

# Integrated Plant Health Information System (IPHIS)

## BACKGROUND

In November 2005, the Deputy Administrator and Executive Team for APHIS' Plant Protection and Quarantine (PPQ) program established the Emergency Program Data Management Task Force. The task force was charged with exploring the possibility of developing a single data management system designed to optimize our ability to respond to plant health emergencies.

The task force recommended building the Integrated Plant Health Information System, or IPHIS, to provide the Agency with a modern, comprehensive and scalable plant health data management system capable of supporting its mission to protect U.S. agriculture as well as improving coordination of plant health emergencies with its state partners.

IPHIS is designed to leverage existing systems focused on core program functions (i.e. Survey, Diagnostic, Regulatory, Control) to present a single point of entry for data related to any emergency or domestic pest program. Once fully implemented, IPHIS will be used in day-to-day operations to more efficiently facilitate emergency and domestic programs.

## 2009

In February 2009, IPHIS version 1 was piloted in 7 States (Nebraska, Missouri, North Dakota, Oregon, Indiana, Pennsylvania and Maine) and two pest programs (Emerald Ash Borer and Potato Cyst Nematode). Training

was provided to these states through remote webinar-based seminars. Additionally, a help desk number and blog were made available to assist with any questions.

The Integrated Survey Information System, or ISIS, first developed by PPQ, is being redesigned as a key component of IPHIS by the contractor. ISIS version 5 requirements were documented in 2008 and given to the contractor in early 2009. These requirements informed the development of the new survey functionality part of IPHIS.

The main objective of the 2009 pilot was to provide a first line test of how the system works to support pest program operations, to document the "to-be" requirements of future survey functionality (ISIS v5), and to gather as much feedback as possible. These information seeking initiatives were compiled and translated into new system requirements that would become IPHIS version 2.

## 2010

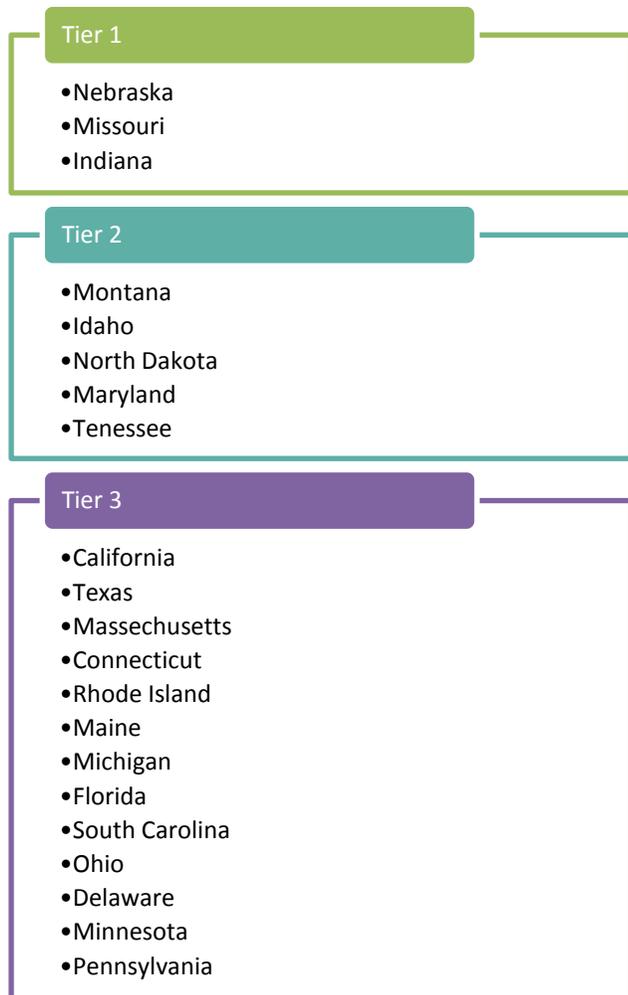
IPHIS version 2 system requirements were gathered through the pilot activities in 2009 and through the ISIS version 5 requirements development period. The new requirements were given to the contractor team as they were collected and analyzed so IPHIS version 2 could be developed in parallel with 2009 activities and be ready for use in early 2010.

These milestones were reached and the User Acceptance Testing (UAT) of IPHIS version 2 was conducted January 4- 15, 2010. During this test, feedback was provided on ways to improve the system. The suggested improvements were analyzed and changes to enhance IPHIS version 2 will occur before, or shortly after, system implementation begins.

As the UAT was conducted, implementation plans were also discussed. The decided upon approach was to engage each State independently and offer training to them in a variety of ways: face-to-face, webinar, and

eLearning. Additionally, traditional user manual support will be available.

State priorities were developed based on previous year's involvement with other IPHIS activities and are noted by three different tiers below.



These tiers will be trained in order starting with Tier 1, beginning in late February, and ending with Tier 3. It is important to understand that these tiers and lists of States merely provide some structure for which States to train and in what order. The list is not exhaustive and training will continue once these initial States have commenced.

Each State that is trained will be provided the opportunity to select a PPQ pest program for which they will begin using IPHIS version 2. The expectation is that

comprehensive support for all domestic and emergency programs is targeted for 2011.

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## CAPS

The Cooperative Agriculture Pest Survey (CAPS) program is following a slightly different approach to adoption and implementation. To ensure the system adequately supports the CAPS program, a business analyst will be looking at all CAPS related documentation including, but not limited to, the CAPS survey guidelines, the National Agriculture Pest Information System (NAPIS) documentation, etc., as well as conducting interviews with critical stakeholders. The deliverable of this business analyst will be to define requirements of the program and compare those requirements to IPHIS to identify where improvements need to be made. It is planned that this will be delivered in mid-2010 so necessary adjustments to the system can be made by the end of calendar year 2010.

Transition from using NAPIS to using IPHIS for managing CAPS data will begin after the findings of the CAPS business analysis are addressed and the system is revised as necessary. The transition period will be held through the 2011 calendar year and will account for all necessary training, testing and piloting that is necessary.

If all goes well and the system is proven to support the CAPS program, 2012 will be used for full implementation of IPHIS and transition away from NAPIS.

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## CONTACT INFORMATION

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## EXECUTIVE STEERING COMMITTEE

The purpose of the Executive Steering Committee (ESC) is to provide guidance and direction regarding resources, priority of work to be performed, and schedules for delivery under the PHIS investment. This includes all associated sub-components/systems as they relate to the

PHIS project. In addition, the ESC will resolve issues brought forward from the PHIS Configuration Control Board and/or others to ensure the future direction of the PHIS investment is sound and there are adequate resources available to deliver and manage the system. Composition and contact information for the ESC can be found at:

[http://webdev.aphis.usda.gov/ppq/edp/phis/downloads/exec\\_steering\\_comm.pdf](http://webdev.aphis.usda.gov/ppq/edp/phis/downloads/exec_steering_comm.pdf).

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## CONFIGURATION CONTROL BOARD

The PHIS Configuration Control Board (CCB) controls the PHIS investment including cost, schedule, and scope, within the parameters set by the ESC. In particular, the CCB will provide oversight for the addition of new functionality, ensure that new capabilities are fully integrated, use standard data structures and lists, and that new functionality meets business needs. This includes not only the PHIS systems itself, but also all associated sub-components/systems. Composition and contact information for the CCB can be found at:

[http://webdev.aphis.usda.gov/ppq/edp/phis/downloads/config\\_con\\_board.pdf](http://webdev.aphis.usda.gov/ppq/edp/phis/downloads/config_con_board.pdf).

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