

## Pest Detection/CAPS Infrastructure Performance Report

<b>Year:</b>	<b>2024</b>
<b>State:</b>	Connecticut
<b>Cooperative Agreement Name:</b>	CT FY24 CAPS Infrastructure
<b>Cooperative Agreement Number:</b>	AP24PPQFO000C565
<b>Project Funding Period:</b>	5/1/2024 - 4/30/2025
<b>Project Report:</b>	<b>PD/CAPS Infrastructure Report</b>
<b>Project Document Date:</b>	5/16/2025
<b>Cooperators Project Coordinator:</b>	State Survey Coordinator
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Quarterly Report	<input type="checkbox"/>
Semi-Annual Performance Report	<input type="checkbox"/>
Annual Performance Report	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

- A. Compare actual accomplishments to objectives established as indicated in the work plan. When the output can be quantified, a computation of cost per unit is required when useful.\*

Please note that there was a transitory period between State Survey Coordinators resulting in a period of time when the position was vacant.

- Activities:
  - *Pest Detection / CAPS Survey Work*
    - Develop workplans and budgets and complete all reporting requirements as stated in the agreements keeping the SPRO and SPHD updated on any changes as they occur.
      - Prepared and submitted 2024 final reports for CAPS and PPA (2024 CAPS Tree Nursery Survey, 2024 Orchard Commodity Survey)
      - Completed and submitted workplans and budgets for 2025 (2025 CAPS Survey, 2025 CAPS Infrastructure, 2025 PPA Survey)
    - Manage resources and personnel necessary to complete the CAPS survey goals.
      - Managed and organized 2024 CAPS survey supplies
      - Ordered 2025 CAPS survey supplies
    - Develop data collection methods and train personnel on them prior to survey.
      - Trained personnel on data collection for 2024 CAPS survey pests
      - Prepared and uploaded 2024 CAPS/PPA data into NAPIS
  - *Other APHIS or State Survey Work:*
    - SSC will maintain contact with cooperators, growers' groups, and industry and landowner associations, forwarding relevant pest information and invitations to participate in upcoming CAPS/PPA surveys.
      - Provided factsheets regarding current pests to nurseries and orchards in 2024 surveys
    - SSC will respond to pest inquiries from the public and industry partners, tracking how they heard of the program, what they called about, method of the report, date of report, and outcome.
      - Responded to inquiries from current nursery and orchard owners and workers
      - Forwarded inquiries to CAES Insect Inquiry Office
    - SSC will assist in responses to trace forwards and CAPS-related pest inquiries.
    - SSC will screen and respond to questions and requests for pest information from the NAPIS database.
      - Responded to various questions and inquiries from nurseries and orchards regarding pests and diseases seen throughout the summer

- SSC will attend relevant growers' meetings and conferences, to educate/update groups on the CAPS program and mission, as well as current surveys and pests of concern.
  - SSC will create a spreadsheet of cooperators and stakeholders including information about their role in CAPS or other pest response activities.
    - Generating spreadsheets of previous and newly recruited cooperators and stakeholders from various outreach events
- *Committee Service:*
  - SSC will maintain a CAPS Committee that meets twice a year to discuss the CAPS goals and to keep partners and stakeholders engaged in the CAPS program.
    - Summer 2024 CAPS Committee meeting was held on September 24, 2024
    - Winter 2025 CAPS Committee meeting was held on February 19<sup>th</sup>, 2025
  - SSC will invite new members to participate in the CAPS committee meetings and disseminate the CAPS meeting minutes to partners and stakeholders who are unable to attend.
    - Summer 2024 CAPS Committee meeting minutes were distributed to members who were unable to attend
    - Winter 2025 CAPS Committee meeting minutes were distributed to members who were unable to attend
    - Invited and added Elisabeth Ward (CAES) and Paula Wolf (CAES) to the CAPS Committee
- Outreach and Education:
  - *Interviews (TV/Radio/Newspaper/Magazines):*
    - SPRO and/or SSC will provide information to media outlets as requested.
      - May 8- Victoria Smith was interviewed about spotted lanternfly by WNTH Channel 8
      - July 18- Victoria Smith was interviewed about spotted lanternfly by the CT Public Radio
      - March 25- Jacob Ricker was interviewed about spongy moth by the CT Public Radio
  - *Outreach materials (Pamphlets/ brochures/ posters):*
    - SSC will obtain or create fact sheets about the 2024 survey pests to give to cooperators. SSC will mail survey information packets and pest fact sheets to growers participating in pest surveys.
      - Updated and distributed factsheets to participating nurseries regarding pests for 2024 and 2025 surveys
      - Created brochure to distribute CAPS information
    - SSC will update CAPS program and pest information posters for display at grower meetings.

- Throughout the year, SSC will provide CAES webmaster with updates to the CAES CAPS website, including pest information, fact sheets, work plans, committee meeting minutes and reports.
      - Updated CAPS contact information on the CAES CAPS website
      - Updated CAPS committee list on CAES CAPS website
      - Updated pest fact sheets on CAES CAPS website
      - Updated information on CAPS SLF website
      - Added 2024 and 2025 workplans to CAES CAPS website
    - SSC will work on enhancing web presence of CAPS website.
      - Created brochure with link to CAPS website
  - *Publications:*
    - SSC will produce and/or update relevant fact sheets for pests targeted in the 2024 CAPS and PPA surveys.
      - Updated and produced fact sheets for 2024 and 2025 CAPS target pests
  - *Public Service Announcements (PSA):*
    - CAES will produce press releases regarding any new state pest detections.
- Meetings
  - *Conference calls:*
    - SSC will join in on bi-monthly regional CAPS SSC conference calls.
      - Attended monthly State Survey Coordinator meetings
  - *Conferences:*
    - SSC will attend the Eastern plant board/CAPS meeting as funding allows.
      - Attended Eastern Plant Board in Dewey Beach, DE (March 31-April 3)
    - SSC and other CAES personnel will present information about CAPS at industry professional meetings such as the CT Tree Protective Association and the CT Nursery and Landscape Association as able and invited.
      - Attended NE/NY Forest Health Cooperators meeting November 6-7, 2024
      - Attended CT Pomological Society Meeting (December 3, 2024)
      - Attended CT Tree Protective Association meeting (January 16, 2025)
      - Attended CT Nursery and Landscape Association meeting (January 22, 2025)
      - Attended CT Flower and Garden Show (February 21, 2025)
      - Attended CT Forest Health Symposium at CAES (March 11, 2025)
  - Webinars
    - SSC will attend relevant NAPIS webinars as available.
- Training:
  - SSC will train other Connecticut CAPS personnel in database use and data entry as needed.
    - Trained personnel on survey data entry
  - SSC will train summer workers in trapping, sorting, and survey functions during trapping season.

- Trained two summer workers in trapping, sorting, and survey functions
- SSC will attend relevant NAPIS training as available.
  - Attended CAPS/NAPIS training on September 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2024, with Bonnie Dietrich
- Other:
  - SSC will respond to cooperative extension, university, and other state cooperator requests for information about CAPS pests of concern and coordinate their submissions for identification, when necessary.

☐ Check if objectives were not met due to the impact(s) of the coronavirus COVID-19.  
Explain how the impacts affected coordination, planning, surveys, and/or survey operations.

**B.** Where appropriate, explain any cost overruns or unobligated funds in excess of \$1,000.\*

No cost overruns have occurred.

**C.** Was all Pest Detection / CAPS survey data entered into the National Agricultural Pest Information System (NAPIS)? If not, please provide a justification.

All pest detection and CAPS survey data were entered into NAPIS.

#### **D. Supporting Documents**

#### CT State CAPS Committee Meeting (Summer 2024) Minutes

Date: September 24, 2024

Time: 11:00 am – 1:00pm

Facilitator: Dr. Victoria Lynn Smith, CT State Entomologist and Ella Nastri, CAPS State Survey Coordinator

Attendees:

Chuck Baker, (USDA APHIS PPQ), Katherine Dugas (CAES), Rose Hiskes (CAES), Will Hochholzer (CT-DEEP), Dr. Victoria Smith (CAES), Erica Willey (USDA APHIS PPQ)

#### **Welcome and Introductions**

#### **Updates of 2022 CAPS and PPQ Surveys and Outreach programs**

Dr. Smith - 2024 CAPS and PPA Summary

- ❖ 2024 CAPS Tree Nursery Pest Survey
  - Sites: 25 Nurseries in 5 CT counties
  - Survey period: Traps (May-September) Visuals (August-September)
  - 13 total pests: 7 trapped, 6 visuals
  - Awaiting final identification results from Oregon Department of Agriculture
- ❖ 2024 PPA Orchard Commodity Survey
  - Sites: 15 orchards in 5 CT counties
  - Survey period: Traps (May-August) Visuals (July-August)
  - 7 total pests: 3 trapped, 4 visuals
  - Awaiting final identification results from Oregon Department of Agriculture
- ❖ 2025 PPA Suggestion
  - Orchard Commodity Survey

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#### Erica Willey - 2024 PPQ Survey Report

- ❖ Forest Pest Survey
  - Survey done every year, but trapping locations change
  - Target high risk areas in all three states: CT, MA, RI
  - Geographic locations: CT (91 corridor), MA (eastern), RI (northern)
  - 50 sites across 3 states: CT (20), MA (20), RI (10)
    - 2 traps per site being hung in pine, fir, or spruce trees

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#### Dr. Smith - Summary of 2024 Outreach events

- ❖ CAES outreach was limited due to staffing shortages and cancellation of the Summer CNLA meeting.
- ❖ PPQ had outreach material available at Plant Science Day, held at CAES Lockwood Farm on August 7, 2024.

#### **Current 2024 CAPS and PPQ Surveys Plans**

For simplicity, CAES and PPQ will probably plan the same surveys in 2025.

#### DEEP updates – Will Hochholzer

- ❖ Spongy moth mitigation in many areas of the state; attempts to reduce the impact of 2-lined chestnut borer on the oak resource.
- ❖ Beech leaf disease research on areas in East Hampton and Portland.
- ❖ Some calls recorded re: white pine needle disease.

- ❖ Ongoing efforts to control invasive plants, such as barberry, bittersweet, and mugwort.

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### **Other old or new business**

Next State CAPS Committee Meeting planned for June 2025.

Meeting concluded

## **CAPS COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES**

February 19, 2025, 1:00pm-3:00pm

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Facilitator: Ella Nastri - CT State Survey CAPS Coordinator

Location: Virtual (Teams)

Attendees: Victoria Smith (CAES), Jacob Ricker (CAES), Rose Hiskes (CAES), Paula Wolf (CAES), Claire Rutledge (CAES), Charles Baker (USDA APHIS PPQ), Kelsey Fisher (CAES), Nicholas Goltz (UCONN), Sara Carson (USDA APHIS PPQ), Erica Willey (USDA APHIS PPQ), Ana Legrand (UCONN), Katherine Dugas (CAES), Christopher Martin (DEEP), Elisabeth Ward (CAES), Joshua Tracy (RWA), Danica Doroski (DEEP)

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- ❖ Welcome and Introductions

### **2024 Surveys**

- ❖ 2024 CAPS: Tree Nursery Pest Survey
  - Targeted species:
    - Old world bollworm (*Helicoverpa armigera*)
      - Hosts: vegetables, annuals
      - Trap: yellow bucket trap
    - Box tree moth (*Cydalima perspectalis*)
      - Host: boxwood
      - Trap: green bucket trap
    - European cherry fruit fly (*Rhagoletis cerasi*)
      - Hosts: cherry, honeysuckle

- Trap: yellow sticky trap, baited
- Oak ambrosia beetle (*Platypus quercivorus*)
  - Host: oak
  - Trap: Lindgren funnel trap
- Visual surveys for: Japanese wax scale, Asian longhorned beetle, citrus longhorned beetle, jujube witches' broom, apple proliferation, and European stone fruit yellows
  - Visual surveys conducted one time at each site in September
- 25 sites (nurseries), visited every two weeks from June-September, 8 collections total
  - 7 counties represented
- **No targets found!**
  - Moth and fruit fly samples sent to Oregon Department of Agriculture for identification
  - Beetle samples sent to Carnegie Museum for identification

❖ 2024 PPA: Orchard Commodity Survey

- Targeted species:
  - European cherry fruit fly (*Rhagoletis cerasi*)
    - Hosts: cherry, honeysuckle
    - Trap: yellow sticky trap, baited
  - European grapevine moth (*Lobesia botrana*)
    - Hosts: grape, peach
    - Trap: orange paper delta trap
  - Summer fruit tortrix moth (*Adoxophyes orana*)
    - Hosts: Apple, peach
    - Trap: orange paper delta trap
- Visual surveys for: Japanese wax scale, Asian longhorned beetle, citrus longhorned beetle, jujube witches' broom, apple proliferation, and European stone fruit yellows (same as CAPS)
  - Visual surveys conducted once at each site in September
- 15 sites (orchards) in 7 counties
- **No targets found!**
  - All samples sent to Oregon Department of Agriculture for identification

❖ PPQ 2024 Surveys for CT/MA/RI

- Forest Pest Survey
  - May 5 2024- Oct 1 2024
  - Lindgren funnel traps and cross-vane panel traps places near high risk import, producer, and forest locations in CT, MA, and RI
    - 4 traps at each site- 2 traps for miscellaneous insects, and 2 baited for Cerambycids
    - 10 sites, 20 of each type of trap in CT



- 10 collections, visited every 2 weeks
  - No targets found in CT, MA, or RI
  - Exotic insects found: *Lycorma delicatula*, *Heteroborips seriatus*, *Anisandrus maiche*
- Box Tree Moth
  - June 2, 2024-Oct 18, 2024
  - Plastic bucket trap with *Cydalima perspectalis* lure
  - 30 traps in CT near state borders
    - 9 collections at each site, 277 collections total
  - No targets found in CT, MA, or RI
    - Box tree moth is present in MA but traps were not placed in known areas
- ❖ Claire Rutledge
  - Emerald ash borer population is crashing in much of the state
  - Southern pine beetle numbers also down
    - Will have more resources available next year for additional trapping through the forest health program
  - Spotted lanternfly found in vineyards in summer 2024
    - Eggs collected in vineyards, being subjected to heat treatments
  - Survey for spotted winged drosophila in 2024
    - Two new parasitoids- *Leptopolina japonica*, a generalist, was not introduced, but is now found all over the state. *Ganaspis kimorum*, a specialist, was approved in 2023 but was not found.
- ❖ Victoria Smith
  - Sustained public interest in spotted lanternfly
    - 760 emails
    - 11,000 reports from the public in CAES's GIS site
- ❖ Jacob Ricker
  - Spongy moth egg masses being found in same region as last year- mainly Litchfield county, however now it is being found in northern New Haven county as well
  - Elm zigzag sawfly, a defoliator of elms, was newly found in CT in 2024, mainly near the borders for MA and NY
    - Found in Litchfield and New Haven county
    - No detrimental damage found so far
- ❖ Kelsey Fisher
  - In 2024, monitored for potentially resistant European corn borers at plot at Lockwood farm, also used pheromone traps and scouting
    - Fewer larvae found in 2024 than 2023
  - Working with commercial growers in 2025 to expand the detection area

## 2025 Surveys

- ❖ 2025 CAPS: Nursery and Ornamental Survey

- Will be trapping for:
  - Old world bollworm
  - Box tree moth
  - Oak ambrosia beetle
- Visual surveys for: Japanese wax scale, Asian longhorned beetle, citrus longhorned beetle, jujube witches' broom, apple proliferation, and European stone fruit yellows
- 20-25 nurseries across all 8 counties, visited every 2 weeks
- ❖ 2025 PPA: Orchard Commodity Survey
  - Will be trapping for:
    - Summer fruit tortrix moth
    - European grapevine moth
  - Visual surveys for: Japanese wax scale, Asian longhorned beetle, citrus longhorned beetle, jujube witches' broom, apple proliferation, and European stone fruit yellows
  - 15 orchards across all counties, visited every 2 weeks
- ❖ 2025 CAPS and PPA surveys will generally be the same
  - Different locations- more spread across CT
  - Not trapping for European cherry fruit fly due to lack of host in nurseries
- ❖ 2025 PPQ Survey Plans for CT/MA/RI
  - Forest Pest Survey
    - May through October
    - 3 traps per site- 1 cross vane panel trap, 2 Lindgren funnel traps
    - 10 sites in CT, 300 samples total
    - Target insects:
      - Oak ambrosia beetle (funnel trap)
      - Large pine weevil, black fir sawyer, Japanese pine sawyer (funnel trap)
      - Misc. Cerambycids (cross vane panel trap)
  - Box Tree Moth Survey
    - June through October
    - 30 sites in CT (30 traps total), 9 collections with 270 samples total
    - Traps near state borders
- ❖ Other old or new business
  - Next CT CAPS Committee Meeting will be summer 2025

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*\*indicates information is required per 7 CFR 3016.40 and 7 CFR 3019.51*

