



EASTERN PLANT BOARD

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2015 Annual Meeting
Portsmouth, New Hampshire

STREAMLINING REPORTING ON COOPERATIVE AGREEMENTS

WHEREAS Plant protection efforts funded through cooperative agreements are of manifest importance to federal, state, local municipalities and the general public.

WHEREAS USDA APHIS PPQ is increasingly reliant on the efforts of state cooperators to accomplish mandated plant protection objectives.

WHEREAS State cooperators appreciate and rely heavily on resources made available through Cooperative Agriculture Pest Survey (CAPS) and Farm Bill cooperative agreement allocations.

WHEREAS State cooperators are compelled to look to a greater number and variety of sources to finance the objective of protecting agricultural and forest resources from an increasing number of threats.

WHEREAS State cooperators acknowledge the difficulties USDA APHIS PPQ faces in administering these agreements and the scrutiny to which the agreements are subjected.

WHEREAS Available USDA APHIS PPQ Field Operations and state cooperator personnel resources are becoming increasingly strained, reducing time available for administrative responsibilities, even as USDAAPHIS PPQ requires greater accounting and reporting obligations in cooperative agreements.

RESOLVED The EPB requests USDA APHIS PPQ consider:

- Streamlining reporting requirements by allowing cooperators to provide a single annual report containing all relevant CAPS and/or Farm Bill project results, and allowing cooperators to bundle semi-annual and final financial reports for all cooperative agreements; and/or
- Implementing an electronic reporting protocol to reduce hard copy reporting; and/or
- Multi-year cooperative agreements with similar single result and financial report requirements applicable to the full term of the agreement.

Distribution:

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