Fiscal Year 2026
Pest Detection Survey Guide

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# INTRODUCTION

Plant Protection and Quarantine’s (PPQ’s) annual Pest Detection appropriation allocates funding to early pest detection survey efforts conducted by PPQ staff. This guide provides Pest Detection survey guidance for fiscal year (FY) 2026 to ensure consistent survey planning, survey methodology, and data reporting for this work conducted by states and territories receiving Pest Detection funding. This approach aligns with PPQ’s overarching pest surveillance strategy, which includes PPQ Pest Detection, PPQ Port Environs survey, Plant Protection Act (PPA) 7721 goal 1 survey, and the Cooperative Agricultural Pest Survey (CAPS).

This document provides guidance for:

* Survey site and pest target selection
* Documenting survey plans
* Recording final survey data
* Survey supply ordering, preliminary identification, and confirmatory notification

# PPQ PEST DETECTION SURVEY GOALS AND GUIDELINES

PPQ Pest Detection survey goals are:

* Survey for pests on the National Priority Pest List
* Supplement existing cooperator surveys (such as CAPS and PPA 7721)

The [2026 National Priority Pest List](https://approvedmethods.ceris.purdue.edu/2026) has 99 pests. PPQ added three new pests for the 2026 survey year: *Cacopsylla pyri* (European pear sucker), *Coniothyrium glycines* (red leaf blotch of soy), and *Candidatus* Phytoplasma aurantifolia (witches’ broom of lime), and did not remove any pests from the list. PPQ condensed 12 terrestrial snails and slugs listed on the 2025 priority pest list into three new pathway-based groupings for 2026 because they are not host specific. The new groupings represent pathways where shipping containers are moving, where plants are produced, and where earlier detections occurred. The pathways approach ensures appropriate microhabitats are visually inspected.

An ideal approach to survey planning is to combine available customs import data, state and port pest risk committee input, and other information to target survey locations and identify the highest risk pests to a geographic area. Ultimately, the goal should be to find evidence of an introduction or plant pest pathway and target these areas for survey.

If you have questions about what qualifies as a PPQ Pest Detection survey, contact the Pest Detection National Operations Manager (NOM) Darrell Bays (darrell.a.bays@usda.gov).

## **Difference Between Port Environs and Pest Detection Surveys**

PPQ receives funding for Pest Detection through an annual appropriation from Congress. The goal of these appropriations is to document the presence or absence of plant pests and diseases of Federal regulatory significance in the United States. PPQ uses this funding to support many efforts, including CAPS and PPQ Pest Detection surveys. The Pest Detection appropriations language provides PPQ with direction for where surveys can happen. For example, it is acceptable to use Pest Detection funding to support surveys in row crops and along import pathways so long as the goal is determining presence or absence of plant pests and diseases that are of federal regulatory significance.

PPQ receives funding for Port Environs survey through Agricultural Quarantine Inspections User Fee (AQI UF) collections. If your state or territory receives this funding, it should be to support activities related to early pest detection surveys within a port environ (setting, monitoring, collecting traps, and analyzing, documenting, and communicating information about trap contents). Consult your state plant health director (SPHD) about the types of early pest detection funding provided to your state, and if your state is participating in the port environs survey pilot project. Use the examples below to distinguish between when it is appropriate to use Port Environs AQI UF funding or Pest Detection funding to support a survey.

**Example 1:** International containerized cargo arrives at a maritime port and is transported to an inland port for inspection. The maritime port and inland port are appropriate locations for Port Environs survey supported by AQI UF funding. Surveys along the roadway or railway between the two ports are appropriate locations for Pest Detection funded survey.

**Example 2:** Traps for exotic wood borer/bark beetle (EWB/BB) survey placed at a maritime container port or wood packing material (WPM) recycler are appropriate use of Port Environs AQI UF funding to target pests that may infest WPM associated with imported cargo. Traps placed at the ultimate destination of the imported cargo would be an appropriate Pest Detection funded survey.

# COMPLETING THE PPQ PEST DETECTION SURVEY SUMMARY FORM

A [survey summary form (SSF)](https://pest.ceris.purdue.edu/services/surveyplanning/?source=3) must be completed to document your FY 2026 Pest Detection survey plan. PPQ Pest Detection surveys target pests not known to occur in the United States and support new pest evaluations and responses. When PPQ Pest Detection survey work supports response activities related to new pest incursions, data may be entered into the SSF but is not required.

The FY 2026 Pest Detection SSF will be open **October 6 through November 3, 2025**. The PPQ Pest Detection SSF is available on the survey planning page of the CAPS website: <https://caps.ceris.purdue.edu/surveyplanning>. A username and password is required to access this site; email capsis@purdue.edu for login assistance.

The PPQ Pest Detection SSF should only include plans for surveys supported by Pest Detection funding. The PPQ Pest Detection SSF should not include any plans for surveys supported by Port Environs AQI UF funding. For example:

* If you conduct a survey that is funded by two sources (Port Environs AQI UF and Pest Detection), estimate the percent of work that is supported by each source. If the survey is supported 30% Port Environs AQI UF and 70% Pest Detection, record only the 70% of your survey effort on in the Pest Detection SSF.
* PPQ is conducting a pilot program using a separate SSF for Port Environs National Survey (PENS)-funded surveys. If you are participating in the pilot, you would enter the 30% of your survey effort that is funded by Port Environs AQI UF in the Port Environs SSF.

You are required to fill out the Pest Detection SSF for all surveys supported by PPQ Pest Detection funding.

Each survey in the SSF must be named by selecting a survey name from the dropdown list that most closely represents your PPQ Pest Detection survey. The name you select should be related to the pathway, the host or habitat, or the pest targeted. You can find the list of current survey names in the [Appendix](#_APPENDIX._Survey_Names).

You must use the survey methods required by the PPQ pest program or documented in the Approved Methods for Pest Surveillance for pests on the National Priority Pest List.

If you do not see a survey name that fits your survey or need assistance completing your Pest Detection SSF, contact the Pest Detection NOM Darrell Bays (darrell.a.bays@usda.gov).

## **Workflow**

The Pest Detection NOM, Darrell Bays, will review and approve the SSF.

# DATA ENTRY GUIDANCE

The National Agriculture Pest Information System ([NAPIS](https://auth.ceris.purdue.edu/cas/login?service=https%3A%2F%2Fnapis.ceris.purdue.edu%2Flogin%3Flogin)) is the final data repository for all Pest Detection funded survey data. This includes early detection surveys for PPQ Program Pests that are funded by Pest Detection. For other surveys (delimitation, monitoring, and control) in your state that are funded by sources other than Pest Detection, follow the data entry guidance from that program’s NOM. Always trace the survey activity back to the purpose of the survey and the funding source to determine the appropriate final data repository. Please reach out to Pest Detection NOM Darrell Bays (darrell.a.bays@usda.gov) if you have questions.

**Data from surveys performed in FY 2026 must be entered into NAPIS by March 1, 2027.**

## **Mobile Data Collection Tools**

PPQ is developing mobile data collection tools (i.e., mobile apps) for PPQ Pest Detection surveys. Contact the respective Pest Program NOM for PPQ program pests that have a national level app for collecting early detection survey data. For pests on the National Priority Pest List, contact the Pest Detection NOM Darrell Bays (darrell.a.bays@usda.gov) to learn what applications are available (e.g., EWB/BB Collector App).

## **Retrieving Data from Collector Apps**

There are two options for exporting data from collector apps to facilitate preparing the data for upload into NAPIS:

1. For Pest Detection apps, a data export function is available in the fall of each survey year. For FY 2025, the following apps will have an export feature available:
	* Exotic moth
	* EWB/BB
	* Khapra beetle
2. For PPQ Program apps or Pest Detection apps that do not have an export tool, email the appropriate contact below and provide them with your name, role (e.g. Pest Survey Specialist (PSS) or SPHD), survey year, state, target pest, app name, and platform:
	* For survey data collected using Field Maps, email your field geographic information system (GIS) specialist
	* For survey data not collected using Field Maps, please email PPQ.DataMgt@usda.gov for an alternative.

The data exported from any app will require formatting prior to NAPIS upload. Once the data has been properly formatted, the Pest Survey Specialist will send it to the State Survey Coordinator (SSC) with a request to upload it into NAPIS. For assistance with formatting data for NAPIS upload, contact capsis@purdue.edu.

## **Data Entry Expectations**

All data from FY 2026 surveys must be entered into NAPIS by March 1, 2027. The Pest Detection NOM will check the [accountability report](https://caps.ceris.purdue.edu/accountability-report/) on this date and follow up with the PSS and/or SPHD regarding missing NAPIS data.

## **NAPIS Data Entry Guidance**

NAPIS data entry is a cooperative effort between PPQ and its state cooperators. Contact your SSC for assistance with entering PPQ data into NAPIS; PPQ staff do not directly enter data into NAPIS. PSSs, SPHDs, and other PPQ staff must work closely with their state survey coordinator to ensure that the data is formatted properly for uploading into NAPIS with minimal to no formatting required once it is received by the SSC.

Some PSS, or PPQ personnel who perform the role of PSS, are given access to the NAPIS database. You will use your current CAPS Resource and Collaboration website username and password to access the [NAPIS](https://napis.ceris.purdue.edu/home) database. Email capsis@purdue.edu for assistance with database access or for technical assistance with data entry. Templates for NAPIS data entry can be found at: <https://napis.ceris.purdue.edu/entry>.

# RESOURCES

## **Survey Supplies**

Survey supplies (traps, lures, and accessories) may be ordered through the [Survey Supply Ordering System](https://iphis.aphis.usda.gov/) for National Priority Pests and PPQ Program Pests. Place orders during the fall open period (September 15 through November 14, 2025). Guidance documents for [ordering survey supplies](https://caps.ceris.purdue.edu/survey-supplies/) are available on the [CAPS Resource and Collaboration](https://caps.ceris.purdue.edu/) website. Contact the Pest Detection NOM Darrell Bays (darrell.a.bays@usda.gov) if you have questions.

## **Preliminary Identification**

It is your responsibility to confirm that an identifier or institution is available to provide taxonomic support for the proposed targets each year. This includes confirming that any identifier or institution previously used is available to continue providing taxonomic support for the proposed targets each year. PPQ cannot guarantee that taxonomic assistance for preliminary identification of Priority Pests will be available for all pests.

For assistance with finding an identifier or institution to provide preliminary identification for a target (national priority pests only), email the Preliminary Identification NOM for Pest Detection, Darrell Bays (darrell.a.bays@usda.gov). For other PPQ pest programs, reach out to the respective Pest Program NOM.

## **Confirmatory Identification**

Specimens collected through pest detection survey that have received preliminary identification as a suspected pest of regulatory concern must be routed for confirmatory identification through the domestic module of the Agricultural Risk Management ([ARM](https://arm.aphis.usda.gov/)) system. For assistance with ARM, email AQI.ARM@usda.gov or the Pest Detection NOM, Darrell Bays (darrell.a.bays@usda.gov).

# APPENDIX. Survey Names for PPQ Pest Detection Survey Summary Form

Use survey names that are relevant to the pathway, host or habitat, or pest targeted. If you do not see your preferred survey name, contact the Pest Detection NOM Darrell Bays (darrell.a.bays@usda.gov) for assistance.

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| --- | --- |
| Survey Names |  |
| Asian Defoliator Survey | Oak Commodity Survey |
| Citrus Commodity Survey | Orchard Commodity Survey |
| Corn Commodity Survey | Palm Commodity Survey |
| Cotton Commodity Survey | Pine Commodity Survey |
| Exotic Buprestid (Cerceris) Survey | Small Grains Commodity Survey |
| Exotic Wood Borer/Bark Beetle Survey | Solanaceous Commodity Survey |
| Field Crops Pest Survey | Soybean Commodity Survey |
| Forest Pest Survey | Stone Fruit Commodity Survey |
| General Nematode Survey | Tree Nursery Pest Survey |
| Grape Commodity Survey | Tropical Hosts Commodity Survey |
| Mollusk Survey | Vegetable Crops Pest Survey |
| Nursery and Retail Plants Pest Survey |  |