



...Promoting a harmonized, risk-based systems approach to nursery and greenhouse certification

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## **Carl Schulze, Visionary Voice of the SANC Initiative, Retires**

December 2014

On December 1, SANC Initiative co-chair and our friend Carl Schulze entered a new chapter in his life, retiring from the New Jersey Dept. of Agriculture. Carl spent more than 33 years with his Department, the last 13+ years as Plant Industry Division Director. During his tenure as president of the National Plant Board, Carl, along with Gray Haun, guided the initiation of the SANC program. Through his able leadership, the SANC concept grew from a Farm Bill suggestion to a funded National Plant Board, Industry and USDA collaborative project with a real life pilot certification program beginning this fall. Carl's vast plant pest management and nursery production background and his unique ability to engage groups with diverse perspectives, have allowed the SANC initiative to deal with challenging issues and build a strong leadership team. Through the early days of the SANC initiative Carl was famous for saying that plant certification under a systems approach "is not a sea change" but simply a better alternative for using resources and expertise to produce and certify pest-free plant material. That philosophy continues to be a driving goal in the SANC program. We want to express our appreciation and best wishes to Carl for his leadership with the SANC program and look forward to Carl's continuing input (but only when he feels like it!)

Carl Schulze has passed the SANC baton to Dana Rhodes, who now joins Gray Haun on the leadership team. Dana, Pennsylvania's State Plant Regulatory Official, has served on the SANC compliance agreement sub-committee, chairs a taskforce to refine SANC audit documents, and is assisting with the SANC pilot at a PA facility.



<http://sanc.nationalplantboard.org>