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SAMPLE SUBMISSION CHECKLIST FOR HIGH RISK PESTS

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- ✓ (Insect) Collect multiple samples of all life stages, if possible.
- ✓ (Insect) Collect intact specimens (not just body parts)
- ✓ Collect portion of the infested plant and briefly describe the symptoms or damage and the extent of symptoms or damage exhibited.
- ✓ Submit quality digital photos of symptoms/damage if possible
- ✓ Preserve and ship appropriately for the type of specimen
- ✓ A good sample includes all relevant plant parts, as well as healthy and infected tissue
- ✓ Wrap foliage in dry paper towels
- ✓ Wrap root ball in its own bag and seal around stem to prevent soil from contaminating leaves
- ✓ Place sample in a zip-lock bag and seal.
- ✓ Decontaminate the outside of your bags with an appropriate disinfectant. (70% ethanol is common, but there are others that work well)
- ✓ Place inside a second zip-lock bag and seal (always double bag specimens containing suspected exotic species and/or high risk pests)
- ✓ Place in a sturdy box
- ✓ Include complete sample submission form and accurate collection data (more information is better)
 - Where, when collected
 - Symptoms
 - Soil type
 - Chemicals/fertilizers history
- ✓ Decontaminate the shipping material and yourself with appropriate disinfectant
- ✓ Seal all seams of the box with shipping tape
- ✓ Ship via overnight mail or drive to designated diagnostic lab to deliver personally
- ✓ For suspected exotics, notify the diagnosticians and ship by next day delivery
- ✓ If you have questions about packaging or shipping, please contact the lab you plan to send your sample to; they will be able to give you specific guidance for your sample.