

Introduction to the Host Matrix

The 2020 Host Matrix is a tool for identifying survey targets by pest or commodity. The Host Matrix is available as a [searchable online table](#) and as a [downloadable spreadsheet](#) on the [CAPS Resource and Collaboration website](#).

Hints on Using the Searchable Online Table

Search by the pest or host using the available filters. Searching by pest will return all the major hosts of that particular pest. Searching by host will reveal each pest that causes significant damage to the respective host.

Hints on Using the Host Matrix Excel File

The Host Matrix is available for download as an Excel file on the CAPS Research and Collaboration website. Click on “Enable Editing” to be able to sort the columns. The agronomic and fruit/vegetable hosts are on the first workbook tab named “Commodity & Crop Hosts.” The tree and shrub hosts are located on the “Trees & Shrub Hosts” tab. To filter the pests by a host of interest, click on the arrow underneath the host name, then select only the triangle icon. This will sort the pests to only those that are a major host. Pest lists filtered by host are a useful way to identify additional pests to include in bundled surveys.

Major Hosts

In the matrix, S&T uses the same definition that is used to determine major hosts in CAPS datasheets and manuals. For the purpose of CAPS surveys, major hosts are defined as hosts that are listed as major, primary, or preferred in the literature with either information on economic or environmental damage.

Mollusks

In general, mollusks are not host-specific and they are best surveyed for along a potential pathway of introduction. For this reason, mollusks were not included in this matrix.

Weeds/Parasitic Plants

Rangeland weeds are not necessarily associated with a specific host and were not included in this matrix. Other weeds may be associated with a specific agronomic host or cropping system. Parasitic plants, in contrast, are often associated with one or a few hosts. When the matrix is expanded to include all pests from the commodity manuals or additional pests are run through the pest prioritization process, information will be incorporated into the matrix for any weed or parasitic plant with specific host information.

Pests of Stored Products

Pests of stored products, such as *Trogoderma granarium* (Khapra beetle), are not included in the Host Matrix. These pests are not host-specific and they are best surveyed for along a potential pathway of introduction. For instance, Khapra beetle prefers grain and cereal products but will feed on almost any dried plant or animal matter. Khapra beetle surveys should be conducted in high-risk warehouses.