plant pest status of organisms, establishing a notification process that could be used as an alternative to the current permitting system, providing for the environmental release of organisms for the biological control of weeds, and updating the text of the subpart. These proposed changes would clarify the factors that would be considered when assessing the plant pest risks associated with certain organisms, facilitate the importation and interstate movement of regulated organisms, and address gaps in the current regulations."

After reviewing the entire proposal, the Conservation Committee informed President Jernstedt that the proposed changes seemed relatively insignificant and should have a minor impact on the botanical community.

The Conservation Committee was not engaged in any other activities this year.

Submitted by:

Tom A. Ranker, Chair  
Conservation Committee, Botanical Society of America

26 July 2002