

PEST ALERT!



EXOTIC PLANT PEST



Subject: Salinas Slug (*Shadie obeastonii*)

Background:

This slimy, destructive pest is believed to be a natural mutation and has been causing damage to Orchid Societies around the world for many years.

Distribution:

The pest originated in New Zealand but its destructive and erratic behavior led to its elimination in that country. It has now spread to rural California and is seeking new horizons. There have been occasional sightings in other regions, although it is rarely seen in the eastern USA following the damage it has caused there previously.

Unfortunately the pest is successful at camouflaging itself and has spread to the internet. Online it appears as being so much better than it is in reality.

Damage and risk potential:

As attested to by its large size, this pest has a voracious appetite and will do anything to advance itself. It is extremely unpredictable in its behavior and exhibits severe psychological disturbances. Growers are warned to approach the pest with caution as it has an acid tongue and frequently exhibits its wrath and vindictiveness. The pest is actually quite cowardly and like other invertebrates, lacks a backbone.

Industry Response:

Ignore this pest's poisonous and defamatory ravings. It is one of nature's losers.