



# National CAPS Committee Annual Meeting FY26 Planning and Discussion S&T updates

Leah Granke, PPQ S&T, PD CFWG  
Colin Funaro, PPQ S&T, CAPS Support (ad hoc)  
contact: [stcaps@usda.gov](mailto:stcaps@usda.gov)  
March 10, 2026



Thank you, Colin!

# FY26 Additions to NPPL

**Common Name:** Witches' broom of lime

**Scientific Name:** '*Ca. Phytoplasma citri*'

**Hosts:** key lime, other citrus

**OPEP rating:** High (1A)

**Introduction:** infected propagative materials (rootstock, cuttings), but Citrus is NAPPRA for all plant parts except seeds;

'*Ca. P. citri*' is not seed transmitted

**Spread:** grafting, vectors - *Hishimonus phycitis* or Asian citrus psyllid



UGA0746027

J.M. Bove, INRA Centre de Recherches de Bordeaux, Bugwood.org

Method	Detail	NAPIS Survey Method
Visual	Collect symptomatic plant material, if present.	3031 - General Visual Observation

**Endangered area:**

Citrus-producing states

**Time of Year to Survey:**

Summer

**Survey Design:**

Visually inspect host plants throughout the survey site for symptoms such as witches' broom, reduced flowering and fruiting, and the general decline of the tree. Collect symptomatic leaves for sample screening.

**ID/Diagnostic:**

Molecular. Labs can screen own samples if trained by PPCDL

**Mistaken Identities:**

Citrus greening (doesn't cause witches broom)

other citrus phytoplasmas – none are known in CONUS

# FY26 Additions to NPPL

**Common Name:** European pear sucker

**Scientific Name:** *Cacopsylla pyri*

**Host:** pear

**OPEP rating:** High (1B)

**Introduction:** infested seedlings

**Spread:** natural dispersal from orchards to overwintering site. Weak fliers, but can be spread on wind currents.



European pear sucker summer-form adult  
(Source: NIAB East Malling, UK)

Method	Detail	NAPIS Survey Method
Trap	304 - Sticky Card, Yellow, Hard Glue	3001 - General Trapping Procedure
Visual	beat sampling	3031 - General Visual Observation
Trap	43 - Sticky Card, Yellow	3001 - General Trapping Procedure

**Endangered Area:**

Pear orchards in PHZ 6-9

**Target Life Stage:**

Adult, primarily, but all life stages could be identified.

**Time of Year to Survey:**

April and September

**ID/Diagnostic:**

Morphological ID. Confirmation may require dissection of adult genitalia or molecular ID

**Mistaken Identities:**

*Cacopsylla pyricola*, which is common in the United States, is often mistaken for *C. pyri* due to their similar appearance, feeding habits, and behavior in pear orchards

<https://approvedmethods.ceris.purdue.edu/sheet/2121>

# FY26 Additions to NPPL

## Select Agent

**Common Name:** Red leaf blotch of soy

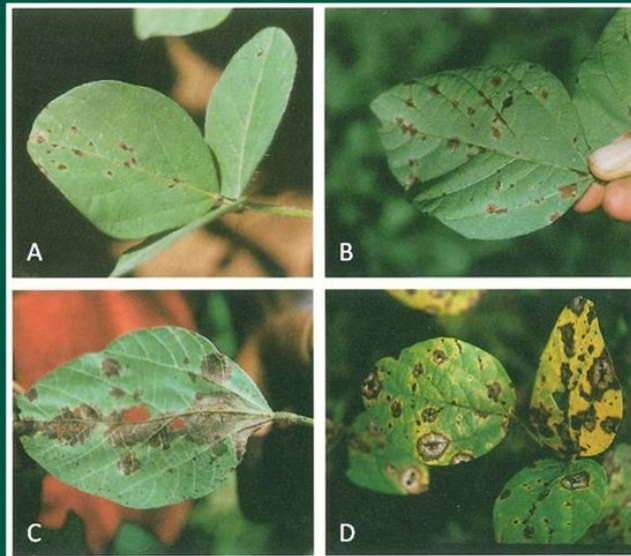
**Scientific Name:** *Coniothyrium glycines*

**Host:** soybean

**OPEP rating:** Mod (1D)

**Introduction:** transport of infected soybean plant materials (pods, debris) or contaminated soil

**Spread:** contaminated soil



Red leaf blotch symptoms on leaves (Source: Glen Hartman)

Method	Detail	NAPIS Survey Method
Visual	Sample symptomatic plant material	3031 - General Visual Observation

## Endangered area:

TX, LA, MI, AL, GA, SC highest risk (PHZ 10-13 soybean production)

## Time of Year to Survey:

Flowering to full seed set, before leaves brown

## Survey Design:

Walk fields focusing on areas with high humidity (low areas of the field, densely planted areas) or areas that are showing foliar symptoms of disease or premature defoliation. Will be unevenly distributed in the field. If present, surveyors should preferably collect severely infected green leaves to maximize the chance of identification.

## ID/Diagnostic:

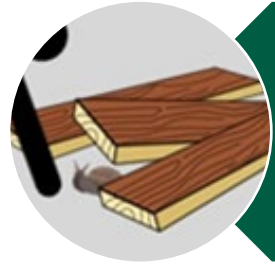
Real-time PCR. Suspect positives need to go to PPCDL & follow Select Agent guidelines

## Mistaken Identities:

Similar to other fungal diseases, especially early symptoms

# FY26 Change to NPPL

## Terrestrial Snails & Slugs at:



Shipping Containers  
ports of entry, material  
warehouses, and rail yards



Plant Production  
greenhouses, nurseries,  
produce & cut-flower  
importer warehouses  
&/or markets



Previous find(s)  
sites with previous known  
incursions

Method	Detail	NAPIS Survey Method
Visual	Visual survey with supplemental trapping as resources allow.	3031 - General Visual Observation

### Visual Survey

Survey microhabitats most likely to harbor snails and slugs. Use flashlights and check the undersides of objects or structures for mollusks or slime trails. Do not survey in non-habitat areas contained within the survey site (e.g., in bodies of water, in paved areas). Look for snails or slugs of interest and physical signs of snail or slug presence such as feeding damage on plants and mucus, slime trails, or ribbon-like feces on and around hosts.

### Trapping (supplement to visual survey)

Platform traps (baited or unbaited) act as artificial daytime refuges that attract snails and slugs for easier collection.

### ID/Diagnostics

Collect several of the largest specimens available and mail them to the Malacology lab in PA

## Single, simple datasheet listing target taxa and photos (showing 2 of 8 pages below)

CAPS Datasheets provide pest-specific information to support planning and completing early detection surveys.



### Terrestrial Snails and Slugs Datasheet




#### Survey and Key Diagnostics

##### Approved Methods for Pest Surveillance\*:

For the current approved methods and guidance for survey and identification, see Approved Methods for Pest Surveillance (AMPS) pest page on the CAPS Resource and Collaboration website, at <https://approvedmethods.ceris.purdue.edu/>. These terrestrial snail and slug taxa are targeted in [Plant Production](#), [Previous Finds](#), and [Shipping Container](#) pathway-based surveys.

Table 1. Targeted Terrestrial Slugs or Semi-slugs

Targeted Taxa	Images
<p><i>Arion</i> spp.</p> <p><i>A. ater ater</i></p> <p><i>A. ater rufus</i></p> <p><i>A. ater ruber</i></p> <p><i>A. vulgaris</i></p> <p>potential hybrids</p>	 <p><i>A. ater</i> (Source: Charles J. Sharp, <a href="#">CC-4.0</a>)</p>  <p><i>A. ater rufus</i> (Source: Guillaume Brocker, <a href="#">CC-3.0</a>)</p>

Targeted Taxa	Images
<p>Veronicellidae</p> <p><i>Laevicaulis alte</i></p> <p><i>Sarasinula</i> spp.</p> <p><i>Semperula</i> spp.</p> <p><i>Veronicella</i> spp.</p> <p><i>Leidyula</i> spp.</p> <p><i>Belocaulus angustipes</i></p>	 <p><i>L. alte</i> (Source: Michal Mañas, <a href="#">CC-2.5</a>)</p>  <p><i>V. cubensis</i> (Source: D. Robinson, USDA-APHIS-PPQ)</p>
<p>Parmarion spp.</p> <p><i>P. martensi</i></p> <p><i>P. intermedius</i></p>	 <p><i>P. martensi</i> (Source: Adiel Balanza, <a href="#">CC-4.0</a>)</p>

# Green bucket traps

Species	Common Name	Family	Approved Traps
<i>Autographa gamma</i>	Silver Y moth	Noctuidae	Tri-colored bucket trap
<i>Chrysodeixis chalcites</i>	Golden twin spot moth	Noctuidae	Tri-colored bucket trap
<i>Cryptoblabes gnidiella</i>	Christmas berry webworm	Pyralidae	Plastic Bucket Trap Wing Trap Kit – Paper Wing Trap Kit - Plastic
<i>Cydalima perspectalis</i>	Box tree moth	Crambidae	<b>All-green bucket trap</b> Large Plastic Delta Trap Kit - Red Tri-colored bucket trap
<i>Helicoverpa armigera</i>	Old World bollworm	Noctuidae	<b>All-green bucket trap</b> Heliothis Trap Tri-colored bucket trap
<i>Panolis flammea</i>	Pine beauty moth	Noctuidae	Tri-colored bucket trap
<i>Spodoptera litura</i>	Cotton cutworm	Noctuidae	Tri-colored bucket trap

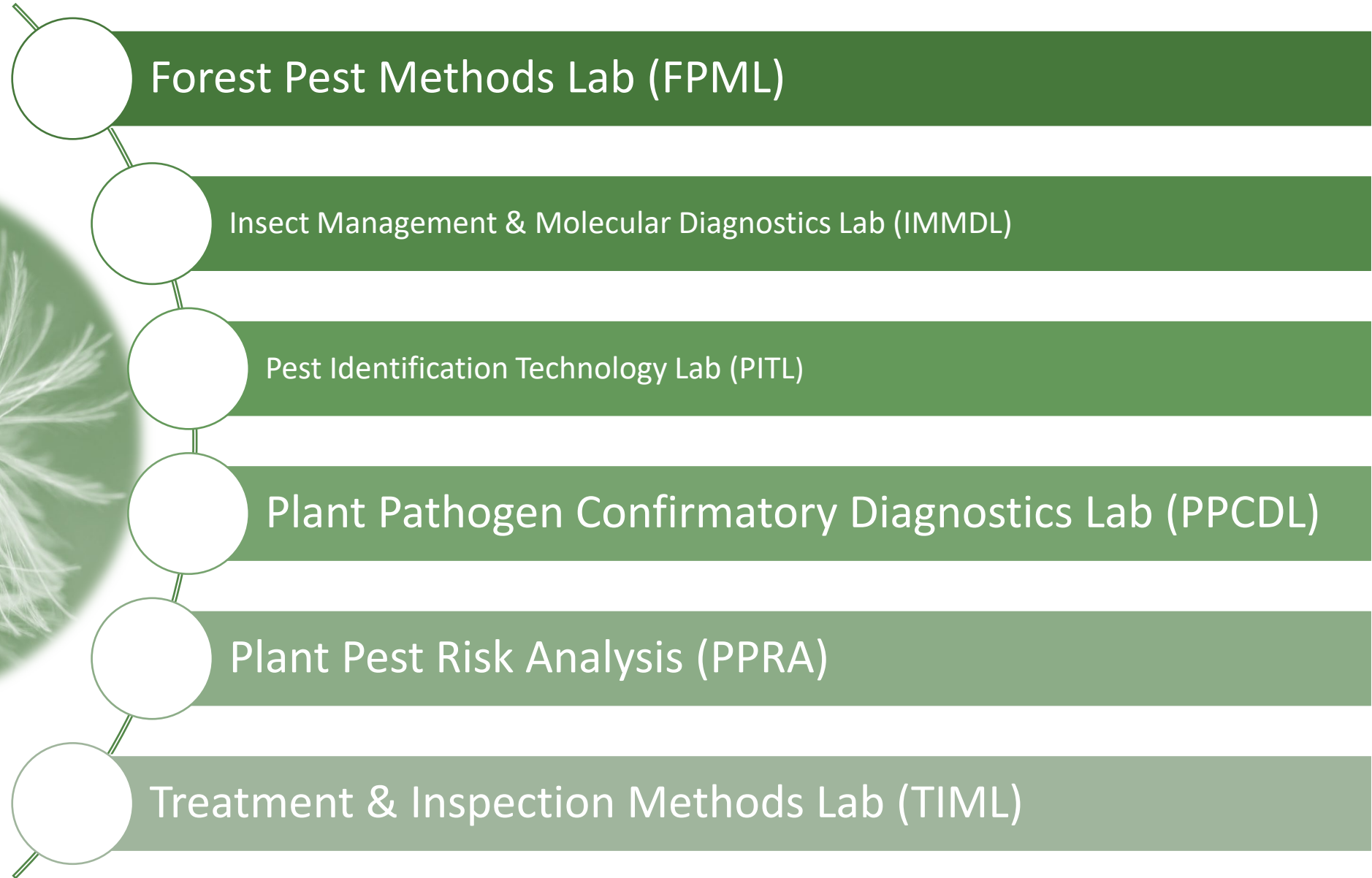
**As a general guideline, tri-colored bucket traps catch more moths than all-green bucket traps**

- But, all-green traps will catch some moths
- A similar trend has been observed for non-target species

**Proposal:** update AMPS to include All-green bucket traps for these species with a disclaimer that notes that research on related moths has shown tri-color bucket traps are more effective at catching moths, but all-green bucket traps may be used in areas where tri-color bucket traps are deemed unsuitable by surveyors



# Science & Technology Overview



# FY25 S&T accomplishments

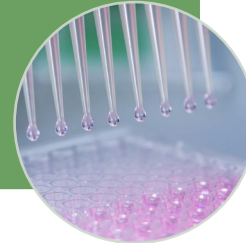
- Produced 76,000 specialized, non-commercial insect lures for 30 insect species for Survey Supply
- Provide survey methods support QC, expertise

Forest Pest  
Methods Lab  
(FPML)



- Conducted 283 molecular diagnostic tests for two-spot cotton leafhopper

Insect Management &  
Molecular Diagnostics  
Lab (IMMDL)



- Tested collection methods for two-spot cotton leafhopper to inform AMPS & screening aid
- Processed 61,103 suspected OWB specimens
- Processed citrus fruit borer specimens

Pest Identification  
Technology Lab (PITL)



# FY25 S&T accomplishments

- New groundnut bud necrosis virus diagnostic assay
- Tested new diagnostic method for ToBRFV
- New method for phytoplasmas that will increase diagnostic capacity
- New method for *X. oryzae* that can discriminate exotic pathovars from domestic strains

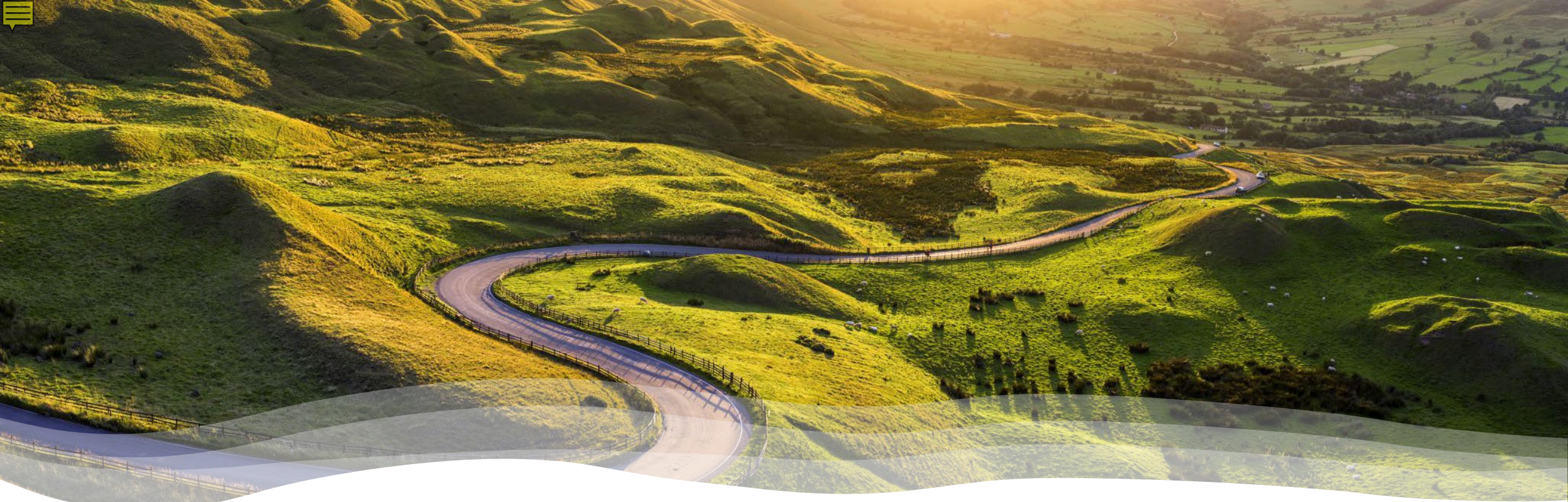
Plant Pathogen  
Confirmatory  
Diagnostics Lab  
(PPCDL)



- 25 OPEP assessments
- 6 survey & diagnostic assessments
- 13 datasheets (new or updated)
- 5 new & 2 updated CAPS Maps

Plant Pest Risk  
Analysis (PPRA)





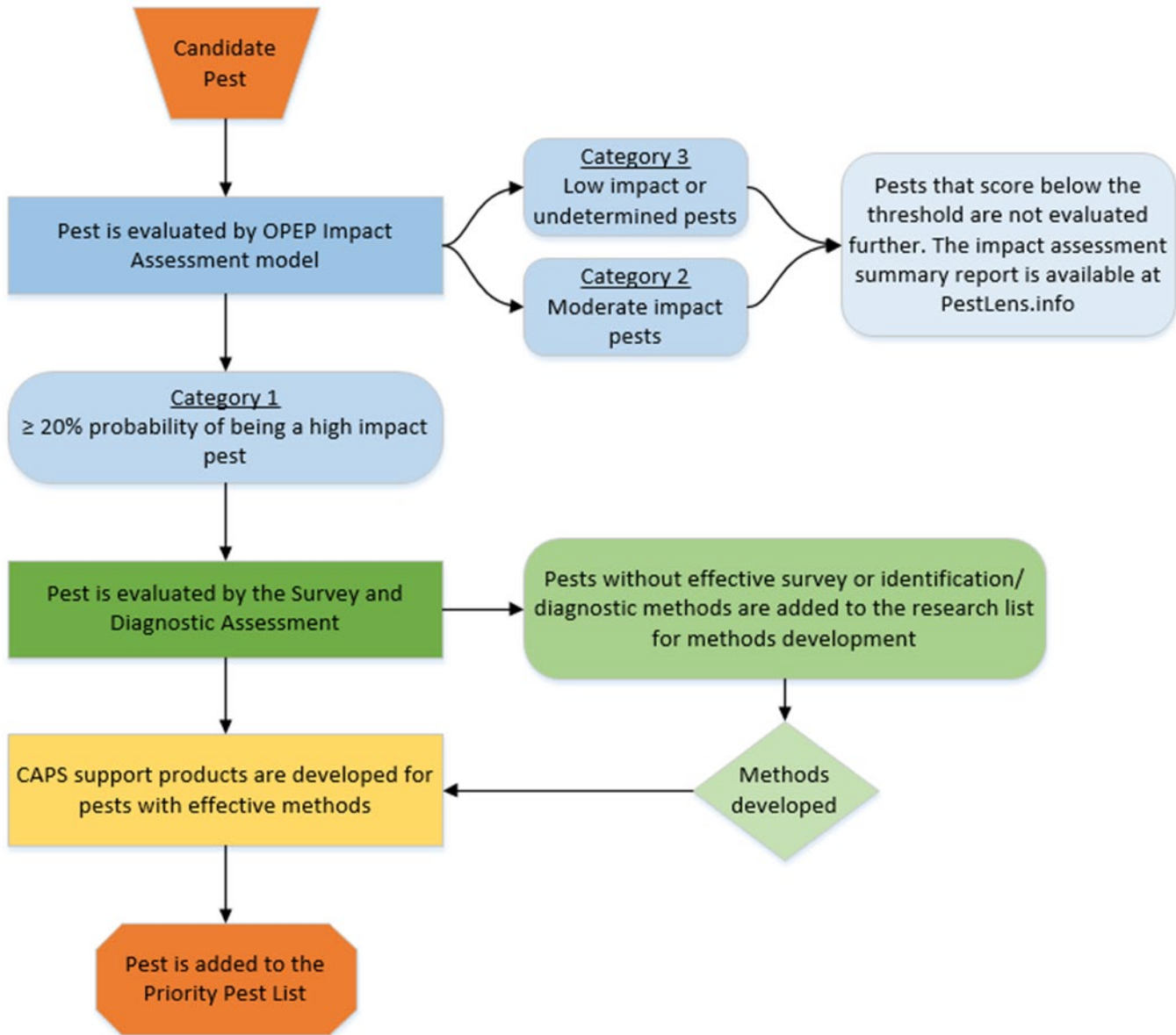
# Feedback & Questions



# National CAPS Committee Annual Meeting FY26 Planning and Discussion FY27 Additions

Leah Granke, PPQ S&T, PD CFWG  
Colin Funaro, PPQ S&T, CAPS Support  
contact: [stcaps@usda.gov](mailto:stcaps@usda.gov)  
March 11, 2026

# How to Submit a NPP candidate



- Candidate pests come from:
  - PPQ scientists
  - Colleagues overseas
  - Scanning the literature
  - Scanning online: [PestLens](https://pestlens.info)
  - YOU!!!

We can only assess pests that we hear about

Submit pest suggestions to [stcaps@usda.gov](mailto:stcaps@usda.gov)

# Reminder – how to access OPEP

The screenshot shows the PestLens website interface. At the top left is the PestLens logo. The main navigation bar includes links for Roles, Search, In Other News, Contribute, My PestLens, Enter Actions, Reports (which is expanded), About, Profile, Contact, and Log Out. The expanded Reports menu lists: Admin PAGES Report, NPAG Recommendations, Action Groups, Feedback Report, Analytical Reports by Group (highlighted), Analytical Reports by Pest, OPEP List, Summary Report, and Website Statistics. The main content area is titled 'Analytical Reports by Group' and features two date input fields and a 'Set Dates' button. Below this is a section for 'PAGES Groups' with a dropdown menu set to 'Choose Selection' and a note: 'If no results are returned please try adjusting the date range above'. A 'Return to top' link is at the bottom left.

## Analytical Reports by Group

Show statistics for the time between

### PAGES Groups

Select a group to view any available reports:

If no results are returned please try adjusting the date range above

The 'Available PAGES Reports' section includes a search bar and a filter instruction: 'start typing to filter the search results'. It lists several reports with their titles, pest names, completion dates, and report links:

- Objective Prioritization of Exotic Pests**  
Pest: [Oryza chinensis \(Chinese Grasshopper\)](#)  
Completed Date: 06/25/2025  
Report(s): [Oryza chinensis OPEP IA Summary 20250625.pdf](#)
- Leucinodes cordalis (Eggfruit Caterpillar)**  
Completed Date: 05/01/2025  
Report(s): [Leucinodes cordalis OPEP Summary 20250501.pdf](#)
- Potyvirus citrullimoroccense (Moroccan Watermelon Mosaic Virus)**  
Completed Date: 05/01/2025  
Report(s): [MWMV OPEP IA summary 20250501.pdf](#)
- Fusarium xylarioides (Coffee Wilt)**  
Completed Date: 05/01/2025  
Report(s): [Fusarium xylarioides OPEP IA Summary 20250501.pdf](#)
- Sternochetus mangiferae (Mango Seed Weevil)**  
Completed Date: 01/16/2025  
Report(s): [Sternochetus mangiferae OPEP IA Summary 20250116.pdf](#)



<b>CAPS Category</b>	<b>Risk Group</b>	<b>Risk Group Definition</b>
1	A	Categorized as high impact -&- Minimum value for 95% CI around high impact is > 50%
1	B	Categorized as high impact -&- Minimum value for 95% CI around high impact is ≤ 50%
1	C	Probability of high and moderate impact is within 10% of each other
1	D	Categorized as moderate impact -&- Probability of high impact > 20%
2	E	Categorized as moderate impact -&- **Has potential to cause high impact (based on assessment answers) <b>-OR-</b> Categorized as moderate impact -&- Maximum value for 95% CI around high impact is > 50%
2	F	Categorized as moderate impact -&- Excluding those that fit in Risk Groups 'D','E', and 'G'
2	G	Probability of moderate and low impact is within 10% of each other
3	H	Categorized as low impact -&- Maximum value for 95% CI around high impact is > 10%
3	I	Categorized as low impact -&- Maximum value for 95% CI around high impact is ≤ 10%
3	J	Categorized as low impact -&- Organism is not causing damage in native area and has not been introduced elsewhere (i.e. not appropriate for OPEP model evaluation)



# FY27 Addition Sunflower broomrape



*O. cumana* emerged aboveground  
(Amri, 2012)

**Common Name:** Sunflower broomrape

**Scientific Name:** *Orobanche cumana*

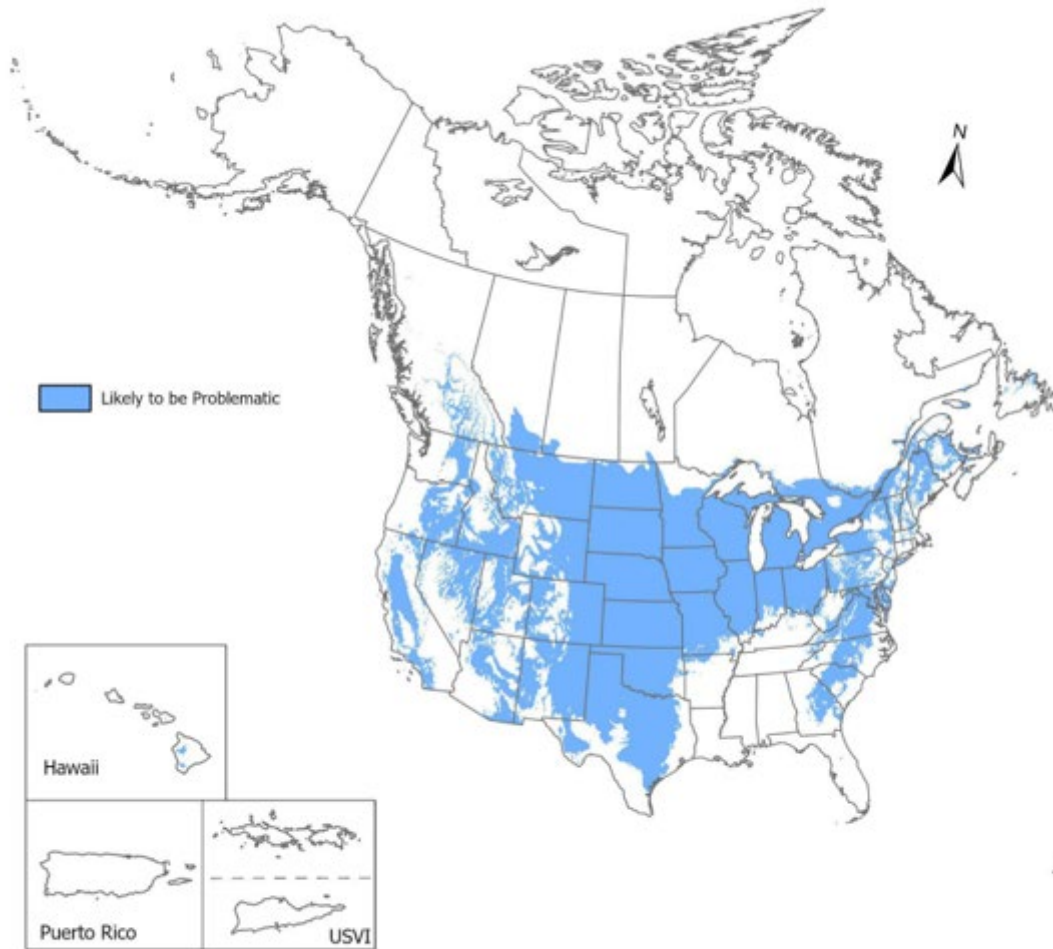
**Host:** Sunflower (major host), *Artemisia* spp. (wild host)

**Distribution:** Europe (France, Germany, Greece, Italy, Bulgaria, Euro Russia, Ukraine), Asia (Afghanistan, Armenia, Azerbaijan, China, India, Iran, Israel, Kazakhstan, Nepal, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Uzbekistan). Native to parts of Asia.

## Why we considered this for addition to the NPPL:

- High risk of becoming weedy or invasive in the U.S. (WRA, not OPEP)
- Most of the U.S. has suitable environmental conditions for the weed, but areas where sunflowers are commercially produced would be most at risk
- Parasitic plant that can cause yield losses of 50%+, decreased oil content
- Reproduces by seed (mostly self-pollinating)
  - Seeds persist in soil up to 10-20 years (eradication challenging)
- Dispersal:
  - Wind
  - Water
  - Possibly animals (either through ingestion or externally)
  - Humans: vehicles, machinery, as contaminant of sunflower seed

Regions Where *Orobanche cumana* is Likely to be Problematic



**Proposed Survey Method:** visual survey. Sunflowers may show reduced vigor, stunting, and chlorosis to assist survey location within a field.

**Identification Method:** morphological ID of mature plants with flowers

*Note: non-native Orobanche species are regulated as Federal Noxious Weeds*



Morphological appearance of *O. cumana* (Masliiov, 2018)

**Figure** Regions of the United States and Canada (shown in light blue) where *Orobanche cumana* is likely to become problematic (i.e., become virulent and cause crop losses). This model evaluated environmental conditions where this species has been reported to be problematic elsewhere and identified similar conditions in the United States and Canada.