



National CAPS Committee (NCC) Conference Call

December 6, 2018

Minutes

Participants

John Bowers	Kim Rice	Darrell Bays	Ian Foley
Lisa Jackson	Joy Goforth	Emilie Inoue	Eileen Luke
Tara Holtz	Megan Abraham	Sherry Aultman	Feridoon Mehdizadegan
Greg Rentschler	Helmuth Rogg	Brad Danner	Steve Bullington
Eric Ewing	Tiffany Mauro	Dale Anderson	

NCC Term Rotations

The December NCC call is bittersweet and one of transition as members rotate off the NCC and new members begin the journey. NCC members serve 3-year terms (Jan.1 – Dec. 31), with terms staggered so that there is a minimum turnover each year. This preserves the stability of the NCC while maintaining consistency and opening the possibility for new membership each year. With each ending, there is a new beginning.

John, Lisa, Tara, and Rick, as well as the entire NCC, extend a heart-filled appreciation to Tyson emery (SPB SPRO FL), Darrell Bays (PSS NC), and Sherry Aultman (SPB SSC SC) for their participation, engagement, and service to the CAPS community. We wish them well in their future endeavors.

At the same time we welcome Joy Goforth (SPB SPRO NC), Chris Pierce (PSS MO), and Brad Danner (SPB SSC FL), and look forward to their participation. Emilie Inoue (EPB SSC VT) has been re-nominated by her constituency, and will serve a second 3-year term.

2019 Budget

Continuing Resolution

For FY19, instead of placing all 12 appropriations bills into one large omnibus bill to fund the government, Congress opted for four minibuss bills, with each containing a few of the original 12 bills. The first two minibuss bills have passed and signed by the President that fund Defense and several other departments for the full year. USDA is in the third minibuss bill that has not been acted upon as yet. However, the second minibuss bill that was signed by the President contained a provision to fund the remaining parts of the government until December 7 at 2017 levels. On December 6, Congress sent a short term spending bill to the President to move back the deadline for a partial government shutdown. The President is expected to sign it. The legislation sets a new deadline of December 21. This will keep the government open and funded through December 21. If you are paying attention to what is happening in Washington, there still are many issues to decide, and if past history is a clue, another CR into 2019 may be likely.

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.



Pre-award Letters & Partial Agreements

If you need a pre-award, please submit a letter through your SPHD to the PPQ Agreements Staff by December 12. Pre-awards awards may be at 18.63% of the agreement amount through December 7. If the current CR is extended or a new one passed, the percentage may increase slightly, but we may not know the exact amount until next week. The pre-award letter process takes place outside of ezFedGrants. If you need a partial agreement, please contact your agreements specialist immediately. The process for partial agreements takes place inside of ezFedGrants, so it is best to get this started very soon. Contact Lisa or your agreement specialist if you have any questions as to procedure.

Regional Plant Board Meetings

Due to the lack of a national meeting and at the direction of the PPQ Deputy Administrator, we are working with the Plant Board regions on various ideas for CAPS sessions, either during the main meeting or in breakouts. To be successful, and to show the importance of coming together as a community, it is very important to have all participate, especially this coming year. Up to \$3,000 can be budgeted for out-of-state travel in Infrastructure. Lisa may be contacting states so that we can better understand the situation and Infrastructure needs in various states where SSC travel to the regional plant board meeting has been limited. Please consider this professional development and a priority for the SSC, whether it is funded through Infrastructure or state funds. The return is well worth it.

The SSCs on the NCC were asked to talk among themselves and share agendas, ideas, topics, and discussion issues with each other when preparing a CAPS breakout agenda. A formal agenda often is needed for travel approval. Ideas and discussion occurring in one region of the country may also be in need of discussion in other regions as well. Sherry offered to share the SPB CAPS agenda from last year to start the conversation.

Note: This effort is not to replace a national meeting, but hopefully work towards one. A national meeting is still the best, most efficient and effective, and fiscally responsible venue to discuss important and relevant topics and issues.

Annual NCC Meeting

The Annual NCC Meeting will be held in Portland, Oregon on Tuesday and Wednesday, February 5-6, 2019, pending official approval. The documents needed for approval (agenda, justification, and cost analysis) have been submitted and, as of this date, signed off in Policy Management. The package now is in Field Operations and/or S&T for their approval (since there are travelers from both of these CFAs). Once final approval has been obtained, John will send out a logistics document with information about the hotel and transportation. A hotel block has been reserved, and reservations will need to be made by January 5, so once the meeting is approved, hotel reservations should be made as soon as possible. Just a reminder for PPQ; a travel authorization should not be signed until final approval and the approval document uploaded into Concur.



Note: If you are unable to attend the NCC meeting in Portland, please arrange to have a substitute attend in your place so that your constituency can be represented.

Survey Supplies

Ordering Open Period

The [Survey Supply Ordering System in IPHIS](#) closed on November 30. The Survey Supply Ordering System will open again in the winter of 2019 to support:

- EAB Survey
- Future Farm Bill –Goal 1 Surveys (FY2019)

Temporary Closure of Survey Supply Warehouse

The survey supply warehouse located at Moore Airbase will be closed for shipping from December 17, 2018 through January 7, 2019. No products will be shipped out of the warehouse during this time. We expect that all orders with a December delivery date should be able to be shipped out before December 14.

If there is an urgent need for products to be delivered before December 14 **that are not already captured** in the Survey Supply Ordering System in IPHIS, you may send a request to Lisa Jackson. Please fill out the [Order form](#) completely and send it via email to Lisa. Requests must be received by **COB Friday, December 7**. There is no guarantee that these orders will be able to be filled by December 14.

For any questions about orders with a December or January requested delivery date, you may contact Lisa Jackson at lisa.d.jackson@aphis.usda.gov or 919-855-7549.

FY19 Farm Bill

The Farm Bill Team is in the final stage of the FY19 Farm Bill Spending Plan Review Process. This week they are hosting a series of goal team presentations where the Goal Team Leads share their funding recommendations with the FB Team, relevant program managers, and PPQ leadership. Once these presentations are concluded, the FB Team will prepare a draft of spending plan and present it to Deputy Administrator for his input and approval. The next step will be Departmental review. The public release of FY19 Spending Plan is anticipate to occur between mid-January and early February.

Note: Work plans for surveys under FY19 Farm Bill funding for Goal 1 Survey will be due 2 months after the public announcement of FY19 Farm Bill Spending Plan on the Stakeholder Registry.

CAPS Resource & Collaboration Website

The culmination of a 10-month process (remember the survey you filled out) has resulted in a complete redesign and software upgrade of the CAPS R&C site. The CERIS staff at Purdue worked with the Purdue Marketing and Media Department to graphically enhance, improve navigation, and streamline access to information on the website.



The target date for completion is the end of the month. However, the new website will not go live until mid-January. Cindy and the staff at Purdue will present a webinar to roll out and introduce the new website in early January. Also, there needs to be full system support staff in the office when the site goes live to quickly correct any unforeseen issues, and be available to answer questions and field issues from the users. The webinar announcement will go out after the first of the year.

Note: The Purdue staff will be out of the office Monday, December 24, through Tuesday, January 1. The University shuts down over the break. Office hours will resume on January 2.

Potential Lure Cross-Contamination Study

A Forest Service study found that lures can be contaminated by chemicals from other lures even when stored in plastic boxes or bags in the freezer. Brian Sullivan (USFS, Southern Research Station) tested the contamination potential of two lures (α -Pinene and Frontalin), stored together but without direct contact, and found that cross-contamination occurred even when the lures were stored at -12°C . To assist in this research and to get a handle on potential issues, Heather Moylett will be sending a survey with questions about current practices for storing lures to the NCC. The NCC should consult their constituency, and summarize answers before sending the results back to Heather. Great detail is not needed, but a general sense of current practices. This will help the Program develop sound guidance for storing lures.

CAPS Recognition

It is not too early to start thinking of nominating someone for CAPS Recognition for exemplary work done in support of the CAPS program in 2018. The official call for nominations will go out in January.

One Last Note / Word of Advice

As 2018 surveys come to a close, it would be a very good idea to check the CAPS [Accountability Report](#) To make sure that 2018 survey data has been, is being, or is on track to be entered into NAPIS, and that all of 2017 data has been entered. Now is a good time to rectify any deficiencies.

Have a safe and enjoyable Holiday Season!

The next NCC call will be held on Thursday, January 10, 2018, at 1:00 pm eastern time.

The call is being postponed for 1 week in case folks will still be out of the office the week of the 1st.

Please review the minutes and forward to your NCC representative any agenda topics for discussion on the next NCC call.



In Case You Missed It

Old World Bollworm Lure

Traditionally, CAPS surveys have used a 2-component *Helicoverpa armigera* pheromone blend. This pheromone has been demonstrated to be very effective, but it also attracts *H. zea*, often resulting in hundreds of non-target moths per trap. Separating *H. armigera* from *H. zea* requires a time-consuming genitalic dissection and/or molecular analysis, and there has been extensive research to develop a pheromone that attracts *H. armigera* but not *H. zea*. USDA S&T has made significant progress in this regard, and a new 3-component pheromone was designed and deployed for 2017 Old World Bollworm surveys. This new pheromone did drastically reduce the *H. zea* bycatch, but there also were concerns that it was not as effective in attracting the target, *H. armigera*. Thus, the decision was made to return to the 2-component pheromone for 2018.

Further testing has determined that the new 3-component pheromone does attract *H. armigera* as good or better than the 2-component blend, but ONLY for *H. armigera* from Australia.

Helicoverpa armigera in Australia are considered a separate subspecies (*H. a. conferta*) from *H. armigera* in the rest of the world, and the new pheromone is not effective for moths originating from other locations. Unfortunately, the *H. armigera* populations in South America and the Caribbean did not originate from Australia. **This means that for the 2019 survey season, we must again rely on the 2-component *H. armigera* pheromone for CAPS surveys.** There is additional research being conducted with the goal of replicating the results of the 3-component lure with moths from Spain and Brazil. We hope that in the future we can offer a lure that will effectively attract *H. armigera* while reducing or eliminating *H. zea* bycatch.

What this means for you:

- For pheromone orders placed through CAPS, you will be receiving new 2-component pheromone lures. PLEASE DISPOSE OF ANY OLDER LURES, this includes lures from any prior years. The efficiency of lures degrades over time, and only new 2019 2-component lures should be used for OWB surveys.
- Expect an increase in *H. zea* bycatch, similar to the results for 2018. In some locations, 200-300 moths per trap were routinely observed. Please plan accordingly.
- Please do not screen via subsampling in high-risk states or territories. These include: Alabama, Arizona, Arkansas, California (southern), Florida, Georgia, Kentucky, Louisiana, Mississippi, New Mexico, North Carolina, Puerto Rico, South Carolina, Tennessee, Texas, U.S. Virgin Islands, Virginia, and West Virginia.
- If you anticipate needing screening assistance because of the number of *H. zea* non-targets, please contact Lisa Jackson (lisa.d.jackson@aphis.usda.gov).
- If your state or institution has a molecular laboratory that would be interested in becoming accredited to screen OWB trap samples using various molecular assays, please contact Todd Gilligan (todd.m.gilligan@aphis.usda.gov).