Eastern Plant Board
91st Annual Meeting

Proceedings

Harbourtowne Resort
St. Michaels, MD
April 4—7, 2016
# Eastern Plant Board

## 91st ANNUAL MEETING AGENDA

Saint Michaels, Maryland **MONDAY**

**April 4, 2016**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Topic</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>5:00 – 7:00 PM</td>
<td>Registration</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7:00 – 9:00 PM</td>
<td>Reception - Deck</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Hospitality / Discussion Time - Room 1112</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### TUESDAY - April 5, 2016

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Topic</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>7:00 – 8:00 AM</td>
<td><strong>Hot Breakfast Buffet Included</strong> - Bayview Restaurant</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8:00 – 8:15 AM</td>
<td><strong>Housekeeping Announcements</strong> - Welcome (in each meeting room)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8:15 – 10:00 AM</td>
<td><strong>Discussion – EPB Members Only</strong> - Prospect Ballroom (Creek A)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8:15 – 10:00 AM</td>
<td><strong>APHIS PPQ Meeting</strong> - Prospect Ballroom (Creek B)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8:15 – 10:00 AM</td>
<td><strong>CBP Meeting</strong> - Prospect Ballroom (Creek C)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8:15 – 10:00 AM</td>
<td><strong>HIS Meeting</strong> - Water’s Edge</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8:15 – 10:00 AM</td>
<td><strong>CAPS Meeting</strong> - Shaw Ballroom A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10:00 – 10:30 AM</td>
<td>~ Break ~</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10:30 AM – 12:00 PM</td>
<td><strong>EPB Business Meeting</strong> – EPB Members Only</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10:30 AM – 12:00 PM</td>
<td><strong>APHIS PPQ Meeting</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10:30 AM – 12:00 PM</td>
<td><strong>CBP Meeting</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12:00 – 1:00 PM</td>
<td><strong>Lunch Included</strong> - Bayview Restaurant</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Joint Session EPB/CAPS/HIS Updates, Discussion, and Next Steps</strong></td>
<td>Prospect Ballroom</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Session Moderator:</strong> <strong>Vicki Smith, CT Agricultural Experiment Station</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1:30 – 2:00 PM</td>
<td><strong>Welcome</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Secretary Joe Bartenfelder, Maryland Department of Agriculture</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Dana Rhodes, President Eastern Plant Board</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2:00 – 2:45 PM</td>
<td><strong>Foulbrood Detector Dog-Demonstration</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Maryland State Apiarist Cybil Preston and Mack</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2:45 – 3:00 PM</td>
<td><strong>Update on pollinator issues</strong> - Faith Kuhn, Delaware Department of Agriculture</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3:00 – 3:15 PM</td>
<td>~ Break ~</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3:15 – 3:35 PM</td>
<td><strong>Don’t get Bugged: Arthropod-Borne Disease Threats</strong>, Victoria Smith,</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Deputy State Entomologist, Connecticut Agricultural Experiment Station</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3:35 – 3:55 PM</td>
<td><strong>Boxwood blight</strong> - Dana Rhodes, Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3:55 – 4:25 PM</td>
<td><strong>Customs and Border Protection Update</strong> - Kevin Harriger, Deputy Executive</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Director U.S. Customs and Border Protection</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4:25-5:00 PM</td>
<td><strong>US Canada Greenhouse Certification Program</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Laney Campbell, National Operation Manager for Exports, USDA APHIS</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Dinner On Your Own</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Hospitality / Discussion Time - Room 1112</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### WEDNESDAY - April 6, 2016

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Topic</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>7:00 AM – 8:00 AM</td>
<td>Hot Buffet Breakfast Included - Bayview Restaurant</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Session Moderator:</strong> Tim Schmaltz, Vermont Agency of Agriculture- Prospect Ballroom</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8:00 AM – 8:30 AM</td>
<td>View from the National Plant Board</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Ann Gibbs - NPB Vice President</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8:30 AM – 9:00 AM</td>
<td>View from the PPQ Field Operations, Raleigh Office</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Clint McFarland, Associate Executive Director, USDA APHIS PPQ. Field Operations</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9:00 AM – 9:30 AM</td>
<td>USFS Report: Forest Health Program</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Ralph Crawford, Assistant Director, Forest Health Protection, USFS</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9:30 AM – 10:00 AM</td>
<td>Farm Bill Update Kristian Rondeau, National Operations Manager USDA, APHIS PPQ</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10:00 AM – 10:30 AM</td>
<td>~ Break ~</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10:30 AM – 11:00 AM</td>
<td>Dickeya Update, Ann Gibbs, Maine Department of Agriculture</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11:00 AM -11:30 AM</td>
<td>USDA Certified ORGANIC Landscape Trees: The How and Why of Being the First</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Steve Black, Owner, Raemelton Farms</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11:30 PM – 12:30 PM</td>
<td>Lunch Included at the hotel - Bayview Restaurant</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12:30 PM – 4:30 PM</td>
<td>Field trips:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Tour A:</strong> St. Michaels Maritime Museum, Environmental Concern-Wetland Plant Nursery (12:30-4:00)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Tour B:</strong> Environmental Concern-Wetland Plant Nursery; St. Michaels Maritime Museum (1:00-4:30)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6:30 PM – 8:30 PM</td>
<td>Dinner Included - Bayview Restaurant</td>
</tr>
<tr>
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<td>Hospitality / Discussion Time - Room 1112</td>
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</table>

### THURSDAY - April 7, 2016

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>7:00 AM – 8:00 AM</td>
<td>Hot Buffet Breakfast Included - Bayview Restaurant</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Session Moderator:</strong> Dana Rhodes, Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture - Prospect</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8:00-8:30 AM</td>
<td><strong>EPB Members on NPB Committees Updates</strong>, Dana Rhodes, Coordinator</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8:30 – 9:30 AM</td>
<td>ezFedGrantsTraining, Chris Coppenbarger Senior Financial Systems Analyst, Office of the Chief Financial Officer, USDA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9:30-10:00 AM</td>
<td>Spotted lanternfly Update; Dana Rhodes, PA Dept. of Agriculture</td>
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<tr>
<td>10:00 – 10:30 AM</td>
<td>~ Break ~</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10:30 – 11:00 AM</td>
<td>HIS Report</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11:00 – 11:30 AM</td>
<td>CAPS Report</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11:30AM – 12:00 PM</td>
<td>EPB Meeting Wrap-Up and Next Steps - EPB Members Only</td>
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STATE OF THE REGION

Eastern Plant Board
2016

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>State</th>
<th>Licensed</th>
<th>Inspections</th>
<th>State Phyto</th>
<th>Federal Phyto</th>
<th>Apairy Inspections</th>
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<td>414</td>
<td>149</td>
<td>*</td>
<td>2801</td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

CONNECTICUT
Despite increased losses of honey bee colonies, beekeeping interest is still high with over 900 new beekeepers trained during the winter.

DELAWARE
Interstate transportation of honey bees included 1700 colonies from Maryland, 920 colonies from West Virginia, 860 colonies from New Jersey and 850 colonies from Pennsylvania, plus 4330 transported in for vine crops.

MARYLAND
The apiary program trained a handler and dog to detect American foul brood disease in honey bee colonies. A trained dog can inspect 100 colonies in 45 minutes.

MAINE
10,486 acres of potatoes met disease tolerances for regulated disease and pests during the summer field inspection program.
NEW HAMPSHIRE
One grower entered into a compliance agreement to participate in the US Canadian Greenhouse Certification Program (USCGCP). Participation in this program has resulted in efficiencies for both the Division and the grower.

NEW JERSEY
Over 100,000 acres of soybeans were planted in 2015. 80,000 acres used parasitoid releases to control Mexican bean beetle. The program has been successful in that there have been no pesticide applications needed in these fields since 1995. Saving an estimated $1,300,000.

NEW YORK
During 2015, 113 infested trees and 4,229 high risk trees have been removed in the Asian Longhorned Beetle quarantined. To date 7,077 infested trees and 16,649 high risk trees removed for ALB.

PENNSYLVANIA
In 2015, the Fruit Tree Improvement Program processed 2000 samples for viruses of concern. All 3 participants met the requirements for the program. 63,165 spotted lanternfly were destroyed via egg mass scraping, banding, and tree removal.

WEST VIRGINIA
The gypsy moth program is the largest Forest Health Protection Program under WVDA. In 2015, 3,777 gypsy moth traps were deployed and 30,998 gypsy moth males were trapped.
Pollinators

Eastern Plant Board
April 5, 2016
Faith B. Kuehn
Environmental Program Administrator
Delaware Department of Agriculture

Pollinator Health Task Force
May 19, 2015

National Strategy to Promote the Health of Honey Bees and other Pollinators

- Reduce honey bee winter mortality losses to no more than 15%, within 10 years
- Increase the Eastern population of the Monarch butterfly to 225 million, in an area of 15 acres in their overwintering grounds in Mexico, by 2020
- Restore or enhance 7 million acres of land for pollinators over the next 5 years

Reduce Pollinators’ Pesticide Exposure

- Issue new toxicity study guidelines to more fully protect honey bees
- Re-evaluate neonicotinoids (including seed treatments)
- Assess other pesticides for their potential impacts on pollinators
- Restrict the use of pesticides that are acutely toxic to bees
- Work with states to issue pollinator protection plans
- Evaluate and mitigate risks to monarch butterflies

Managed Pollinator Protection Symposium
March 10-11, 2016

- Convened by Honey Bee Health Coalition, EPA, USDA and NASDA
- MP3s – state status
- Need to establish measures to show effectiveness of MP3s
- EPA is looking to states for their plans and progress before deciding what to do next

Factors Affecting Bee Health

- Habitat loss, fragmentation, degradation (forage and nesting)
- Poor nutrition (see above)
- Pests and diseases
- Pesticides
- Migratory stress from long term transport

June 20, 2014

Presidential Memorandum-Signing for Pollinators

Establish Pollinator Task Force
*Pollinator Research Action Plan
*Public Education Plan
*Plan to Increase Pollinator Habitat
Pollinator Protection Plan

One critical aspect of the Pollinator Protection Plan is preventing drift onto bees.

How? Through increasing communication and awareness.

BeeCheck allows applicators to check hive locations and use extra care. Applicators can also contact hive owners.
Don’t Get Bugged: Arthropod-Borne Disease Threats

Victoria Lynn Smith
Deputy State Entomologist
CT Agricultural Experiment Station

Dengue, Chikungunya, Yellow Fever, and Zika virus:
- Represent the most important arboviral diseases
- Maintained in a human-mosquito cycle
- Explosive epidemics and sustained endemic transmission in urban areas
- Global distribution in tropical and subtropical regions
- Localized transmission in Europe (Italy and France) and North America (Florida, Texas)
- Share common mosquito vector
  - Yellow fever mosquito (Aedes aegypti)
  - Asian tiger mosquito (Aedes albopictus)

Aedes breeding sites:

Zika Virus:
- RNA virus in the family Flaviviridae
- First discovered in Uganda in 1947
- Previously confined to Africa and SE Asia
  - Sporadic human infection in rural areas
  - Found in canopy-dwelling mosquitoes and non-human primates
- Recently adapted to a human-mosquito life cycle
- Spread to Pacific Islands (Yap Micronesia 2007)
- Detected in Brazil in May 2016
- Rapidly spread to 26 countries in the Western Hemisphere

Origin of Zika Virus Pandemic:
- Strains from South America (Suriname) compared to viruses from around the world by phylogenetic analysis
- Two major lineages of Zika virus: Asian and African
- Most closely related to a strain circulating in French Polynesia 2013
Zika Virus:

- Febrile illness
  - Fever, headache, rash, muscle pain, joint pain, conjunctivitis
- Temporary paralysis (Guillain-Barre syndrome)
- Associated with microcephaly, brain damage in newborns
  - Vertical transmission of virus to fetus
  - >20-fold increase in microcephaly in Brazil
- Sexual transmission documented in cases
- Deaths are rare

Asian Tiger Mosquito (Aedes albopictus):

- Native to East Asia
- Spread to Europe, West Asia, Africa, and the Americas during the last 30 years via the global tire trade
- U.S. breeding population discovered in Houston TX in 1985
- Range expansion into northeastern U.S.
  - Including NJ, NYC, Long Island in the 2000s
- Aggressive human-biter
Boxwood Blight

History

- First Found in US
  - 2011 in CT and NC
- First Found in PA
  - 2012 Lancaster County

PA Inspector Activity

**Trace Forward/Inspections**
- 2013 - 12 Locations with positives
- 2014 - 62 samples submitted
- 9 Positive
- 2015 - 150 locations inspected with 167 samples collected and 70 positives -
  - July - 59 samples
  - 20 Positive
  - September - October - 62 samples
  - 35 Positive

What Do We Know

- 2 Large suppliers for large box stores not in "Clean Boxwood Program"
- "Special" priced material received
- Canadian grown material

What Do We Know

- Plant Diseases are difficult to regulate
- Systems approach programs helpful
- Assistance from PPQ needed for imports
- Due to preventative applications disease presents 4-6 weeks after being received

Response

**Working Together**
- Find approaches to educate industry producers and retailers
- Promote the "Boxwood Clean Program" across the NPB
- Educate importers of the importance of systems approaches for boxwood production.
- Continue to look at borders
Helping Industry

Share the Message
- Ask suppliers questions
- Isolate incoming boxwood
- Don’t comingle stock
- Practice best management practices for locations
- Sanitation is important to prevent the spread

Workers in Green Industry

Sanitation
- Work Clean to Dirty
- Clean tools between jobs
- Clean equipment regularly
- Spores are very sticky and cling to clothes, tools, and animals

Retailers and Landscapers

Best Management Practices
- Don’t comingle boxwood stock together
- Isolate new material for observation
- Incorporate breaks between varieties and vendors (other plant stock can be placed in between)
- Know your vendors
- Special buys may not be so “Special”
- Explain what happens if a positive

Share the message
- Please Don’t
- Compost
- PSU currently studying requirements for safe composting
- Replant with boxwood
- Spores can live in the soil for 10+ years
- Move from suspect material to clean area
- Could be costly to landscape customers and to the company

Arboretums and Homeowners

Questions
Agriculture Resource Allocation Model

- The AgRAM is a workload-based, objective management tool designed to project staffing requirements.
- The AgRAM model has been used to determine that based on the optimal staffing requirements for CBPAS, an additional 723 new hires are needed for our workforce.
- These numbers include CBPAS, Supervisory CBPAS, and CBP Canine Handlers.

National Agriculture Cargo Targeting Unit

- Consists of five permanent Agriculture Operations Managers who continuously analyze national quarantine activity in order to identify high risk shipments.
- Function in harmony with local targeting units.
- Collaborating with CBP systems development groups to enhance programs to provide platforms for additional targeting.
- NACTU has assumed a field support role and is available for direct field support 7 days a week to provide guidance and assist with research requests to gather field intelligence.

Agriculture Canine Initiatives

- Currently there are 111 agriculture canine teams deployed nationwide.
- In Fiscal Year 2015, CBP Agriculture Canines generated 241,514 plant and animal quarantine material interceptions.
- Upon the completion of the ADDTS course scheduled for July 2016, all required ports will have trained AK9 supervisor.

Delegation of Title 19 Authority

- Pursuant to CBP Delegation Order 15-004, and a bilateral agreement with APHIS, the OFO Assistant Commissioner amended the Delegation Order to include CBPAS.
- CBPAS will soon effectively utilize Title 19 authority for five (5) specific violations related to agriculture.
- Training to be provided by OCC and APTL.

Ag/Bio-Terrorism Countermeasures (ABTC)

- Bio-threat Image Library (BIL) will contain archived images of biological and agriculture threats.
- In accordance with NTC, ABTC is working to create criteria intended to enhance targeting ag/bio-terrorism threats.
- ABTC is collaborating with Office of Training and Development to create training modules on ag/bio-terrorism awareness and regulatory processing of select agents and toxins.
Wood Packaging Materials (WPM)

October 2015-December 2015

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Field Office</th>
<th>No ISPM 15 and Pest</th>
<th>No ISPM15 Pest</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Atlanta</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>33 2</td>
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<tr>
<td>Baltimore</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>6 4</td>
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<td>-</td>
<td>1 -</td>
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<tr>
<td>National</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>383 186</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Mediterranean Fruit Fly

Interceptions of Ceratitis capitata, the Mediterranean Fruit Fly (Medfly) cause enhanced restrictions on host commodities.

- March 18, 2015, APHIS issued a Federal Order on host commodities from the Dominican Republic.
- December 30, 2015, consignments arriving from Spain are placed under increased exam protocol.
- January 29, 2016, host commodities from Morocco are placed under new restrictions by Federal Order.

Khapra Beetle (KB)

Calendar Year KB Interceptions

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>2009</th>
<th>2010</th>
<th>2011</th>
<th>2012</th>
<th>2013</th>
<th>2014</th>
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<td>14</td>
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<td>233</td>
<td>250</td>
<td>220</td>
<td>209</td>
<td>162</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- CBP continues providing training and situational awareness of KB behavior and habits based on detection of unknown materials.

First In Nation Pest Interceptions FY 2015

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Pest Name</th>
<th>Port of Entry</th>
<th>Origin</th>
<th>Order/Kingdom</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Lymantria xylina</td>
<td>Baltimore, MD</td>
<td>Japan</td>
<td>Lepidoptera</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chaetocnema breviuscula</td>
<td>Feldermann (Chrysomelidae)</td>
<td>Baltimore, MD</td>
<td>Italy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dryophthorus corticalis</td>
<td>Buffalo, NY</td>
<td>Italy</td>
<td>Coleoptera</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tylenchorhynchus mediterraneus</td>
<td>JFK, NY</td>
<td>Morocco</td>
<td>Tylenchida</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tropothrips</td>
<td>Newark, NJ</td>
<td>Brazil</td>
<td>Thysanoptera</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Eleothinus sp.</td>
<td>Newark, NJ</td>
<td>Costa Rica</td>
<td>Coleoptera</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pityophthorus glabratus</td>
<td>Norfolk, VA</td>
<td>Poland</td>
<td>Coleoptera</td>
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<tr>
<td>Metaleptea adspersa</td>
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<td>Colombia</td>
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<td>Lysathia occidentalis</td>
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<td>Ototarsonemus sp.</td>
<td>Wilmington, DE</td>
<td>Guatemala</td>
<td>Acari</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Agriculture Rooster

Dec. 23 – A passenger arrived at the John F. Kennedy International Airport from Russia and presented one live rooster for inspection. The passenger was in possession of an animal health certificate but did not have a USDA Veterinary Service import permit. The passenger decided to surrender and abandon the bird, which was euthanized by Veterinary Services. The bird and carrier were disposed of approved methods.
AGRICULTURE

Dec 13 - A male passenger arrived from China at JFK International Airport (JFK). His luggage was scanned using the "AIRCARE" system, which uses X-ray technology to detect prohibited items. In his luggage, they found 17 cooked mitten crabs but also 37 live blood clams. Blood clams and mitten crabs are both regulated species in the United States. The US Department of Agriculture, which regulates the importation of invasive species, warned the passenger to properly declare all goods to avoid potential fines.

Crabs and Clams

Questions?

I HAVE A QUESTION...
WHATS FOR LUNCH?

DIYQL.COM
Revision of the U.S.– Canada Greenhouse-Grown Plant Certification Program (GCP)

Laney Campbell
National Operations Manager
USDA APHIS Plant Protection and Quarantine

Eastern Plant Board Meeting
St. Michaels, MD
April 2016

Overview

• Background
• What’s new?
• Next steps
• Coordination with SANC

Background

• GCP in place since 1996
• Facilitate movement of greenhouse grown plants between the U.S. and Canada
• Allows authorized facilities to ship using a GCP sticker in place of a phytosanitary certificate
• APHIS and CFIA revising program to strengthen oversight and improve consistency of implementation, reflect current business practices, close phytosanitary gaps

‘New and Improved’ GCP

• Basic program is unchanged
• Increased responsibility for facility to ensure plants meet phytosanitary requirements under an audit-based systems approach
• GCP sticker is equivalent to U.S. or Canadian phytosanitary certificate, issued on behalf of APHIS or CFIA

What’s new?

• Improved coordination between U.S. and Canada on program administration
  – Technical Requirements document describes the program for facilities within U.S. and Canada
  – Single document will promote consistent implementation within and between countries
  – Compliance agreements will include same elements for all U.S. and Canadian facilities

What’s new?

• Written pest management plan
• Facilities required to provide list of all plants in production in facility (taxa, origin, special phytosanitary requirements)
• Modules may be required to document special phytosanitary measures
Changes to make life easier

- Interfacility stamp
- 28 day growth and monitoring period
- Process to allow exemptions from growth and monitoring period, and to allow outdoor growth
- Mechanism to allow bamboo stakes or other 'associated articles' to move under GCP sticker

Next steps

- Finalize Technical Requirements based on stakeholder input
- Sign new MOU
- Lead in period:
  - Finalize training material and guidance documents
  - Update audit training for ACOs
  - Outreach to GCP facilities, CBP

Implementation

- Begin reauthorization of facilities next fall.
- 1-2 years to complete re-authorization of all facilities
- What happens when some facilities are under the new program and some under the old?

GCP-SANC Coordination

- Systems Approach for Nursery Certification
- Parallels with GCP; want to avoid duplicative or conflicting programs
- Formation of GCP-SANC Working Group to work on coordinated implementation

APHIS Contacts

- Sarika Negi – Accreditation Policy Manager (sarika.negi@aphis.usda.gov; 301-851-2349)
- Alec Ormsby – Accreditation Operations Manager (alec.ormsby@aphis.usda.gov; 970-494-7521)
- Laney Campbell – Manager, Trade Specialists (laney.campbell@aphis.usda.gov; 919-855-7314)
- Terri Dunahay – Canada Trade Director (terri.g.Dunahay@aphis.usda.gov; 301-951-2369)

Questions/Comments?
2016 National Plant Board Updates

Ann Gibbs
NPB Vice President, ME

EPB Board of Directors
Dana Rhodes, PA
Chris Logue, NY
Faith Kuehn (alternate), DE

Monthly calls
1 to 2 NPB/PPQ leadership meetings per year
Opportunity for states to raise issues through regional officers that may affect other states

Pest Issues

- Dickeya
- ME
- Citrus canker
- TX
- Plum Pox Virus
- New area in NY
- Flag smut
- KS
- Corn tar spot
- IN & IL
- Spotted Lanternfly
- PA
- Chew toys from China
- Clementines from Morocco
- ???

Pest(s) new to the US found in your state
- NPB President sends and email asking for permission to share with NPB members
- Work with the state on timing - sharing can be delayed
- If no response within 2 weeks, message will be forwarded to members

List of new US Pests since Aug 2015:

Pathogens
- Nandina domestica/Phoma sp. cf. nandinae
- Chrysanthemum/Phytophthora chrysanthemi
- Aptenia cordifolia/Peronospora mesembryanthemi
- Cordyline glauca/Colletotrichum cordylinicola
- Turmeric/Colletotrichum queenslandicum
- Tar spot of corn/Phyllachora maydis
- Gooseberry/Phakapsora phyllanthi

Insects
- Onion leafminer/Leeks & Onions/Phytomyza gymnostoma
- Whitefly/Aliso sp (tropical)/Aulothrips antidesmae
NPB basement

- www.nationalplantboard.org/basement
- Valuable resource for states
- Need the key? Email Carrie Larson cllarson@nd.gov for password
- What's hiding down there?
  - RDO & NPB/PPQ call minutes
  - Presentations
  - PPQ contact list
  - Organizational charts
  - Misc past meeting info

SPHD/SPRO Dialog

- Opportunity for state and federal program discussions
- Items for discussion
  - Cooperative agreements
  - MOUs
  - Personnel available/specialities
  - State regulations
    - Who has authority in certain situations
  - Data collection
- Organizational charts
- Complete over time
- Revisit over time

Federally Recognized State Managed Phytosanitary Program (FRSMP)

- Pests that PPQ has decided not to regulate at the ports domestically
- DEEP pest (Deregulation Evaluation of Established Pests)
- Not all pests are good candidates for FRSMP
- 2 months to file “intent to petition” after DEEP is due
- 12 months after intent to file complete* petition
- For more information:
  - Ricardo Valdez – PPQ National Coordinator

Members on NPB Appointed Committees

- Japanese Beetle Harmonization
  - Julie Van Meter Chair
  - Awinash Bhatkar
  - Mike Bryan
  - Kari Caraher
  - Rich Cowles
  - Ben Kaczmarski
  - Richard Johnson
  - Jason Leathers

- Awards
  - Julie Van Meter (CPB) Chair
  - Ann Gibbs (EPB)
  - Joe Collins (SPB)
  - Mitch Wright (WPB)

- Website
  - Carrie Larson (CPB) content manager
  - Brad White (WPB) webmaster

EPB Members on Non-NPB Committees

- Cooperative Agreements
  - Joe Zoltowski
  - GM Review
  - Eric Ewing
  - LBAM review
  - Joe Zoltowski
  - National CAPS Committee
  - Pierre Siegert

- New Pest Advisory Group
  - Vicki Smith

- P. Ramorum regulatory
  - Vicki Smith, Dana Rhodes

- Potato Wart Working Group
  - Ann Gibbs

- Farm Bill
  - Dana Rhodes, Ann Gibbs, Vicki Smith, Chris Logue

- Pollinator Issues
  - Faith Kuehn

EPB Reps on Non - NPB Committees

- Biocontrol – Mark Meyer NJ
- CARPOL – Saul Valciunus NJ
- Coop Agreements – Margaret Kelly NY
- Export Certification – Sarah Scally ME
- Permitting Board of Advisors – Jeff Brothers DE
- Post Entry – Bob Trumbule MD
- NCPN – Ruth Welliver PA, Margaret Kelly NY
Strategic Alliance between NPB & PPQ

- Initiated at a June 2014 meeting between NPB and PPQ leadership
- Desire to more fully utilize and align respective state and federal authorities and resources to better safeguard agriculture and our natural resources.

Four key priorities identified:
- Funding
  - Alan Dowdy & Brad White
- Enforcement and Compliance
  - Paula Henstridge & Dana Rhodes
- Training
  - Alan Dowdy & Geir Friisoe
- Deregulation evaluation
  - Scott Pfister & Mitch Yergert
- Move to standalone

Next set of priorities will be addressed at summer BOD-PPQ meeting

Deregulation Evaluation of Pine Shoot Beetle

- First detected 1992
  - Cleveland, OH
- NPB voted for deregulation in 2015
  - Quarantine not effective at preventing spread
  - Damage minimal
  - Control through management strategies
- Proposed fed rule being drafted
- Based on public comments APHIS to decide whether to deregulate or not

Federal Register Notices

- Email from Ken Rauscher asking for comments
- Respond even if you aren’t concerned about the issue
- 7 requests since May 2015
  - 1 NPB support
  - Hot water treatment for large Mangos, expansion of GM generally infested area, permitting for field testing of GE wheat
  - 1 Not opposed by NPB
  - Orchid from China, Cranberries from Chile, tomato plantlets from Mexico
  - One NPB opposed
  - GE bentgrass because OR & ID issues with establishment off site

SANC Leadership

- Dana Rhodes PA SANC Co-Chair
- Aurelio Posadas NPB Executive Secretary
- Wayne Dixon NPB Program Associate

Ken Rauscher Program Associate
SANC Pilot Nursery/Greenhouse Operations

Walla Walla Nursery
Oregon Pride Nurseries
McKay Nursery Co.
Conard-Pyle Co.
Greenleaf Nursery Co.
Forrest Keeling Nursery
Southeastern Growers, Inc

Pilot Nursery Progress

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SANC - Regional State Participation

- Eastern Plant Board
  - CT - Vicki Smith
  - ME - Ann Gibbs, Sarah Scally
  - MD - Carol Holko (retired from SANC)
  - NJ - Joe Zoltowski, Galen Ettinger, Ryan Rieder, Pilot Facility - Lucas Greenhouses
  - NY - Chris Logue
  - PA - Dana Rhodes, Tina Stimmler, Ruth Welliver, Sarah Gettys, Pilot Facility - Conard Pyle

90th Annual Meeting of the National Plant Board

July 31-August 4, 2016 Wilmington, Delaware

Wilmington

- Largest city in Delaware
- 20 minute drive to Philadelphia International Airport, also easily accessible by Interstates 95, 295, NJ and Garden State Turnpikes, and Amtrak
- Walking distance to restaurants, theaters, coffee houses, and many interesting places

Hotel duPont

The luxurious Hotel du Pont has been welcoming guests since 1913 to one of the grandest hotels in the world, located in the heart of downtown Wilmington, DE
Companion trip to the sandy beaches and surf of the majestic Atlantic Ocean

A quick trolley ride to the Riverfront

Bottom left: Kalmar Kyckel, Delaware’s Tall Ship; Bottom right: Russell W. Peterson Urban Wildlife Refuge

PLUS – restaurants, Iron Hill Brewery, IMAX theater, Children’s Museum… and more!

Meeting Sessions

• Federal and Partner updates
• New and emerging pests
• Hemp
• Pollinators
• Crazy Worms
• Biotechnology
• And a few special presentations

Wednesday Afternoon Field Trip:

Mt. Cuba Center & North Creek Nurseries

Mt. Cuba is a botanical garden featuring native plants. North Creek is a wholesale supplier of native plant liners and plugs.

And then, after that…..

Wednesday Evening - Buena Vista

Wednesday Evening - Buena Vista

Beautiful surroundings, great food and brew

Music by Betty, the Bullet, & the Boy from Boston
Don’t Miss this Important Opportunity:

- Hear updates on the important plant regulatory issues facing your state
- Welcome new members, and network with state and federal colleagues
- Provide needed input on NPB business at the Annual Business Meeting
- Experience the beauty and hospitality of the 49th largest state in the USA
- Looking forward to seeing you!

NPB members beware while visiting MD!

Questions?
PPQ Field Operations

Clint McFarland
Associate Executive Director
Field Operations
USDA APHIS
Plant Protection and Quarantine
Eastern Plant Board
Saint Michaels, MD
April 2016

Field Operations Goals

- PPQ’s priorities
- Positioning Field Operations for the future
- Key leadership positions

Funding and solutions

- Overarching budget
- Field Operations budget
- Funding for cooperators

Agriculture Quarantine Inspection

- Risk Based Sampling
- Agricultural Risk Management
- Cold Treatment Pilot Program
- Caribbean Safeguarding Initiative

Domestic and Emergency Programs

- Asian Long Horned Beetle
- Spotted Lantern Fly
- Plum Pox Virus

Tribal Partnerships

- Recognized tribes
- Relationships
- ICS Training Exercises
DART and IT

- ESRI Mobile Application
- Data Quality Tool Development
- Custom Port of Entry Profiles

Thank you!

Questions?
What is Dickeya?

- *Dickeya* is a type of bacteria that causes blackleg. *Pectobacterium* is another type.
- Symptoms are blackening and decay of lower stem or the “leg” of the plant.
- There are 7 species of *Dickeya* only 1 is found in the US *Dickeya dianthicola* and has been present since the 1950s.

2015 Timeline

- 2014 – reports of *Dickeya* in Maine & Quebec
- June 2015 – die off of plants in PA, DE & NJ who received seed from ME
- July 2015 – report written from ME Extension outlining findings and recommendations
- August 2015 – discussions with PPQ at the NPB meeting
- August 2015 – call with seed certification officials
Challenges Dealing with Dickeya

- No chemical controls
- No resistant potato varieties
- Disease expression doesn’t occur unless conditions are right – favors hot humid conditions
- No visual symptoms on seed

National Efforts

- Several conference calls with seed certification officials
- Natl. Potato Council convened 2 subcommittees to:
  - Establish standard testing protocols
  - Develop management strategies for the upcoming growing season
- Specialty Crop Research Initiative (SCRI) 5 year $3 million grant proposal entitled: Integrating next generation technologies for management of bacterial soft rot pathogens of potatoes

APHIS PPQ

- PPQ formed a cross functional working group
- Initiated a New Pest Advisory Group
- Developed best management practices
- Developed non validated testing protocols
- Tested 80 samples from 15 states – 7 different states were positive for Dickeya dianthicola from all regions of the US
- Monitoring for potential trade implications
Regulatory Status of Dickeya

- The recommendation is that APHIS/PPQ will not regulate *Dickeya dianthicola* because it appears to be widespread across the US
- No detections of *Dickeya solani*, which is not known to occur in North America

Maine’s Approach

- Many Pronged

2015 Field inspections

- Inspectors were asked to note blackleg percentage
- Of 1,103 seed lots
  - 82% - no blackleg
  - 11% - .01 - .25%
  - 5.9% - > .25%
- These results were noted on the NA Health Certificate

Scottish delegation

- Scottish scientists visited Maine in 10/15
- Met with growers, Dept. & MPB staff to share their experiences and provided advice
- Spent time in the lab helping with testing protocols and lab set up
- Presented a national webinar and answered questions
- Continue to provide assistance

Proposed rule changes

- Add a separate field inspection for blackleg
- Established tolerances for blackleg
  - FY 1 – 0.1%
  - FY 2 – 0.2%
  - FY 3 – 1.0%
  - FY 4 – 2.0%
  - FY 5 – 2.0%
- Eliminated one FY eligible for certification
- Allow for lab testing of more post harvest samples

Blackleg tolerances
Plans for 2016

- Implement rule changes
- Dormant tuber testing
- Screening survey of 2 specific field years (FY) to determine blackleg levels
- Additional staff for field inspections

Questions?
USDA Certified ORGANIC Landscape Trees: The How and Why of Being the First

Steve Black
Raemelton Farm

Why ORGANIC?
- "Nobody cares", "Why bother"
- The Non-Food Organic trend
- The target market
- Marketing value

Organic Ornamentals
- Aesthetics first, certification second
- All practices must be up-scalable
- Leverage our existing capabilities

A Full Scope IPM Program
Management Decisions:  
Preserve the Good Guys

Compost

Cover Crops

Sensor Driven Irrigation

The Changes
- Paper work, forms, records...
- New ‘chemicals’
- Increased tempo of monitoring
- Using all the little hammers

Organic Practices:
The little hammers
Organic Practices:
Ambrosia Beetle

Organic Practices:
Weeds

Organic Practices:
The Weed Seed Bank

Organic Practices:
Cover Crops

Organic Practices:
The Weed Seeker
Questions?
NPB Committees Updates

EPB MEMBERS
NPB Committees Updates

COMMITTEES REPORTING

Pollinator Health – Faith Kuehn, DE
LBAM – Joe Zoltowski, NJ
Gypsy Moth – Eric Ewing, WV
P ramorum – Vicki Smith, CT
Domestic Date System – Chris Logue, NY
JBHP and SANC – Dana Rhodes, PA

Today’s Discussion
- What is ezFedGrants?
- Grants and Agreements Management Processes and Challenges
- USDA Grants Management Overview
- Objectives
- Solution Overview
- Who Should Use The System?
- Next Steps
- Questions

What is ezFedGrants?
A comprehensive grants and agreements management solution that gives the recipients the ability to manage their awards throughout the entire lifecycle of the agreement
- Solicitation, Application and Evaluation
- Award execution with electronic signature
- Managing Post Award
  - Claims
  - Progress Reports (Financial and Performance)
  - Amendments
  - Monitoring
  - Closeout

ezFedGrants Functionality
Key Functionality
- Application Submission
- Comprehensive Financial Management Integration
- Agreement Creation
- Agreement Modifications
- Reporting Data
- Claims
- Closeout

In Progress Enhancements
- Data Act Compliance
- Grants.gov Integration
- Application Review Process (ARP)
- Automated Standard Application for Payments (ezFedGrants) Integration

Future Enhancements
- Inter-Agency Agreements
- Repayments
- Collection Agreements

Benefits of ezFedGrants
- Decreased overall Grant Program costs
- Financial Integration with USDA Financial Management Services (FMS)/Financial Management Modernization Initiative (FMMI)
- Consistent and efficient procedures across agencies
- Enforced compliance
- Traceable workflow
- Automated Progress Reporting
- Electronic Signature

Current ezFedGrants Agencies
- Foreign Agriculture Service (FAS)
- Food and Nutrition Service (FNS)
- Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS)
- Agricultural Marketing Service (AMS)

Relevant Agreement Types
- Cooperative Agreements, Entitlement Grants (via State Block Grants), Discretionary Grants
- Other Federal Financial Assistance Transactions

In Process ezFedGrants Agencies
- National Institute of Food and Agriculture (NIFA)
- Animal Plant and Health Inspection Service (APHIS)
- Forest Service (FS)
- Research, Education, Economics Agencies (ARES, CSREES, NASS)

Ineffective, Complex Processes
- Limited ability to oversee and monitor the grantee because of the different systems and processes leading to higher costs, errors & inefficiencies
- Lack of integration between financial and grant processes leads to inaccurate payments, misused budgets, inability to identify potential savings
- Inflexible, disconnected, redundant systems and processes cause inefficiencies, increased costs, and lower service responsiveness

Limited Operational Visibility
- Lack of transparency
- Cannot easily identify trends, create reports, or tracking information

Limited Compliance
- Excessive process diversity among grant programs, redundant data collection and process definition
- Restricted and inefficient requirements increases costs, impedes service delivery
Holistic Grants and Agreements Management Process Improves Efficiency, Visibility, and Compliance

Improved Delivery
- Single integrated solution supporting all program types
- Integration of multiple systems
- Improved data access for effective cross-agency and consolidated data
- Improved service delivery is seamless with support for grants

Improved Operational Visibility
- Improved data access for effective cross-agency and consolidated reports
- Improved service delivery is seamless with support for grants
- Improved grant information maximizes service efficiency and ensures data integrity

Improved Accountability & Transparency
- Improved reporting of program data
- Increased visibility and accountability
- Significant cost savings
- Improved grantee satisfaction

Lower Complexity
- Simplification of grant processes
- Increased visibility of grant information
- Improved grantee satisfaction

Increase Efficiency
- Central repository for grant information
- Improved service delivery is seamless with support for grants
- Improved grantee satisfaction

Program Compliance
- Capture of the agreement terms and conditions
- Ensure compliance with regulatory requirements
- Program level business rules enforce compliance with the entire grant lifecycle

USDA Grants and Agreements Management

USDA is comprised of 100,000 employees in 29 agencies and management staff components. USDA delivers more than $144 billion in public services. Mission focus includes:
- Farm and Foreign Agricultural Services
- Food, Nutrition and Consumer Services
- Food Safety
- Marketing and Regulatory Programs
- Natural Resources and Environment
- Research, Education and Economics
- Rural Development

USDA Grant and Agreement Portfolio

- USDA supports and manages: 203+ Grant Programs
- $100B+ in Federal Financial Assistance
- Thousands of Recipients
- Serving millions as award beneficiaries

- Typical characterization of a USDA Award:
  - Multi-year awards
  - Amended 1-2 times/year
  - Quarterly to yearly reports required
  - Various recipient types, such as non-profits and universities
  - 4-5 points of contacts per award

ezFedGrants – Processes

Initial Objectives

- Single Platform to manage the lifecycle of agency Agreements
- Integrated with Budget and Financial Systems (FMMI) and processes (credit card, travel, etc.)
- Integrated with External Systems such as GRANTS.GOV, Excluded Parties List System (EPLS), Central Contractor Registration (CCR), etc.
- Enables program reporting requirements (congressional, internal, etc.)
- Accessibility to agreement information by stakeholder (internal, external, etc.)
- Enable standard operating procedures for each phase of agreement lifecycle and have a solution to enable the process (e.g. close-out process).
- Ability to manage various roles and responsibilities involved in the agreement lifecycle (e.g. separation of duties).
- Ability to support management through different types of agreements (e.g. MOU, grants, cooperative, cost-reimbursement, inter-agency, joint ventures, collection groups).
- Enable compliance requirements (e.g. OMB A-123).
- Support requirements for FOIA and various other regulations.
- Built in business rules that are based upon best business practices, CFO directives, circulars, policy, bulletins, etc.

Who Should Use The System?

- Reviewers
- Applicants for non-competitive opportunities
- Recipients/Cooperators
  - Grants and Contracting Officers
  - Financial Managers
  - Project Director/Principal Investigator
  - Invoice Processor
  - Reports Processor

The FMMI Grants and Agreements Management solution supports the end-to-end grants management processes and to build upon the FMMI SAP ETS and CMM interface with external portal functionality via a Pega portal.
What do you need to use ezFedGrants?

- Data Universal Numbering System (DUNS) Number
- Level 2 eAuthentication
  - Local Registration Authorities (LRA)
    - Register for a Level 2 at www.eauth.usda.gov
    - Schedule an appointment with the closest LRA
    - Bring a valid government ID
  - Application Access Assistance (AAA)
    - Register for a Level 1 at www.eauth.usda.gov
    - Register for a Level 2 at the USDA Client Gateway

ezFedGrants External Roles

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<th>ezFedGrants Role</th>
<th>Role Functions</th>
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<tr>
<td>Grants Administrative Official (GAO)</td>
<td>- Search and View Opportunities, Applications, Claims, Progress Reports, and Amendments</td>
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<td>- Create and Edit Applications, Claims, and Progress Reports</td>
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<td>- Manage Permissions</td>
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<td>Grants Processor</td>
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<td>- Edit, Search and View Applications</td>
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<td>- Provide Application Signature</td>
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**SPOTTED LANTERNFLY**

What’s new?

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**THE NUMBERS**

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<td>Stressed Tree Trunk Established</td>
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<td>Volunteer Killed Ailanthus Trees</td>
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<td>Estimated # of Eggs Scraped</td>
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**THE QUARANTINE AREA**

Survey 2016

- Teams begin May 1
  - 1 team in Bucks and Lehigh Counties
  - 1 team in Chester and Montgomery Counties
  - 7 teams divided in quarantine and outer edges of Berks County
- Volunteer training to begin in April
- Base location in quarantine area
QUESTIONS FOR RESEARCH
- Females egg laying capacity
- Parasitic wasps
- Lycorma’s need for Ailanthus

OBSERVATIONS
- Adults don’t like the bands
- Mass accumulations of honeydew
- Host study and PDA banding studies both showed 3rd and 4th instars going to Ailanthus
- Prior to mating males and females congregate separately
- After mating adults go to other hosts

THINKING OUTSIDE THE BOX

CITIZEN SUPPORT
- Calls reporting finds are over 50% correct to the hotline
- Volunteer banding project beginning sign up now

NEW OUTREACH TOOL
- 18x24” Metal Sign
- Townships to place
- Gun and Hunting Clubs
- Parks and Conservation areas
OUTREACH
- Quarantine Mailing Reminder
- Youth education
- Industry Alerts

ADDITIONAL SUPPORT
- Dedicated SLF PDA staff
- USDA TDY

COMMUNICATIONS
- Weekly call
  - PDA
  - USDA
  - CPHST
  - University
- Monthly Advisory Group call
  - Local Officials
  - State Legislatures
  - Extension
  - State Agencies
  - USDA

QUESTIONS
Meeting Summary

- Multistate Inspection Report
- SANC Budget Discussions
  - HIS Chapters received $5,000 in farm bill funds
  - SANC Pilot Projects Updates
- SANC Updates
- Scale insects
- Invasive Species Listings and Laws
- Big Box Stores: Inspectors and Inspections
- Joint Sessions

Great Tours: Environmental Concern

Great Tours: St. Michaels Maritime Museum

HORTICULTURAL INSPECTION SOCIETY AWARD NOMINATIONS

- Carl E. Carlson Distinguished Achievement Award in Regulatory Plant Protection
  - Michael Arnold
- Distinguished Service Award
  - Steve Sandrey
Officers for 2016-2017

- President: Mark C. Taylor, Maryland
- Vice President: Carole Neil, Maine
- Secretary: Morgan Dube, New Hampshire
- Treasurer: Lian Colon, Delaware
- Past President: Jeff Brothers, Maine
- Archivist: Tia Blevins, Connecticut
- Newsletter Editor: Peter Trenchard, Connecticut

Resolutions

- RESOLUTION ADOPTED BY THE HORTICULTURAL INSPECTION SOCIETY, EASTERN CHAPTER, APRIL 7, 2016, IN ST. MICHAELS, MARYLAND

WHEREAS, the Eastern Chapter of the Horticultural Inspection Society was established to promote education, cooperation and interaction among state horticultural inspection personnel;

WHEREAS, the Eastern Chapter of the Horticultural Inspection Society values and appreciates the participation of inspectors from member states during the annual meeting;

WHEREAS, the Eastern Plant Board has supported the attendance of state personnel;

WE RESOLVE THAT:

The Eastern Chapter of the Horticultural Inspection Society at its 41st Annual Meeting recognizes the Eastern Plant Board for their continued support and the state of Maryland for hosting this meeting.

2015 Horticultural Inspection Society Eastern Chapter Multistate Inspection

October 8th thru 9th, 2015
Kemah, Texas
Pennsylvania

Resolution Adopted by the Horticultural Inspection Society, Eastern Chapter, April 7, 2016 in St. Michaels, Maryland

WHEREAS, there has been an increase in plant pest introductions in big box stores in recent years;

WHEREAS, there is a need for regulatory officials to understand the plant inventory procurement practices of the big box stores;

WHEREAS, there is a need for distribution of big box store information regarding the existence of plant protection laws and their intent;

WE RESOLVE THAT:

The Horticultural Inspection Society, Eastern Chapter supports the Eastern Plant Boards effort to identify the individual responsible within the corporate structure who has the ability to make decisions regarding compliance with plant health regulations.
Multistate Inspection

The program and inspector’s participation was funded through the National Plant Board (NPB).

Provided in the field training to 18 workshop participants from eight states.

The overview of the Systems Approach to Nursery Certification (SANC) Pilot Project at Conard Pyle Nursery (West Grove, Pa.). The group participated into “Audit squads” and reviewed Best Management Practices (BMP) and Critical Control Points (CCP). The information provided by the nursery grower host allowed participants to evaluate (SANC) concepts.

Multistate Inspection

In the afternoon the group met at North Creek Nurseries for a tour and information session. The focus of North Creek Nurseries is on native plants, rain gardens, pollinator resources and plant comparison trials.

The time spent in the field was an invaluable opportunity for our members to harmonize inspection efforts among states by offering the opportunity to share inspection techniques, methods and experiences in a hands-on situation, rather than in the classroom.

Thank you, Pennsylvania, for hosting this event

Thank you for visiting Maryland’s Eastern Shore

Farewell Friends
CAPS Meeting Report

Our sincere thanks.....

- To Eastern Plant Board
- To Maryland Department of Agriculture
  ....Especially MD SSC Aaron Shurtleff!
- To Pest Survey Specialists
- To Susan Schechter, CAPS Services, Purdue
- To Our Fearless Program Leaders:
  – John Bowers, Brian Kopper, Kristian Rondeau

All Twelve EPB States Present

- 6/12 SSCs have been in position for less than 3 years.
- Two are brand-spankin’ new!

Meeting Highlights

CAPS Royalty – King of Bite the Bag!

Top o’ the world!
State Reports

- Information sharing at its best!
- Sharing finds, sharing survey priorities, sharing survey tips
- Help to shape future surveys
- Make our work more efficient, more robust

Caps Services Updates

- Fantastic new reporting options
- Update on a Survey Method reconciliation project
- Survey Summary Form: Unified interface for CAPS – FB – PPQ Surveys
- Survey Change Form…. Coming soon!

Objective Prioritization of Exotic Pests

- CPHST CAPS Support presentation – Allison Neely and Lisa Jackson
- A brand new approach to assessing the risk associated with establishment of exotic pests
- New pest list is being rolled out this spring with 2017 Survey Guidelines

Great Discussion about PAPERWORK

- Building an understanding of
  - What is needed by Program Leaders
  - What is needed by Agreements folks
  - How states can deliver on those needs as efficiently as possible… so we can spend our time and money on counting pests, not counting beans.
- EZ Fed Grants

Great Vision for Pest Surveillance

- Pest Detection /CAPS
- Farm Bill 10007 Goal 1 Survey for Priority Pests

- Two programs, Two pots of money, but One Mission..... Can we blend them more effectively?

A national survey-focused meeting would be a cost-effective way to communicate necessary information about all these changes and to reinforce good survey practices.
Can’t thank you enough....

- EPB
- MDA
- Pest Survey Specialists

- CAPS Services, Purdue
- Program Leaders