



INFORMATIONAL MEMORANDUM FOR THE COOPERATIVE AGRICULTURAL PEST SURVEY (CAPS) COMMUNITY

United States
Department of
Agriculture

Animal and Plant
Health Inspection
Service

Plant Protection and
Quarantine

Emergency and
Domestic Programs

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THROUGH: National CAPS Committee

FROM: John Bowers, National Program Manager, Cooperative Agricultural Pest Survey (CAPS)

SUBJECT: CAPS Data Management for 2012

ISSUE

JB
12/7/11

This notice is to inform you of the decision by the Pest Detection / CAPS Management Team to use NAPIS for data management in 2012.

SUMMARY

Based on the current status of the Integrated Plant Health Information System (IPHIS), the Pest Detection / CAPS Management Team decided that all data from Pest Detection and CAPS surveys will be entered into the National Agricultural Pest Information System (NAPIS) in 2012. State cooperators will continue to enter data into NAPIS as in past years. Data from PPQ surveys conducted with Pest Detection funding will be given to the state cooperator to enter into NAPIS, also as in past years. Data management for surveys with other line item funding should follow the guidance of the respective Program. Required functionality in IPHIS to support the CAPS Program needs to be in place by October 1, 2012. A decision on data management for 2013 will be made at that time.

BACKGROUND

On the September 1, 2011, National CAPS Committee (NCC) conference call, and printed in the [minutes to that call](#), a detailed explanation was presented on the structure of IPHIS as it relates to functionality required by the CAPS Program, and what development in IPHIS was needed to begin to support the CAPS Program. Concepts needed to be developed into functionality so that processes could be tested to ensure that they would work in the manner envisioned. In essence, certain projects were not completed by the November 1 deadline. At this late date in the year, there is no time left for further development, testing, and deployment before the 2012 survey season begins. Therefore, data from Pest Detection and CAPS surveys will be entered into NAPIS in 2012.



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What does this mean for you? For our state cooperators, data will be entered into NAPIS as in previous years. There is no change in policy in this regard. For PPQ surveys with Pest Detection funding, data from all surveys will be given to the state cooperator for entry into NAPIS, regardless of the data collection mechanism (i.e., IPHIS). This, also, is standard practice as in previous years. Data management for surveys conducted with other line item funding is under the guidance of the particular programs. However, as yet, there is no electronic communication between IPHIS and NAPIS. If survey data is to appear on the Pest Tracker outreach site at county level, then that data will need to be given to the state cooperator to enter into NAPIS. The Pest Tracker website, and accompanying survey maps, draws data only from NAPIS.

We provided detailed descriptions of data management needs to IPHIS developers. We gave them a due date of October 1, 2012 for IPHIS to have been tested and approved by us for use in CAPS during the 2013 survey season. Once we have had a chance to evaluate whether the necessary functionalities have been incorporated into IPHIS, a decision will be made on whether to use NAPIS or IPHIS for 2013. More detailed information will be forthcoming in the near future, and will be discussed at the Annual NCC Meeting in late January.