



Annual National CAPS Committee Meeting  
January 29-30, 2020  
Office of the Illinois State Plant Health Director  
Des Plaines, Illinois  
Travel Information



The National Cooperative Agricultural Pest Survey (CAPS) Committee (NCC) meets annually to review and discuss the performance of the Pest Detection/CAPS program, and to discuss and update the National Pest Surveillance Guidelines. The NCC also will discuss the implementation of any changes that may be needed to the Program and Guidelines based on issues raised during the previous survey year as a result of discussions with the various representatives' constituency. The annual meeting provides a forum to obtain input on the direction of the CAPS Program from those in the field, is an avenue to inform the States of new initiatives and survey and data guidelines, and is a means to alert our state cooperators of any plant pest threats and PPQ policy direction that may be on the horizon.

The meeting will be held on Tuesday, January 28, 2020, for the Focus Group, and Wednesday and Thursday, January 29-30, 2020, for the full NCC, at the office of the Illinois State Plant Health Director, 2300 East Devon, Ste. 210, Des Plaines, IL 60018, (847) 699-2422.

Suggested arrival days are Monday, January 27, for the Focus Group, and Tuesday, January 28, for the remainder of the NCC, and all departing on Friday, January 31.

Travel should be into Chicago O'Hare International Airport (ORD), not Midway Airport.

<https://www.flychicago.com/ohare/>

A block of rooms has been reserved at the [Embassy Suites by Hilton Chicago O'Hare Rosemont](#), 5500 North River Road, Rosemont, Illinois, 60018, (800) 315-1061, at the federal per diem rate of \$125.00 per night. Rooms can be reserved by:

1. Booking directly online by clicking:

[https://embassysuites.hilton.com/en/es/groups/personalized/C/CHIRMES-USD-20200125/index.jhtml?WT.mc\\_id=POG](https://embassysuites.hilton.com/en/es/groups/personalized/C/CHIRMES-USD-20200125/index.jhtml?WT.mc_id=POG). Web link is available now.

Group Name: USDA, Group Code: usd.

or

2. If you have any challenges making the room reservation, there is an option to reserve the room by directly phoning Iesha, who is the onsite reservation agent at the Embassy Suites. Iesha's direct dial is 1-847-928-7629. Reference USDA (code: USD).

The block will be held until **January 6, 2020**, after which, the hotel will review the quantity of reservations and release the unreserved room for general sale. Rooms reserved after the cut-off date will be based upon availability at selling rate. As usual, folks will need to make their own reservations with their own credit card.

The hotel is 1.5 miles from O'Hare Airport with a complimentary 24-hour shuttle (contact the hotel for shuttle times). The hotel is located two blocks from the Rosemont Blue Line CTA station, taking you to downtown Chicago, Illinois, for numerous sightseeing, dining and shopping options.

The hotel is located 1.7 mile from the SPHD office. Transportation will be available to and from the hotel. We will plan to leave the hotel for the SPHD office at 7:30 am. The meeting will start at 8:00 am and go until 5:00 pm each day.

Travel expenses for state employees will be reimbursed by the National Plant Board through their new administrative management association. More details will be available soon.

Lunch plans are yet to be determined. Plan to bring cash for lunch in case we order in.

During the days of January 27-31, the high temperature normal at O'Hare airport is about 31-32°F and the low normal around 16-17°F, with the possibility of snow. Bundle up, it may be a cold adventure. Do not forget hats, gloves, and scarfs.

<https://www.usclimatedata.com/climate/chicago-o-hare-international-airport/illinois/united-states/usil0230>