



Southern Plant Board

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Southern Plant Board 2014 Annual Meeting

Resolution No. 2

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 our environmental and agricultural resources. CAPS activities throughout the US require a coordinated national response among all stakeholders in an effort to reduce the spread of these pests.

The Southern Plant Board believes that a national CAPS meeting furthers the goals of the CAPS Program by providing workshops, training and networking which serves to enhance operational efficiencies, coordination, detection and delimiting survey activities involved in a national response.

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

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

WHEREAS Funding for a 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 travel expenses required 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.

RESOLVED by the membership of the Southern Plant Board at its 2014 annual meeting in Raleigh, NC on April 30, 2014, that APHIS support and provide funding for a national CAPS Meeting in 2015 and this national meeting occur at a minimum of once every three years thereafter.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this commitment to a national meeting occur in advance of the CAPS work plan submission process or allow states to amend their work plans in order to facilitate attendance by State Survey Coordinators and State Plant Regulatory Officials at national CAPS meetings.

Distribution:

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