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Preserving a Healthy Fruit Crop Industry in the United States

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Introduction to these proceedings

On Saturday July 26, 1997, in Salt Lake City, Utah, the American Pomological Society, in collaboration with the Fruit Breeding Working Group and the Pomology Working Group of the American Society for Horticultural Science, presented a workshop entitled: A Healthy Fruit Crop Industry for North America. This workshop discussed the status of the United States Plant Germplasm Quarantine for temperate fruit crops. Kim E. Hummer, Research Leader, U. S. Department of Agriculture (USDA), Agricultural Research Service (ARS), National Clonal Germplasm Repository, introduced the topic and speakers and moderated the post-presentation discussion. Sally McCammon, Science Advisor for USDA Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) described the federal quarantine regulations for temperate fruit crops. Dave Weil, Tree Connection in Dundee, Oregon, presented the fruit industry perspective. Maxine Thompson, Professor Emeritus from Oregon State University, described her personal experiences in in-

troduction of foreign plant material for domestic research. John Hartung, Unit Leader for the USDA, ARS Plant Germplasm Quarantine Office (PGQO), described recent changes in administration at the Quarantine Unit. Suzanne Hurtt, Plant Pathologist, USDA, ARS PGQO, described procedures used at the laboratory during the past 10 years to test foreign fruit crops for exotic diseases. The final speaker, Gaylord Mink, presented a summary of the procedures used at the National Research Support Project-5 (NRSP-5), Prosser, Washington. This unit detects and eliminates viruses from deciduous fruit crop cultivars on a fee-based service. An hour of discussion with many questions from the audience followed the oral presentations.

We present the written reports from the speakers in a two-part series. The following includes the presentations from Kim Hummer, Dave Weil and Maxine Thompson, and the final summary points resulting from the audience discussion session. Reports from the remaining speakers will be published in a future volume.

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