



National CAPS Committee (NCC) Conference Call

November 6, 2014

Minutes

Participants

John Bowers	Julie Van Meter	Lisa Jackson	Kristian Rondeau
Brian Kopper	Brad Lewis	Talitha Molet	Dale Anderson
Rick Zink	Carol Motloch	Melinda Sullivan	Ian Foley
Terry Bourgoin	Saul Vaiciunas	Dan Mackesy	Umesh Kodira
Joel Bard	Sherry Aultman	Kathy Handy	
Piera Siegert	Laurinda Ramonda	Susan Schechter	
Joe Collins	Helmuth Rogg	Eileen Luke	

NCC Rotation

NCC members serve 3-year terms, with terms staggered so that there is a minimum turnover each year. This preserves the stability of the NCC while opening the possibility for new membership each year. With each ending, there is a new beginning, so here are the changes for the NCC for 2015.

- Piera Siegert (NH, Eastern Plant Board SPRO) and Brad Lewis (NM, Western Plant Board SPRO) have been re-nominated by their respective Regional Plant Boards, and will serve second 3-year terms. According to NCC Bylaws, members can only serve two terms.
- Laurinda Ramonda (KS, Central Plant Board SSC) has served two terms, and will be replaced on the NCC by Dale Anderson (SD SSC).
- Helmuth Rogg (OR, Western Plant Board SSC) received a promotion in the Oregon Department of Agriculture, and is now the SPRO for Oregon. Ian Foley (MT SSC) will serve out the remaining two years of Helmuth's term.
- Terry Bourgoin (ME SPHD) has served one term on the NCC. Brian Kopper will have a call with the SPHDs nationally who will determine if they wish to re-nominate Terry or select someone else to represent them.

Annual NCC Meeting

The California Department of Food and Agriculture (CDFA) agreed to host the meeting in Sacramento, CA, on February 3 and 4, 2015. John is preparing the required documents and cost analysis for approval. CDFA is looking into hotel availability. As more information becomes available, the NCC will be advised.

In preparing an agenda for this meeting, the NCC needs to know what is important to the CAPS community. What issues and/or topics does the NCC need to talk about to meet the needs of the community? Is there something that the NCC needs to address? Do you have suggestions that will benefit the CAPS program? Please discuss this opportunity among your constituency to get

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.



what is on your mind out on the table. Please speak up as everyone has a role and responsibility to improve this Program.

CAPS Strategic Planning

We have received the message that PPQ will no longer initiate strategic plans below the level of PPQ. Our Program will need to fit within the PPQ Strategic Plan. As such, we will not be going through the formal strategic planning process. We will, however, need to develop an operational plan to implement how we will achieve the goals in the PPQ Strategic Plan. The operational plan will look 1-2 years out. The PPQ Strategic Plan will be officially announced in January 2015, so we will not start developing our operational plan until next spring at the earliest. We will discuss this more at the Annual NCC Meeting the first week in February.

PPQ Export Meeting

PPQ is having an internal export meeting in mid-November to talk about ways to expand export markets and PPQ's role in the broader department initiative. John Bowers will be attending the meeting to represent the CAPS Program and our survey efforts. During some preliminary discussions the topic of CAPS surveys and the funding of those surveys to support export certification was broached. We made the conscious decision a few years ago to focus on the early pest detection mission. However, with the bundled survey concept we left room for states to bundle pests important to their state with national priority pests. The question was put to the NCC to ask their constituency how many or what states are adding pests to bundled surveys (either CAPS or Farm Bill surveys, or both) to support export certification? If so, are states receiving direction from PPQ on what to target or are these state initiatives?

Based on the discussion, there were only a few instances where states bundled a pest into a CAPS survey for the explicit purpose of facilitating an export certificate. Surveys that are state initiatives or where states have an agreement with industry seem to be the rule. The one major exception appears to be surveys for cyst nematodes in potato fields that are funded through Farm Bill and CAPS. Otherwise, the generation of negative data for our early pest detection surveys serves to support exports if the two objectives intertwine.

If anyone has any more information on the subject before the November 19th meeting, please let John know so that he can be prepared.

Agreement Update

The word has come down that we can start getting agreements in place. Under the current CR, the amount will be for 19.73% of the amount after a rescission of 0.0554% is deducted from the total. CAPS agreements do not start until January, so the agreements staff is working on those agreements that have an earlier start time first. The agreements staff is short-handed due to retirements, so please have patience and they will get to your agreements as soon as they can.



Budget

The current CR runs until December 11. The lame-duck Congress, that will resume its sessions soon, likely will pass a budget bill to fund the government before the CR expires. However, it is not known whether it will be another short term CR, and let the new Congress tackle the larger issues in January, or something longer in term. The dynamics in the new Congress will be different, so it will be interesting to see what approach is taken with regard to passing appropriation bills to fund the government.

Farm Bill Update

The suggestion period closed with a little over 480 suggestions received. Currently, the SPHDs and SPROs are reviewing the suggestions from their state and entering comments into Metastorm. The deadline for them to complete their reviews is November 14. The SPHD and SPRO comments are very important and helpful for the review teams, so please get them in ASAP. The review teams will begin their work in earnest very soon, and, as in past years, will rate the suggestions using Decision Lens. The goal is to have a spending plan approved at the Department level and a public announcement by mid-January.

CPHST Update

Lisa Jackson will be going out on maternity leave starting November 10 through sometime in February. Talitha Molet will be backfilling and covering for Lisa during her leave. Any question for Lisa should be directed to Talitha at Talitha.P.Molet@aphis.usda.gov.

Survey Supplies Update

The Survey Supplies ordering System currently is open until November 21. This is for FY15 CAPS, FY15 PPQ, FY14 Farm Bill, and most other programs, except for the EAB Program. The system will accept orders for the EAB program at a later date. Orders for Farm Bill FY15 surveys also will be at a later date.

John Crowe currently is on a TDY with the Quarantine Policy, Analysis, and Support (QPAS) staff in Riverdale. Joe Beckwith of the FO Pest Management Programs staff in Raleigh is backfilling for John. Joe can be reached at Joseph.Beckwith@aphis.usda.gov.

Phytoplasma Pest Codes in NAPIS

A recent detection of the X-Disease phytoplasma in a new host (apple) in PA has spurred a review of phytoplasma taxonomy and the pest codes in the NAPIS dictionary. The present situation did not adequately reflect the current taxonomic structure for phytoplasmas. After a lengthy email discussion that included the world expert Dr. Robert Davis, Melinda Sullivan, and others, the NAPIS Pest Code Dictionary has been updated to reflect current taxonomic thinking. The current Pest Code Dictionary is reflected in the table blow. Changes are in red. These codes should be used going forward.



Changed From:

Code	Common Name	Genus	Species	Subspecies	Justified?	Biocontrol Agent?	Biocontrol Target?	Only Negative Entry?	Approved Methods Target?
FVACVBA	X Disease (Cherry Albino)	Candidatus Phytoplasma	pruni	16SrIII	No	No	No	No	No
FGDFMDH	Peach Western X-disease	Candidatus Phytoplasma	pruni-related	16SrIII	Yes	No	No	No	No
FGDFMDG	Peach X Disease	Phytoplasma	spp.	16SrIII	Yes	No	No	No	No

To:

Code	Common Name	Genus	Species	Subspecies	Justified?	Biocontrol Agent?	Biocontrol Target?	Only Negative Entry?	Approved Methods Target?
FVACVBA	X Disease (Cherry Albino)	Candidatus Phytoplasma	pruni	16SrIII	No	No	No	No	No
FGDFMDH	X-Disease (Prunus spp.)	Candidatus Phytoplasma	pruni	16SrIII	Yes	No	No	No	No
FGBLMDQ	North American Grapevine Yellows Disease	Candidatus Phytoplasma	pruni-related	16SrIII	Yes	No	No	No	No
FGDFMDG	Apple X-Disease	Candidatus Phytoplasma	pruni	16SrIII	Yes	No	No	No	No

Several changes also were made to records in the NAPIS database so that they align with the current pest codes: One record entered in the NAPIS database associated with the pest code FGDFMDH (the only record) was updated to reflect the scientific and common name; Sixty-two NAPIS records currently under pest code FGDFMDG were rolled over to the updated FGDFMDH; the scientific and common name of FGDFMDG was then updated (this is new Apple X-Disease in PA); and a new pest code was created for North American Grapevine Yellows, Candidatus Phytoplasma pruni-related 16SrIII.



EDDMapS

Joel Bard reported on some issues with EDDMapS regarding some regulated Federal Noxious Weeds. EDDMapS had reports of these weeds in the state, when, in fact, they are not known to be present. Some of these reports come from extraneous sources and other databases with no notification to the PPQ or state regulatory authorities. Joel was able to get the incorrect information deleted from EDDMapS, but the fact that the information was present in the first place is worrisome. Please be aware and check entries in EDDMapS for your state. As far as we know, a universal notification for regulatory pests has not been instituted. If you are going to develop an application based on EDDMapS, it would be beneficial to have a state notification work flow in the process so that entries of regulatory pests can be vetted at the state level.

The next NCC call will be held on Thursday, December 4, 2014, at 1:00 pm eastern time.

Please forward to your NCC representative any agenda topics for discussion on the December call.