



Animal and Plant
Health Inspection
Service

Plant Protection and
Quarantine

Plant Health
Programs

Pest Detection &
Emergency
Programs

4700 River Road
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April 22, 2017

To the CAPS Community:

The Pest Detection Management Team (PDMT) and the National CAPS Committee (NCC) and would like to announce the publication of the Cooperative Agricultural Pest Survey (CAPS) [2018 National Pest Surveillance Guidelines](#). The National Pest Surveillance Guidelines can be found on the [CAPS Resource & Collaboration web site](#) under the Guidelines link in the CAPS ribbon on the left-hand side of the page or directly from the link above.

The 2018 Guidelines continue to retain the focus, format, policy, and philosophy of the previous Guidelines. The Guidelines are centered on the ‘bundled survey’ concept for efficiency and economy of survey. The emphasis is on surveys based not only on commodities, but also environments, habitats, industries, businesses, and the continuum along pest introduction pathways. The State CAPS Committees are charged with creating bundled surveys that best fit the pest risk, agriculture, and environment of their state or region in their efforts of early detection of exotic pests. A pathway approach to planning and conducting surveys is strongly encouraged.

The CAPS Program is continually evolving. Ideas, suggestions, and comments from the National CAPS Committee and their constituencies and stakeholders throughout the year have been discussed and incorporated into this year’s Guidelines. Some changes from the 2017 Guidelines consist of small clarifications, others may involve a larger shift in the way we collect, manage, and report data.

These Guidelines pertain to surveys conducted by state cooperators and PPQ personnel funded through the Pest Detection line item (and to a certain extent, those surveys funded through the Farm Bill Goal 1 Survey – National Priority Surveys).

Some highlights to the 2018 National Pest Surveillance Guidelines are:

- States should plan on the final 2017 funding amount for planning 2018 surveys.
- Surveys have been split between CAPS and Farm Bill for 2018 as in previous years. Asian Defoliators and Grape, Palm, Solanaceous, and Stone Fruit Commodity Surveys, and other surveys based on specialty crops will not be offered through CAPS for 2018 funding. These surveys should be requested through Farm Bill funding.

- States continue to have the flexibility to combine their Pest Detection [Surveys](#) into one submitted work and financial plan, or to submit separate work plans for each Survey. Individual states will determine which options work best for them based on their state financial and accounting systems and processes. [This guidance is only for Pest Detection funding, and only for Survey](#). An [example](#) of a combined survey work plan can be found on the 2018 Guidelines page.
- The [Survey Work Plan Template](#) has been updated for 2018 with the inclusion of a table under the Approach section to summarize the survey. This is necessary to facilitate the review of work plans. The template has been structured so that it can be used for both a single survey and a combined surveys work plan.
- All work plans and accomplishment reports should be submitted via the PPQ SharePoint site as in previous years. APHIS will use ezFedGrants for the complete administration of cooperative agreements. Links to reference material are provided in the main Guidelines document and on the [Resources](#) page. Work and financial plans are due mid-August.
- A document describing the Survey Summary Form [Change Request](#) process has been added. It is important to keep the Survey Summary Form up-to-date. The Survey Summary Form must be submitted for both Pest Detection and Farm Bill Goal 1 Survey work plans. The form must be completed and agree with the work plans before work plans will be approved.
- The new pest prioritization model introduced in 2017, the [Objective Prioritization of Exotic Pests](#) (OPEP), will remain the same for 2018. This list will be updated every 2 years. The next version will be available for the 2019 Guidelines.
- The [Additional Pests of Concern List](#) was reinstated for 2017. This list refers to pests that were evaluated using the Objective Prioritization of Exotic Pests (OPEP) model but did not score high enough to be placed on the Pests of Economic and Environmental Importance List. See the document [Pest Assessment and Prioritization Process](#) for additional information.
- The [Host Matrix](#) has been updated for 2018. In addition, an online version has been developed ([Host Matrix \(Online\)](#)), and information from the Host Matrix has been incorporated into the 2018 Approved Methods pest pages. More detail can be found in the [Introduction to the Host Matrix](#) document.
- Fourteen pests were removed from the Commodity and Taxon pest lists. One pest was removed from the Economic and Environmental Importance list. Pests were removed because they fell below the threshold when evaluated by the OPEP model or failed

the post-assessment. These changes can be found in the Summary of Pest List Changes.

- The Exotic Wood Borer/Bark Beetle (EWB/BB), Pine, and Oak manuals have been revised to ensure consistency across the manuals. Pests included in the EWB/BB manual that are pine or oak pests were added to the appropriate manual and vice versa.
- The [Approved Methodology for Pest Surveillance](#) (AMPS) has been updated for 2018 to reflect changes to the pest lists, and major hosts have been added for each Priority Pest.
- [Priority Pest List as an Excel file](#) is available to help with survey planning efforts.
- Note that Phytoplasma sample submission for diagnostics and routing of samples does not follow the traditional path. Instead consult the [Phytoplasma Sample Submission](#) and [Phytoplasma Sample Routing](#) documents for specific guidance.
- All Pest Detection and CAPS survey data will be entered into NAPIS for the 2018 field season as in previous years.

If you have any questions regarding the 2018 National Pest Surveillance Guidelines, feel free to discuss the matter with your representative on the NCC. The Pest Detection Management Team also is available to answer any questions.

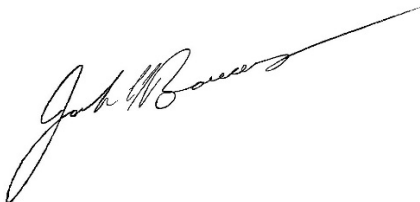
If you have any concerns or suggestions on how to improve the CAPS program, please contact:

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Sincerely,



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