



iPIPE

The National Plant Board Perspective

**Robin Pruisner, Iowa
&
Collin Wamsley, Missouri**

What does a State Plant Regulatory Official Actually Do?

- Oversees plant pest regulations on a state level
- Collaborates with federal officials (USDA-APHIS-PPQ) on issues of dual concern
- Permitting – at state and federal levels
- Nursery stock inspections
- Seed permits Biotech permits
- Noxious weeds, *etc., etc., etc...*



What does a State Plant Regulatory Official **NOT** Do?

- Varies on a state-by-state basis, but a SPRO generally does **not** survey for endemic, run-of-the-mill plant pests. EXCEPT...
 - There may be instances where a state does track the movement of a specific pest infestation, but if happening, survey not necessarily uniform among states.
 - Surveys needed to support **export certification**, such as Japanese beetle, soybean cyst nematode, etc.



CAPS

Cooperative Agriculture Pest Survey

- CAPS program collaborative effort between PPQ and State officials.
- CAPS focuses on **exotic, nonnative** pests
- Pests surveys proposed by states based on risk of infestation through import pathways, etc.
- Targeted pests must meet requirements set by PPQ



Growing Season Inspections

Supports Export Certification

- State Depts. of Ag **MAY** conduct growing season inspections in commodity crops
- National Seed Health System accredited entities may also conduct the inspections, such as industry, and Crop Improvement Associations
- This is a ‘snapshot’ inspection conducted once in growing season



Collaboration

- State officials work with a variety of stakeholders to accomplish the mission of protecting their state from plant pests.
- Examples include
 - Phytosanitary certification work for export markets
 - Surveys to determine if a pest is known to occur ... to facilitate trade



Who Do States Partner With?

CSREES

Mission: Research, Extension & Teaching

- States Depts. of Ag rely on universities for technical expertise, and taking charge of plant pest outreach.
- Some states have very close working relationship, but varies across the country



Who Do States Partner With?

Other State & Federal Agencies

- Examples
 - Department of Natural Resources
 - USDA Forest Service
- Varying with mission of agencies as set by the state legislature, partnerships can vary greatly by project



Who Do States Partner With?

Industry

- Examples
 - American Soybean Association, to survey for Asian soybean rust
 - National Potato Council for potato cyst nematode surveys



Who Do States Partner With?

USDA-APHIS-PPQ

- Example
 - CAPS
 - Other regulatory functions that require surveys, inspections permits, etc.



The State Regulator's View

iPIPE Pros

- With more trained First Detectors on the landscape...
 - It is more likely that exotic, invasive pests will be identified
 - The identification of exotic, invasive pests will occur faster
 - Implementation of sudden survey needs *may* be able to occur through the established network of First Detectors



The State Regulator's View

iPIPE Pros

- With industry data, may be able to better declare areas as free-from a pest (=regulatory decision making). BUT...



The State Regulator's View

iPIPE Cons

If iPIPE is to be used for **real time** pest predictions for growers, or **regulatory decision making** ...

1. 'Q & Q Data' ...Quality & Quantity

💣 **Who will oversee the data**, determining what is quality data and not?

💣 **Are uniform survey methods used?**



The State Regulator's View

iPIPE Cons

'Q & Q Data' Continued

- 💣 Export growing season inspections occur once a year – in Iowa this is late in the summer – Is this the right time to be looking for all the pests?
- 💣 Just because Stewart's wilt was not seen in a June inspection, we cannot declare an area to be free from it.
- 💣 Are phyto growing season inspection of parent seeds a good predictor for commercial crops?



The State Regulator's View

iPIPE Cons

If iPIPE is to be used for pest predictions for growers, then data must be uploaded in **real time** ...

2. Information Technology... States still struggling with ISIS...moving data from the field to a database requires a great deal of **TECHNOLOGY THAT WORKS WELL.**

**** This ring true for regulatory purposes too****



The State Regulator's View

iPIPE Cons

3. State staffs are maxed out. Participating in iPIPE cannot increase workload or change current priorities.
 - Even if \$\$ provided, many states cannot add staff to do the work



The State Regulator's View

iPIPE Cons

4. Data ownership – if surveys done at request of industry (i.e. growing season inspections) who 'owns' the data?
 - Does the data (location, etc.) need to be 'scrubbed of identifying info before sharing?



The State Regulator's View

iPIPE Cons

5. Data ethics –
- Will industry be tempted to omit data if the goal is **regulatory decision making**?
 - Will industry be tempted to ‘puff up’ data if the goal is **real time** pest predictions for growers?



www.nationalplantboard.org

Robin Pruisner

Iowa Dept of Agriculture & Land Stewardship

Robin.Pruisner@IowaAgriculture.gov

Collin Wamsley

Missouri Dept of Agriculture

Collin.Wamsley@mda.mo.gov

