



## Minutes

## Participants

John Bowers	Mike Wallace
Brian Kopper	Susan Schechter
Kristian Rondeau	Eileen Luke
Dan Fieselmann	Joel Floyd
Bruce Shambaugh	Lisa Jackson
Robert Dahl	Melinda Sullivan
Vicki Smith	Charles Pierre
Benny Graves	Bob Rabaglia
Adam Silagyi	Marty Draper
Ken Carnes	

**2010 Survey Guidelines**

Lisa Jackson and Melinda Sullivan (PPQ, CPHST) updated the NCC on the progress of developing/expanding Appendix M to include the commodity- (Citrus, Grape, Oak, Pine, Small Grains, Soybean) and taxon-based (EWB/BB [completed] and Cyst Nematodes) surveys. Presently, Appendix M lists the survey methodology for the collection of valid negative data for the EWB/BB survey. Drafts of PPQ-approved survey methodology are being prepared, as well as reference tables for identification and diagnostics, for all pests in the commodity survey guidelines. These will be sent out for review to the appropriate experts, and then presented to the NCC for approval to include as Appendix M-x of the Survey Guidelines. These will be continuously updated as information becomes available.

As noted in the minutes to last month's call, **the current version of Appendix M, published on the web sites listed below, supersedes any information contained in any other document.** These documents will be updated to reflect the information contained in Appendix M. Appendix M will officially take effect in 2010, but the guidance will be incorporated into the data entry validation for negative data in NAPIS later this year. **These appendices will contain the PPQ-approved survey method for each pest or pathogen, which will be the only method for which negative data will be accepted.** States are encouraged to start following the guidance in the 2010 edition of Appendix M as soon as possible. If you have questions or comments regarding this issue please contact your National CAPS Committee (NCC) representative.

The Survey Guidelines and updated appendices have been posted on the CAPS web site.  
<http://ceris.purdue.edu/caps/adm2010/adm2010000001.htm>.

---

**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.**



The 2010 Guidelines also are posted on the PPQ Pest Detection site.

[http://www.aphis.usda.gov/plant\\_health/plant\\_pest\\_info/pest\\_detection/index.shtml](http://www.aphis.usda.gov/plant_health/plant_pest_info/pest_detection/index.shtml)

## Visual Surveys

The majority of the call was spent discussing the validity of visual surveys, especially when very small insects are the target species. The pros and cons of the reliability of a visual survey for entering valid negative data were discussed in length, with good arguments made in both directions. It was recognized that trap and lure combinations are not yet known for some of these exotic beetles, and that a visual survey is all we have right now. Our ability to survey for these pests may be low, but it may be the best we can do. As mentioned on the call, it may come down to our ability to say a pest is 'not known to occur' vs. 'known not to occur.' What is our certainty or confidence to say a pest is not present? What is the quality of our negative data in these instances? This discussion could have gone on all day with no resolution. John Bowers asked Adam Silagyi (PPQ, PSS FL) to lead and coordinate an ad hoc group discussion to look at the topic of visual survey as it pertains to very small woodboring and bark beetles, with a goal of presenting recommendations to the NCC. There are a lot of factors to be considered, and this question will not be answered quickly, but it is time to address this issue head-on. Adam will put together a core group to help direct the discussion, but if any one has any comments on this issue, please feel free to share them with Adam and the group. The more input, the better the discussion can be.

## NAPIS Data Entry Guidelines

The NCC spent some time discussing data entry, and the various practices being employed throughout the country. All states are not entering data the same way and are interpreting the guidelines in different ways. This is due in part by the diversity of surveys, time of year and number of days per year the surveys are conducted, staff and infrastructure present in the various states, and software and other devices used to collect, record, and report survey data, among other issues. The result is an uneven reporting of data across the country, in both time and volume of records. The NCC sees a need to offer clarification to this issue of data entry, what is appropriate, what is not, and how and when data should be entered. Kristian Rondeau, along with Mike Wallace (SSC AZ) and Ken Carnes (SSC NY), offered to lead and coordinate an ad hoc group to develop recommendations to standardize data entry for CAPS surveys. This is a multi-issue discussion that involves various aspects of survey, data collection, and data entry. We have skirted around and kept postponing action on this issue due to its potential complexity, but the NCC feels it is the time to act and guide everyone into entering their survey data in the same manner. The CAPS program will be using NAPIS for data entry for at least a couple of more years, so the effort is warranted. The goal of this group will be to clarify and recommend

---

**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.**



realistic data entry guidelines that work for all. Contact Kristian or your NCC representative if you would like to offer your suggestions, recommendations, or comments.

### **NAPIS to PHIS/ISIS Transition Plan**

The time has come to decide how the CAPS program will transition from NAPIS for data entry to using PHIS and ISIS. The transition will not occur for at least a couple of years, and we have time to develop a plan on how to get from here to there, but that process must get started now. The CAPS community will need to identify and articulate the issues, our wants and needs, what needs to be developed, access protocols, and other questions, and to present these to the PHIS Configure Control Board for approval and incorporation. We will need to identify what functionality the CAPS program needs from survey, data collection, data entry, and reporting points of view. The NCC and the CAPS community also need to identify and articulate the role of NAPIS and the Pest Tracker web site during and after the transition. John Bowers, Brian Kopper, and Kristian Rondeau will put together a core group and begin to develop a frame work for the transition plan, and bring in those with expertise and experience. The goal will be to produce a document that describes and guides the transition process, and to communicate that process back out to the CAPS community. These discussions will start soon, please be prepared to offer your input. What do you need PHIS/ISIS to do to facilitate your CAPS survey program?

### **PHIS Modules for CAPS Cooperators**

Two modules in PHIS are planned to facilitate CAPS business. The first will be a new web-based Ecommerce-like site for the management of the survey supplies procurement program. The idea is to facilitate the ordering process, better manage the orders, and track the process until items are delivered to the field. The basic intended business processes have been submitted to the contractors, who will begin work soon. We do not have a definite time line as yet, but it is hoped that the new system will be available (at least on a trial basis) next year for 2011 survey supply orders.

The second planned module is a web-based work plan submission site. We intend for this site to facilitate the work plan submission process and allow easier communication, reporting, and updating of work plans as conditions, funding, or priorities change. The basic business processes are being developed now in hope that funding will be available next year to begin work. The long range goal is to develop an interface between the two modules that will allow cooperators to order survey supplies appropriate for the particular target species in their work plan. The NCC will be kept informed of progress on these two modules, and will be asked for input.

**The next NCC call will be on Thursday, August 6, at 11:00 am eastern time.**

---

**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.**