

NISC / ISAC Meeting – May 2015, Silver Spring, MD

The Invasive Species Advisory Committee (ISAC) will hold a meeting to discuss a broad range of topics related to invasive species. These discussions will serve as a basis for making recommendations to the National Invasive Species Committee and to shape future work efforts of ISAC. While the meeting will focus on a broad range of invasive species topics, special emphasis will be placed on facilitating the productivity of ISAC subcommittees.

ACTION OR INFORMATION ITEM

**SPONSORING
NISC/ISAC MEMBER:** Chuck Bargeron

**COMMITTEE
AFFILIATION:** EDRR

**PRESENTER'S
NAME/AFFILIATION:** John Bowers, National Survey Coordinator, Cooperative Agricultural Pest Survey,
USDA APHIS PPQ

TOPIC: Cooperative Agricultural Pest Survey

1. DESCRIPTION OF AGENDA ITEM:

The Pest Detection program supports APHIS' goal of safeguarding U.S. agricultural and environmental resources by ensuring that new introductions of harmful plant pests and diseases are detected as soon as possible, before they have a chance to cause significant damage. The program uses a multi-pronged strategy to accomplish its mission, involving a structured, transparent assessment process to identify pest threats, the development of scientifically sound pest diagnostics and survey protocols, conducting the actual pest surveys, and the timely reporting of pest survey results through the National Agricultural Pest Information System (NAPIS). These efforts are accomplished by involving stakeholders and the scientific community, and leveraging efforts by other Agencies in USDA, government entities, State departments of agriculture, universities, and industry partners. APHIS and its State cooperators carry out surveys for high-risk pests through a network of cooperators in the Cooperative Agricultural Pest Survey (CAPS) program.

The Cooperative Agricultural Pest Survey (CAPS) program conducts science-based national and state surveys targeted at specific exotic plant pests, diseases, and weeds identified as threats to U.S. agriculture and/or the environment. These activities are accomplished primarily under USDA funding that is provided through cooperative agreements with state departments of agriculture, universities, and other entities. In addition, CAPS survey data support the development and expansion of export markets by identifying pest-free regions that allow the continued export of commodities from particular areas of the country. The CAPS program aims to confirm the presence or absence of environmentally and/or economically harmful plant pests that impact agriculture or the environment, and that have potential to be of phytosanitary significance.

2. WHY IS THIS ITEM IMPORTANT TO NISC / ISAC? DOES IT RELATE TO CURRENT OR ANTICIPATED SUBCOMMITTEE NEEDS, ACTIONS, OR DIRECTION?

This topic is important as part of the development of the EDRR framework.

3. HOW DOES THIS ITEM RELATE TO THE 2008 – 2012 OR FUTURE NATIONAL INVASIVE SPECIES MANAGEMENT PLAN?

I think most members of ISAC are unaware of this program

4. PREVIOUS ACTIONS TAKEN BY NISC / ISAC ON THIS ITEM:

None, that I know of.

5. ACTION REQUESTED OF NISC / ISAC: Nothing specific, but important part of EDRR framework.

6. ALTERNATIVES:

7. ATTACHMENTS: