

Farm Bill 10201: Enhance Analysis & Survey Section

Farm Bill Stakeholder Meeting Summary of Main Comments and Recommendations

Overall Section Goal:

To enhance gathering and analyzing all available data to efficiently and effectively make informed decisions, and to deploy resources to detect pests as early as possible.

- Identify and target high-risk pest pathways,
- Fully fund the highest priority pest-specific surveys, and
- Enhance high-risk surveillance programs through State survey

Summarization of Main Comments:

Data issues: databases do not communicate, third party data such as industry not included, increase ability to search databases by crop type, data does not lend itself to statistical analysis, data ownership/sharing and privacy issues

Economics: analysis should be done to rank pests, provide cost estimate of survey vs. cost/benefit to system if establishment occurs, include effects on market loss, production and trade impacts.

Cooperative Agricultural Pest Survey (CAPS) program is important in domestic pest detection as it incorporates many useful pest detection techniques (hot zone and broad data collection), but needs to adjust survey cost allocations for different areas.

Risk ranking needs to encompass traditional pathways (nursery stock) and areas (ports), but also include potentially novel pathways as well. Transparency and scientific basis for rankings are important.

Summarization of Main Recommendations:

Fully fund high priority surveys and trapping activities

Develop risk ranking of states as outlined in Farm bill, encompass transparency and periodic review of process

Develop framework to utilize third party (such as industry) data and engage in more cooperative manner

Enhance activities of CAPS through tools for risk based analysis, ensure activities are coordinated and cover traditional pathways as well as novel pathways

Offshore activities are critical to reduce pest invasion: analysis of risk information (pest data), education of offshore producers, inclusion of information from potential sentinel sites (i.e. arboreta)