

Guidance for Bundling Former Priority Pests

Each year, Science and Technology (S&T) evaluates and updates the Priority Pest List for Cooperative Agricultural Pest Survey (CAPS) and Plant Protection Act 7721 (PPA 7721) Goal 1 early detection surveys. The Objective Prioritization of Exotic Pests (OPEP) Impact Assessment model and the Survey and Identification/Diagnostic Assessment (S/D Assessment) evaluate the predicted impact of a species in the United States and the availability of survey and identification methods, respectively. Over the past few years, S&T has used this process to evaluate the pests added to the Priority Pest List prior to the development of the Impact Assessment model and the S/D Assessment. A pest is removed if it is predicted to cause moderate or low impact in the United States and/or lacked effective methods. In addition, a pest is removed from the Priority Pest List if it is federally deregulated or becomes established in multiple states (or reaches the extent of its range in the United States). The following is guidance on whether or not these pests are suitable for bundling into CAPS and PPA 7721 Goal 1 surveys.

1. Federally deregulated pests

- If effective survey and identification/diagnostic methods are available, the pest may be bundled.
- If the pest does not have an effective survey or identification/diagnostic method, then the pest **may not** be bundled.

2. Pests without effective survey or identification/diagnostic methods

- If the pest was removed from the Priority Pest List because it does not have an effective survey or identification/diagnostic method, then the pest **may not** be bundled.

The pests predicted to cause high impact are a priority for research and methods development. Once effective methods are available, the pest may return to the Priority Pest List.

3. Priority Pests predicted to cause low or moderate impact

- These organisms were added to the Priority Pest List before the Impact Assessment was adopted for prioritizing pests. The pests have been evaluated by the Impact Assessment and are predicted to cause low or moderate impact.
- It is strongly encouraged that low impact pests not be bundled into surveys. If this were a new pest suggestion, the pest would not be added to the list.
- Before adding a pest in this category to a survey, the cooperator must consult with the National Operations Manager for Pest Detection and provide a justification of why it is important to bundle the pest into the survey (trade concerns, etc.).
- Moderate impact pests with effective survey or identification/diagnostic methods may be bundled into surveys.

The Summary of Pest List Changes document lists the pests removed from the Priority Pest List and states whether a pest is appropriate for bundling. This document is included in the National

Pest Surveillance Guidelines each year. For all pests removed prior to 2021, see [Bundling Former Priority Pests \(Excel File\)](#). This information is also distributed to the National CAPS Committee and Pest Survey Specialists via monthly calls. When preparing work plans, please refer to Summary of Pest List Changes document and the Bundling Former Priority Pests spreadsheet. If pests identified as “not approved for bundling” are included in work plans, the National Operations Manager for Pest Detection will ask for their removal during the work plan review process.

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