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July 31, 2014
St. Louis, Missouri

RESOLUTION No. 2

**SUPPORT FOR A NATIONAL COOPERATIVE AGRICULTURAL PEST
SURVEY MEEETING**

The Cooperative Agricultural Pest Survey (CAPS) program provides critical assistance to federal, state, tribal and other governments for the surveillance and early detection of pests of regulatory significance. The risks posed by these pests impact agro-ecosystems, products and stakeholders throughout the US, therefore requiring a national response.

The National Plant Board believes that a national CAPS meeting furthers the goals of the CAPS Program by providing a forum to coordinate detection and delimiting survey activities that facilitate this national response through coordination and cooperation between key personnel including: State Survey Coordinators, Pest Survey Specialists, State Plant Regulatory Officials, State Plant Health Directors, Subject Matter Experts, and industry.

WHEREAS The CAPS Program is a model federal-state partnership and is an important part of each state's pest response program.

WHEREAS Awareness of national and regional plant pest concerns is enhanced through workshops and direct meetings like those that occur at the national CAPS Meeting, the last of which occurred in 2010.

WHEREAS Funding for the national CAPS meeting is critical to states but has been insecure for several years resulting in states developing work plan budgets which do not account for attendance at a national CAPS meeting.

WHEREAS States may lack funding to send their State Survey Coordinator and State Plant Regulatory Official to a national CAPS meeting unless included as part of the CAPS work plan budget plan.

WHEREAS Efficiencies are gained by coordinating CAPS with other line item pest and Farm Bill surveys.

RESOLVED by the membership of the National Plant Board at its 88th annual meeting in St. Louis, Missouri on July 31, 2014, that APHIS commit to funding a biennial national CAPS Meeting and that this commitment occurs in advance of the CAPS work plan submission process, or allows amendments to state's work plans in order to facilitate attendance by State Survey Coordinators and State Plant Regulatory Officials at this meeting.

Distribution

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