

Data management requirements continue to undergo development. The Agency has been capturing data collected by PPQ and some PPQ-funded agreements in the Integrated Plant Health Information System (IPHIS). The emphasis has been on PPQ domestic program pests with regulatory considerations. Given the complexities of the CAPS program, we are not yet at the point where all CAPS surveys can be fully incorporated into IPHIS. CAPS leadership is working with the IPHIS staff to assure full CAPS functionality will be provided in IPHIS. The plan is for all CAPS data to be entered into IPHIS for the 2013 field season, however, this may change based on progress developing the CAPS requirements in IPHIS. The CAPS program has communicated to the IPHIS team that the situation with IPHIS will be reviewed later this year, and a decision will be made as to data management in 2013 around October 1, 2012. If IPHIS cannot provide the requirements of the CAPS program, then NAPIS will be used for data entry in 2013. The CAPS community will be kept informed, via the NCC and other venues, as IPHIS survey templates and other tools become available for use in CAPS.

In 2012, several states will be using IPHIS to test certain functionality that has been developed in IPHIS in support of the CAPS program, namely, the creation of standard multi-pest templates from a singular CAPS complex, and the ability of state offices to amend the data entry templates to fit their unique list of survey pests. The results and feedback from this exercise will be one of the factors considered when evaluating the suitability of IPHIS for CAPS surveys. Other factors include methods to validate negative data against the Approved Survey Methods and transfer of data from IPHIS to NAPIS to support Pest Tracker, among others.

This Appendix will contain more specific guidance on the use of IPHIS as it becomes available.

The IPHIS site can be accessed at: <https://iphis.aphis.usda.gov/>

An eAuthentication login is required. <http://www.eauth.egov.usda.gov/>