

Protecting our Borders

The rise in global trade and travel has resulted in increased opportunity for invasive pests to cross national borders, and even the ocean! These pests can cause damage to our crops and forests, resulting in economic and environmental consequences.

Identifying insect pests by appearance alone can be difficult even for experts, especially when looking at eggs or larvae. Fortunately, DNA barcoding can provide rapid and accurate identification of unknown specimens, enhancing our ability to monitor pests and protect our crops and forests.

What is a DNA barcode?

Every species on the planet has its own unique barcode written in its DNA, like every product on a store shelf. And like those barcodes, this small piece of DNA can be used to identify unknown specimens.

For more information about how DNA barcoding can help advance research visit:

ibol.org biodiversitygenomics.net

