Cooperative Agricultural Pest Survey

Minutes

Participants

John Bowers	Beth Long
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Darrell Bays	Kathy Handy
Dan Fieselmann	Susan Schechter
Julie Van Meter	Charles Pierre
Adam Silagyi	Talitha Price
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NAPIS Data Entry

Several improvements and modifications are being made to the NAPIS database that will affect data entry. The CAPS program will be using NAPIS in 2010 and 2011 as its main repository of data, and these improvements will help maintain the integrity of the data in NAPIS and facilitate reporting. The goal is to have these implemented and operational around April 1. Kathy Handy and Susan Schechter have worked over the last year preparing for these changes, and we thank them for their efforts. A communication with more detail will go out before these improvements are operational.

Two additional data fields will be added to the data entry worksheet for data entered in 2010.

> **Survey Name**: This will be the name of the survey that the state designated on the J-3 Appendix that the state submitted with their work plan. The plan is to have a drop-down box from which to choose from. This will aid program managers in preparing reports.

> **Lure**: This field will be required when utilizing a trapping survey method with a PPQ-approved trap and lure combination for a pest. This will be used in data validation based on Appendix M.

Validation rules for negative data by pest according to Appendices M and N will be implemented. For data entered from 2010 surveys, these validation rules will apply to an updated Appendix M as will be presented in the upcoming 2011 National Survey Guidelines. In other words, the latest version of Appendix M will go into effect immediately upon publication. The updated Appendix M expands the PPQ-approved survey methodology from Exotic Bark Beetles & Wood Borers (as in the 2010 Guidelines) to all pests on the Priority Pest Lists. This

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policy has been communicated on several NCC calls and documented in the minutes to those calls. The validation rules will:

- Match PPQ-approved survey methods to pests,
- Match lures to pests, and
- Match a new Visual method to a new pest status code of V, visual, not present, no sign/symptoms. The visual method will reflect the visual protocol for negative data being developed by Adam Silagyi, Lisa Jackson, and others.

Maps in NAPIS and Pest Tracker will display a stippling over the state on the maps to signify that survey is in progress for a pest in states planning to survey for that pest in 2010. These will be pre-filled in based on the submitted J-3s. This designation will be displayed as long as there is no data entered against that pest by a state. The stippling will be removed once data is entered by a state for a pest. There will be a disclaimer on all maps that will say that surveys are not necessarily being conducted in all counties in a state.

The folks at CERIS also are working on possible solutions for displaying maps in Pest Tracker in such a way that counties in smaller states and territories are discernable.

We are proposing to make consensus data persistent. Presently, a consensus record is valid for only the year in which it was entered, and does not display on maps in successive years unless another consensus record is entered for that pest. Many consensus records in NAPIS are not entered yearly, and those areas of the map appear blank in years after the initial record was entered. We propose that once a consensus record is entered, it will carry over to successive years unless, for some reason, a record is entered that will stop the carryover. This 'stop' record will have the same requirements for agreement within a state as the initial consensus record. More details on this topic will be forthcoming in a separate communication.

CERIS Webinar

Susan Schechter presented a webinar for the NCC demonstrating two products that they have been working on at the request of the NCC; a web version of Appendix M and a collaboration web site for the CAPS community.

- The inclusion of all the Priority Pests in Appendix M has made the table rather large, unwieldy, and difficult to find information. The folks at CERIS have been working on a web-based version of the appendix to facilitate sorting and navigation. The draft was well received, and suggestions were given to improve the eventual product based on the way different people search for information.

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- The present CAPS website needs updating so that information is disseminated and communication facilitated. CERIS was asked to develop a collaboration web site that wold be useful for the entire CAPS community. The idea behind this is to not only share information with the community, but also to allow the community or small groups to interact within the community or group. From Wikipedia, the explanation of one of the ways in which humans interact is as follows.

  "In collaborative interactions the main function of the participants' relationship is to alter a collaboration entity (i.e., the converse of transactional). The collaboration entity is in a relatively unstable form. Examples include the development of an idea, the creation of a design, the achievement of a shared goal. Therefore, real collaboration technologies deliver the functionality for many participants to augment a common deliverable. Record or document management, threaded discussions, audit history, and other mechanisms designed to capture the efforts of many into a managed content environment are typical of collaboration technologies."
  http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Collaborative_software

  The vision of this site is to present information in an easily accessible format, and to give groups the opportunity to interact, work on shared documents, and to develop a networking environment. For example, the NCC could have a password-protected 'room' in which to work on updating the survey guidelines, or the SSCs in a region may work collaboratively on the agenda for a CAPS session. We want to provide these opportunities (and cut down on all the attachments flying around in emails) an enable to CAPS community to better work together. More information will be coming as production time nears. If you have any suggestions, please let us know.

In other news...

Dan Fieselmann, CPHST NSPL for Survey, Detection, & Identification, and an integral member of the NCC, announced his retirement, effective February 26, 2010. We wish him well in his new life. Ken Bloem and Lisa Jackson will fill in for Dan as needed until CPHST identifies someone for that position.

The next NCC call will be March 4, 2010, at 11:00 am eastern time.

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