

## Proposed Recommendations

Recognizing that classical biological control plays an essential role in the suppression of invasive species in both natural and agricultural ecosystems, ISAC recommends that NISC agencies:

- 1 Develop transparent criteria to prioritize those invasive species for which classical biological control is the most cost-effective control option. For high priority invasive species provide sufficient resources to fully support the development, implementation and monitoring of classical biological control programs.
- 2 Identify and establish collaborations with local scientists in the country of origin to facilitate collection and shipment of new biological control agents in areas of limited accessibility (e.g., due to political instability).
- 3 Work with the International Organization for Biological Control of Noxious Animals and Plants Global Commission and the Convention on Biological Diversity (Nagoya Protocol) to exclude biological control agents from the list of organisms regulated by access and benefit sharing procedures.
- 4 Encourage APHIS and DHS to continue their efforts to streamline shipping and entry requirements for the importation of biological control agents approved for testing and/or quarantine rearing.
- 5 Institute a holistic ecological risk/benefit analysis in the regulatory decision-making process that assesses the threat, treatment options and benefits (economic, environmental, social, and cultural) of the release of biological control agents.
- 6 Establish a defined process and timeline for the approval or disapproval of requests to import and release a new imported biological control agents.
- 7 Improve communications regarding biological control decision-making among the TAG, APHIS and FWS and the classical biological control petitioner.
- 8 Review federal permitting requirements, such as the interstate movement of fully established classical biological control agents and associated host material and the movement of not fully established biological control agents with the aim of improving the implementation of biological control.