November 16, 2023

Animal Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS)

Plant Protection and Quarantine (PPQ)

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Invitation for the Fiscal Year (FY) 2024 Cooperative Agricultural Pest Survey (CAPS) National CAPS Committee (NCC)

I pleased to invite you to attend our FY 2024 annual meeting. The meeting will be held at the Louisiana Department of Agriculture’s office in Baton Rouge, Louisiana. Meeting dates are January 30 and 31, 2024, with travel on January 29 and February 1, 2024. I’m expecting about 22 attendees, of which eight are state representatives reimbursed through the PPQ-National Plant Board (NPB) Safeguarding Agreement. Additionally, representatives from Purdue University will be in attendance.

During this meeting, we will share updates and information, review program’s performance, and update existing information which will be implemented nationally. We are in the process of planning visits to an export grain inspection facility. This meeting is going to be a great opportunity for NCC members to come prepared and convey information of interest or concern to their state and associated region of coverage.

A block of rooms has been made available for committee members at Hilton Hotel – Baton Rouge Capitol Center, 201 Lafayette Street, Baton Rouge, LA, (225-344-5866). Reservations must be made by January 12, 2024. You may use the booking website: [https://book.passkey.com/e/50718910](https://gcc02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fbook.passkey.com%2Fe%2F50718910&data=05%7C01%7Cjohn.f.crowe%40usda.gov%7C875228a0967f407dfc7908dbe6b995a5%7Ced5b36e701ee4ebc867ee03cfa0d4697%7C1%7C0%7C638357456970444700%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C3000%7C%7C%7C&sdata=GLUuvHmI5u7yJdkYqEtc%2FAGgJfZfU3QTl2XOc%2B1996o%3D&reserved=0) or by call the hotel directly at 225.344.5866. Room block is under *National CAPS Committee,*

3 nights of lodging at $107/night plus applicable taxes (15.95%).

Please send me an email to John.F.Crowe@usda.gov by December 31, 2023, confirming your attendance. I can be reached by email or phone (301-851-2108) for further information or assistance.

John Crowe

National Policy Manager

USDA APHIS PPQ

Riverdale, MD