



National CAPS Committee (NCC) Conference Call

July 7, 2011

Minutes

Participants

John Bowers	Julie Van Meter	Helmuth Rogg	Joel Floyd
Matt Royer	Brad Lewis	Kathy Handy	Valerie Defeo
Brian Kopper	Joe Collins	Lisa Jackson	Terrence Walters
Kristian Rondeau	Avi Eitam	Talitha Molet	
Rick Zink	Chris Pierce	Melinda Sullivan	
Joel Bard	Kay Kromm*	John Crowe	
Vicki Smith	Beth Long	Eileen Luke	

* for Laurinda Ramonda

CAPS 101 Update

Kay Kromm (SSC, NE) has taken the lead on the CAPS 101 project. She currently is cataloguing documents and topics that have been sent to her and/or have been posted on the CAPS 101 organic groups site (<http://caps.ceris.purdue.edu/node/210>). If anyone has anything to include for the CAPS 101 project, add a comment or post a document to the CAPS 101 group site. If you have trouble accessing the site, adding a comment, or posting a document, contact the folks at Purdue at napis@ceris.purdue.edu for assistance.

Stone Fruit Outreach & Survey

Display, Brochure, and Pest Sheets

This is a reminder that the stone fruit display is available and ready to be shipped out for outreach activities for whoever would like to use it. The printed brochures are now ready as well. The datasheets are going through clearance for one last check by the Deputy Administrator before they are finalized. Once this is complete, both paper copies and PDF files will be available for future outreach opportunities. A page on the CAPS R&C site is being developed to house the electronic versions. Contact John (john.bowers@aphis.usda.gov) if you or your state wants to use the display so shipping arrangements can be made. Texas has requested the display for a week in August, and again for the Texas State Fair at the end of September, so get your requests in soon.

Commodity Reference Document Posted for Review

The Stone Fruit Commodity Reference document has been posted to the CAPS site for review (http://caps.ceris.purdue.edu/survey_manuals). Thoughtful comments and suggestions are essential to improving the commodity documents. Please send comments and/or edits to Melinda (melinda.j.sullivan@aphis.usda.gov). Comments will be accepted in any format. Melinda has received some comments back from identifiers. These are currently not in the

Note: A reminder to the NCC, please distribute CAPS updates, conference-call minutes, and other CAPS-related information to the constituency that you represent in a timely manner. Also, please bring their items, issues, concerns, and opinions back to the NCC for discussion. It is our responsibility that everyone is kept engaged in the CAPS program.



document posted for review, but will be included in the next version. The Stone Fruit Survey Guidelines will be posted for review within the next couple of weeks.

Budget Update

There has been nothing finalized for FY12 yet, although it can be assumed that the coming year will be difficult. It is unknown as of now how the final budget will affect PPQ and the Pest Detection line item. The APHIS Administrator, Dr. Greg Parham, had this message; “To meet the challenges we’re facing ahead, we cannot continue operating as we have done in the past. We must focus on our core mission areas, find efficiencies, and streamline processes. We will need to restructure certain parts of our organization and find ways to cut costs.” The House of Representatives Agricultural Appropriations Subcommittee has passed a bill that has an approximately \$700,000 cut for Pest Detection from what was funded in FY11. However, the Senate must also debate and pass its version of an FY2012 Appropriations Act that will then go to conference committee to work out any differences, and the President will then either sign the appropriations or veto it. The budget is still in the very early stages and it is not known how this will translate to the CAPS program and cooperative agreements with states. John will keep the group informed of any news.

Farm Bill Suggestions and CAPS Work Plans

There is no news yet on how to proceed with projects for Farm Bill funding in FY12. The process likely will be different from the process in FY11. The CAPS community may need to start looking at regional deficiencies, taxonomic weaknesses, etc., and determine what their priorities are.

Farm Bill and CAPS proposals need to be kept separate. As far as 2012 CAPS work plans and cooperative agreements go, whatever deadlines have been communicated still apply (work plans are due to the PPQ Regions by August 15). States need to wait for further direction regarding the Farm Bill.

Lucid Tools

There recently have been various Lucid tools that have been published. The NCC needs to determine if there is anything in this venue or format that could benefit the CAPS program. Terrence Walters (CPHST, CO) addressed those on the call and expressed an interest in directly supporting the CAPS program. The goal of this collaboration would be to develop something that could be used for the CAPS program. This could be a new platform to manage CAPS tools, ID technologies, documents, images, etc. A database system may be useful if that is what is needed to deliver a product. This could be used to populate factsheets, screening aids, image galleries, keys, and other materials. The first tool with an image database behind it has recently been developed for mollusks.

Terrence is working on a webinar for the NCC to show examples of what technologies are available that could benefit the CAPS program. NCC members should email their thoughts to



John and Terrence (terrence.w.walters@aphis.usda.gov) on how the CPHST group can support CAPS. Questions to ask are; what is not being delivered that you need, what they would you like to see, what other technologies, navigation, and/or functionalities would be helpful, what specific format would be preferred, and what taxon or commodity support would be the most help. This will help Terrence set up the webinar to address these questions. A special NCC webinar will be scheduled in about one month's time.

IPHIS Update

John, Kristian, and Brian are still working with the IPHIS team to prepare for Pest detection/CAPS data. There are still a lot of questions on functionalities. IPHIS is not quite ready for what CAPS requires. The group wants to make sure that the functionality is there, that it will not be a burden to enter data, and that the process is streamlined. The CAPS community needs to determine what data should be collected to successfully run the program on a national, regional, and state level. Data from Pest Detection/CAPS funded surveys should not to be entered into IPHIS this year. John will keep the NCC informed.

There have been some bugs with the notification processes in IPHIS. All notifications in/from IPHIS have been discontinued until further notice so that the cause can be corrected and safeguards put in place. If your state is having any problems with IPHIS, it needs to be reported to the help desk immediately so the issues can be logged and resolved.

CAPS Data

John sent out a spreadsheet for the NCC and their constituency to review dealing with a reduced number of data entry fields than presently in IPHIS that will be used to collect data. So far the response has been favorable, but there are still some more discussions to take place. If there is any data field that is not in the spreadsheet that you think should be, please let John know.

At the same time, the group thinks it would be beneficial to collect records for every activity instead of an abbreviated activity record. Some of the states would like to collect data every time an activity occurs (changing lures, taking samples, etc.). This information is not necessarily needed at the national level, but it may be desired at the state/local level. There may a certain amount of minimal activity that will need to be entered; if states want to do more, then that will be fine. As with the specific data fields necessary, the activity record is still under discussion.

Clarification is still needed for negative data validation in IPHIS based on our approved methods. Negative data will have to be actively entered, not just assumed to be negative in the absence of a positive. States will have to decide if a person will have the authority to determine in the field if a trap is negative when that trap is monitored or a lure changed. If so, there needs to be a way to enter that data without generating a sample. Otherwise, negative (and positive) data will be determined through the usual means.



ISIS

ISIS will be shut down at close of business on July 29. You will not be able to retrieve any data after this date. If there are data in ISIS that you want either downloaded or put into IPHIS, call the IPHIS help desk for assistance.

Survey Supplies

Trap Assembly Video

John Crowe is working on an initiative to make trap assembly videos. If there are certain traps the group is interested in, let John know (john.f.crowe@aphis.usda.gov). He already has received requests for panel traps and wing traps. NCC members should talk to their constituency and email John with any other suggestions. Individuals interested in helping with the trap assembly videos should also contact John.

Farm Bill Supplies

NCC members should remind their constituency to fill out the Farm Bill Supplemental Survey Appendix, which can be found on the CAPS R&C site at <http://caps.ceris.purdue.edu/node/51>, for all Farm Bill-funded surveys. Also if you need anything for survey supplies, let John know.

MSDS

MSDS sheets are available on the Survey Supplies SharePoint site. SCCs should be requesting these from their PSSs. A suggestion was made to add MSDS sheets to the CAPS site. This will be considered.

NCC Action Items

Next month's NCC call will be a webinar to review the action items from the NCC meeting in Raleigh. Action items are posted on the CAPS site. NCC members should review these and be able to give an update on the next call. The NCC needs to make sure that they follow up on issues and items.

NCC Minutes → CAPS Newsletter

The suggestion was to reformat the NCC minutes into a CAPS Newsletter, and include other items/submissions from CAPS community. The general consensus was no; the current notes are sufficient for the NCC and their constituencies.

The next NCC call will be on **Thursday, August 4, at 11:00 am eastern time.**