Texas A&M Agriculture
Research, Teaching, Extension

**RESEARCH:**  The Texas Agricultural Experiment Station

Dr. Elsa Murano
Director

Dr. Mark Hussey
Associate Director for Programs

Dr. Bill Dugas
Associate Director for Operations

**TEACHING:**  College of Agriculture & Life Sciences

Dr. Elsa Murano
Dean

Dr. Gene Nelson
Executive Associate Dean

**EXTENSION:**  Texas Cooperative Extension

Dr. Ed Smith
Director

Dr. Roland Smith
Associate Director
Steps in Successful Problem Solving

I. **Identify the problem.**

“Pierce’s Disease is detrimental to viticulture, and can have a devastating effect on grape and wine production in Texas.”

- **Microbiology**
  - *Xylella fastidiosa*

- **Entomology**
  - Glassy winged sharpshooter

- **Horticultural Science**
Steps in Successful Problem Solving

II. **Develop project to address it.**
   - **Establish:**
     - Goals
     - Objectives
     - Specific action steps
     - Timeline
     - Deliverables
   - **Identify needed expertise and materials.**
   - **Obtain resources.**
Steps in Successful Problem Solving

III. Manage the Project.

- Contractual Responsibility to funding agency (APHIS) to:
  - Pursue stated goals and objectives.
  - Progress according to agreed upon milestones.
  - Use funds according to approved budget.
- Project leader to coordinate, facilitate, and communicate.
Project Management

Project Leader
Dr. Kevin Heinz

- Dr. Tim Davis (Horticulture)
- Dr. Dennis Gross (Plant Pathology & Microbiology)
- Dr. Kevin Heinz (Entomology)

Principal Investigators and Extension Specialists

Contractual Oversight
Dr. Mark Hussey (TAES) and Dr. Roland Smith (TCE)
Communication is Key…

- **Internal**
  - Between researchers and Extension specialists (plant pathologists, entomologists, horticulturists, etc.)

- **External**
  - With funding agency (APHIS).
  - With stakeholders.
  - With other partners.
Pierce’s Disease Advisory Group

- **What We Need From You**
  - Advise on delivered information:
    - Relevance of it, and delivery.
  - Advise on how to access:
    - Facilities, growers, etc.

- **What You Need From Us**
  - Solutions in a timely manner.
Let’s Keep the Main Thing the Main Thing…

To control Pierce’s Disease and hopefully eradicate it from Texas!