



Animal and Plant
Health Inspection
Service

Plant Protection and
Quarantine

Plant Health
Programs

Pest Detection &
Emergency
Programs

4700 River Road
Riverdale, MD
20737

Date: April 23, 2018

To: Pest Detection / CAPS Community

From: Pest Detection Management Team
Dr. John Bowers, National Policy Manager for Pest Detection
Ms. Lisa Jackson, National Operations Manager for Pest Detection
Dr. Richard Zink, Director, CPHST CAPS Support

Subject: 2019 National Pest Surveillance Guidelines

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) [2019 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. These Guidelines pertain to surveys conducted by state cooperators and PPQ personnel funded through the Pest Detection line item and National Priority Surveys funded through Farm Bill Goal 1 Survey (except where indicated in the Farm Bill Implementation Plan).

The 2019 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 when possible. Most changes from the 2018 Guidelines consist of clarifications, edits, updates, and other small changes to various aspects of the Program’s policies and /or processes. Otherwise, the 2019 Guidelines look very similar to the 2018 Guidelines.

Some highlights to the 2019 National Pest Surveillance Guidelines are:

- 2019 Work and Financial plans are due to Field Operations no later than September 7, 2018. This is 2 weeks later than usual to accommodate the Farm Bill open period for FY19 suggestions. However, August work plan submissions are recommended.

- States should plan on the final 2018 Pest Detection/CAPS funding amount for planning 2019 surveys.
- Surveys have been split between CAPS and Farm Bill for 2019 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 2019 funding. These surveys should be requested through Farm Bill funding.
- States continue to have the flexibility to combine their Pest Detection Surveys into one combined 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 2019 Guidelines page.
- The [Survey Work Plan Template](#) carries over the updates made for 2018 to include a table under the Approach section to summarize the survey, and structured so that it can be used for both a single survey and a combined surveys work plan. Notation has been added to indicate that the work plan is for 2019 as recommended by the NCC, and must be used for 2019. The same for the [Infrastructure Work Plan Template](#).
- The [Financial Plan](#) has been updated from an example to a template for 2019 to be in line with the work plan template.
- All work plans and accomplishment reports should be submitted via the PPQ SharePoint site as in previous years. APHIS will continue to 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.
- No new pests were added to the Priority Pest List for 2019. While a number of new pests scored high in the [Objective Prioritization of Exotic Pests](#) (OPEP) model, a staff shortage precluded full post-assessments for inclusion in the Priority Pest List. These will be listed in the [OPEP Excel file](#) once they pass the post-assessment and can be supported for survey.
- Two pests, *Chlorophorus annularis* and *Punctodera chaltoensis*, were removed from Commodity pest lists because they scored below the threshold in the OPEP model for inclusion on the Priority Pest List. These are now listed on the [OPEP Excel file](#) for reference.

- Several other pests also were removed from Commodity pest lists because there is no direct evidence that the pests cause significant damage and/or the host is not a preferred host of that pest. See the [Summary of Pest List Changes](#) for details.
- The [Host Matrix](#) and the [online version](#) have been updated for 2019 based on the removal of pests as mentioned above.
- The [Approved Methodology for Pest Surveillance](#) (AMPS) has been updated for 2019 to reflect changes to the pest lists. Two new dropdown filters have been added to the tables. The “Trap” and “Lure” dropdown filters help to identify additional targets that should be included in work plans for lure and trap combinations that are effective for multiple species.
- Sample submission guidance for [Lepidoptera](#), [Wood Borers & Bark Beetles](#), and [Phytoplasmas](#) have been updated, as well as [general](#) samples.
- All Pest Detection and CAPS survey data will be entered into the National Agricultural Pest Information System (NAPIS) for the 2019 field season as in previous years. As states prepare for 2019, remember to complete entry of 2017 survey results into NAPIS. Refer to the [Accountability Report](#) for missing data.

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:

Dr. John Bowers, National Policy Manager for Pest Detection
Office: (301) 851-2087; email John.Bowers@aphis.usda.gov

Ms. Lisa Jackson, National Operations Manager for Pest Detection
Office: (919) 855-7549; email Lisa.D.Jackson@aphis.usda.gov

Dr. Richard Zink, Director, CPHST CAPS Support
Office: (970) 490-4472; email Richard.T.Zink@aphis.usda.gov