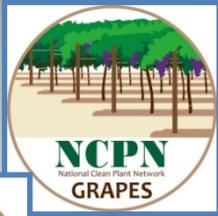


National Clean Plant Network (NCPN)



*Sweetpotato Added
Summer 2015*



FARM BILL 2008 – Establishes NCPN



Food, Conservation, and Energy Act of 2008 Sec. 10202 National Clean Plant Network (NCPN) – Program Background

- **Establishment** - USDA shall establish a 'National Clean Plant Network' for pathogen diagnosis and elimination
- **Products** - Clean plant material made available to States for certification programs; and to private nurseries/producers
- **Consultation** - Consult w/State Departments of Agriculture, Industry, and Universities; governance
- **Cooperation** - Use existing Federal/State clean plant centers
- **Funding** - \$5m/yr. x 4 years >2009-2012< (\$20m total) till expend



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Farm Bill 2014 Section 10007 Reauthorizes and makes NCPN Permanent

- **House and Senate**
 - Approved the Farm Bill in late January and Early February 2014 respectively; sent to the President for signature
- **President**
 - Signed the Farm Bill into law on February 7, 2014
- ***NCPN Status – Farm Bill 2014 Section 10007(e)***
 - **Language** – Same as in Farm Bill 2008 'NCPN' except ...
 - **Includes** - NCPN in the Plant Protection Act (7 USC 7721, Sec. 420)
 - **Consolidates** – NCPN (Farm Bill Sec. 10202 merged with Farm Bill '08 Sec. 10201)
 - **Assures** - NCPN programmatic autonomy and self-determination of its own traditions
 - **Duration** – **FY 2014–2018 "... and in every year thereafter" – makes NCPN permanent**
 - **Surrenders** – Surrenders No-Year Funding but ...
 - **Funding** – Congress provides for a base of **not less than \$5 million annually** to NCPN



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Key NCPN Principle

NCPN establishes, administers, and manages a **network** of collaborating **clean plant centers** and programs specializing in **plant pathogen identification and therapy**.

To do this, NCPN identifies and supports a small but appropriate number of stakeholder focused, nationally oriented clean plant centers that serve as centralized, cost effective hubs to diagnose and 'clean' plant material and provide foundational services to industry and States.



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NCPN Activities – Primary 'Core' Activities

NCPN Supports the Primary 'Service' Activities for Clean Plant Centers:

- **Importation or Introduction**
 - Quarantine --- Receiving Introductions – **does not apply to sweetpotato**
 - Establishing Material
- **Diagnostics**
 - Testing the Pathogen Status of Material submitted for Possible Clean-Up
- **Therapeutics**
 - Cleaning Material under Extant Protocols
- **Foundation Plantings**
 - Establishing Accessions
 - Maintaining Clean Material in Foundations
 - Releasing and Distributing Material to Nurseries and Growers



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NCPN Activities – Secondary 'Support' Activities

NCPN Supports Secondary Needs for Clean Plant Centers, including:

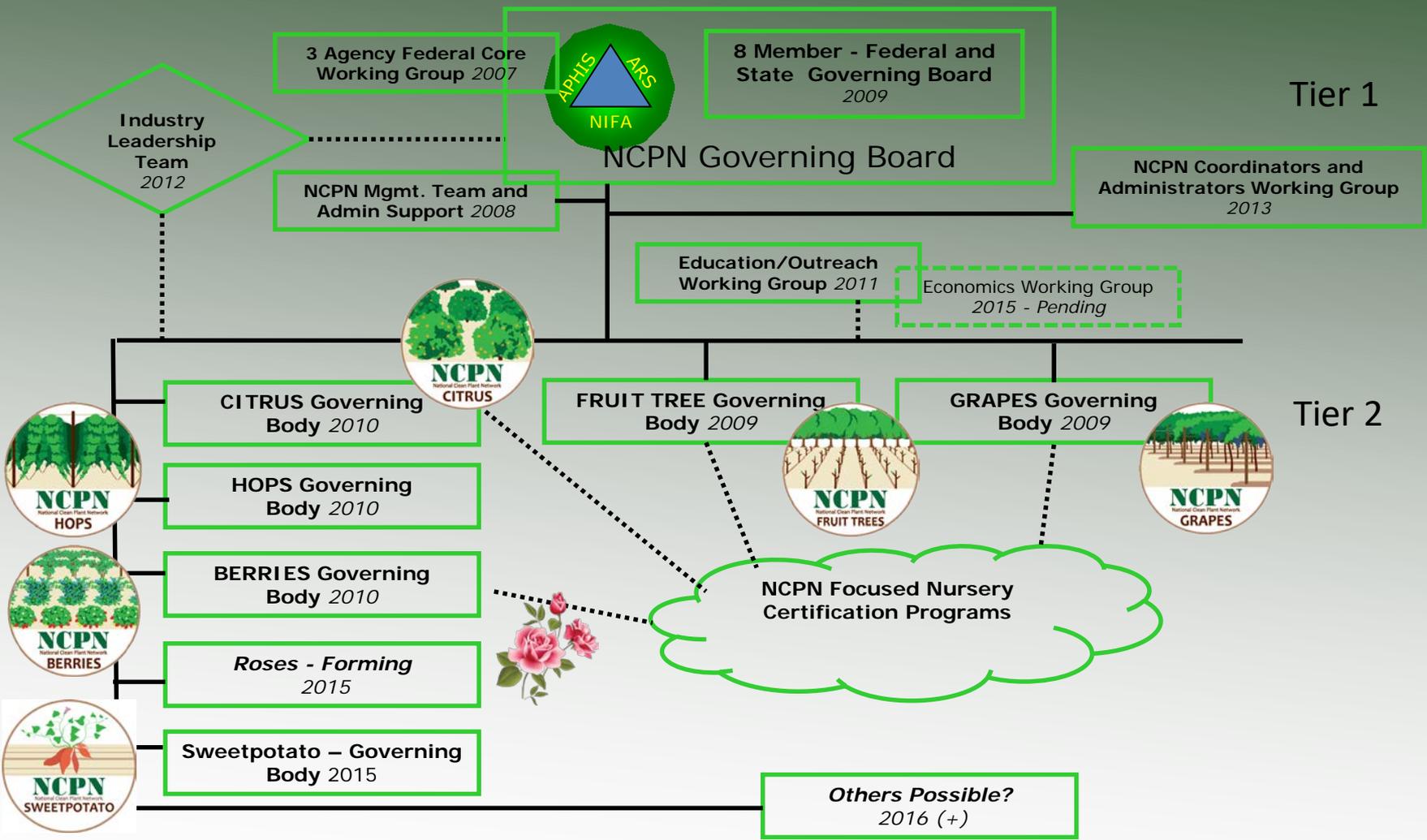
- **Governance**
 - Networking, Communications, Forums, and Planning
- **Methods Development**
 - New Technologies Usage
- **Education/Outreach**
 - Extension and Economics
- **Facilities Support**
 - Refurbishment, Equipment, Supplies, Quality Assurances
- **Regulatory Interests**
 - Discussions Forums
- **Does not support:**
 - Fundamental research
 - Certified seed production



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NCPN Governance



NCPN Cooperative Agreements Program 2008-2016

An 'Engine' for Collaboration

- Request for Applications (RFA)
 - Issued Annually
 - *Early Autumn – Open for 10 weeks*
 - Competitive Process
- Eligible Applicants:
 - Land-Grant Universities
 - Non Land-Grant Colleges of Agriculture
 - State Agricultural Experiment Stations
 - State or Local Governments
 - Federal Agencies
- Select Program Priorities:
 - Existing Facilities
 - Highly Restricted Crops
 - Formative Program 'Governing Bodies'
 - Service Activities – Industry Focused
 - Program Self-Sufficiency
- Funding Availability
 - Approximately \$5 million annually
- Proposal Reviews
 - 'Ad Hoc' Committees – Pre-Proposals
 - Governing Board – Final Proposals
- What's Supported?
 - Governance
 - Critical Staffing Needs
 - Equipment/Supplies
 - Infrastructure Improvements
 - Service Work
 - Diagnostics
 - Therapeutics
 - Foundations
- *Discussion*

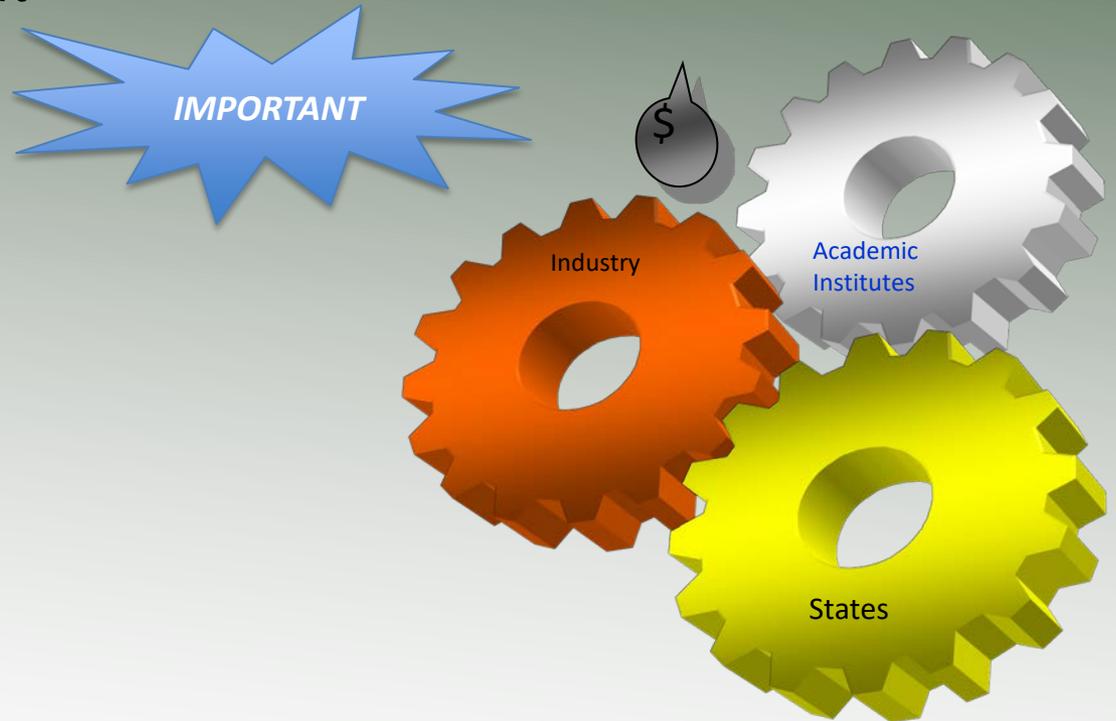


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NCPN Organizational Governance

- Tier 2 Decisional Process
- Charter Development
- Leadership
 - Chair, Vice-Chair
 - Executive Secretary
- Membership
 - Voting / Non-Voting
- Meetings
- Program Support



Governing Body



<http://nationalcleanplantnetwork.org/>



For more information:

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NCPN- Sweetpotato: Opportunity and Accomplishments



NCPN-SP meeting Jan 2017, San Diego,
CA



National Clean Plant Network

Our clean plant networks:

Berry Citrus Fruit Tree Grapes Hops Sweetpotato Rose

NCPN Home

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National Clean Plant Network

Welcome to the National Clean Plant Network



The National Clean Plant Network (NCPN) was created to protect U.S. specialty crops such as grapes, nuts, fruit trees, citrus and berries from the spread of economically harmful plant pests and diseases.

The NCPN will ensure the global competitiveness of U.S. specialty crop producers by creating high standards for our clean plant programs.

[Information about NCPN from the USDA is found here:](#)



SIGN UP FOR THE NCPN NEWSLETTER

* indicates required

Email Address *

First Name

Last Name

Subscribe

Virtual Tour of Louisiana Program



NCPN Sweetpotato

Home

- NCPN Sweet Potato news
- About NCPN Sweetpotato
- Clean Plant Centers
 - Louisiana State University Agricultural Center, SPRS and PPCP**
 - North Carolina State University, Micropropagation and Repository Unit
 - University of Arkansas at Pine Bluff, Sweetpotato Foundation Seed Program
 - Foundation Plant Services, University of California
 - University of Hawaii
 - Mississippi Agricultural and Forestry Experiment Station, Foundation Sweetpotato Program, Pontotoc Ridge-Flatwoods Branch Experiment Station
- National Clean Plant Network

Louisiana State University - (SPRS), Chase, LA and (PPCP) Baton Rouge, LA



SPRS, Chase, LA



PPCP, Baton Rouge, LA

A Virtual Tour of the Sweetpotato Clean Plant Center at The Louisiana State University Agricultural Center

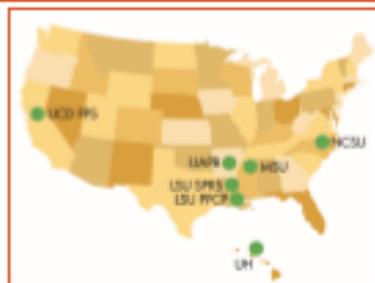


The Louisiana State University Agricultural Center

Sweetpotato Clean Plant Center
A Virtual Tour

Click on the image to download the PowerPoint File

NCPN SWEETPOTATO CLEAN PLANT CENTERS



**North Carolina State University
Micropropagation and Repository Unit,
Raleigh, NC**

- Virus testing and elimination
- Maintains nuclear stocks in tissue culture and greenhouse
- Propagates and disseminates clean plant materials of NC8U, LSUAC and USDA cultivars important to North Carolina growers
- Conducts research on virus identification and detection
- Leader in the development of new cultivars and disease and insect management
- Conducts outreach programs

**Foundation Plant Services,
University of California, Davis, CA**

- Virus testing and elimination
- Maintains nuclear stocks of cultivars important to California growers
- Propagates and disseminates clean plant materials of cultivars important to California growers

**University of Arkansas at Pine Bluff
Sweetpotato Foundation Seed Program,
Pine Bluff, AR**

- Virus testing and elimination
- Propagates and disseminates clean plant materials important to Arkansas growers
- Conducts outreach programs

**Louisiana State University Agricultural Center
Sweetpotato Foundation Seed Program, Chase and
Baton Rouge, LA**

- Virus testing and elimination
- Maintains nuclear stocks in tissue culture
- Propagates and disseminates clean plant materials of LSUAC cultivars important to Gulf South growers – Bayou Belle, Beauregard, Bellevue, Evangeline, and Orleans as well as select heirloom cultivars
- Conducts research on virus identification and detection
- Leader in the development of new cultivars and disease and insect management
- Conducts outreach programs

**Mississippi Agricultural and Forestry Experiment
Station, Foundation Sweetpotato program, Pontotoc
Ridge-Flatwoods Branch Experiment Station,
Pontotoc, MS**

- Maintains foundation greenhouse and propagates clean plants
- Maintains virus-tested tissue culture stock of commercially significant varieties
- Propagates and disseminates clean slips to commercial "seed" producer
- Conducts outreach programs

University of Hawaii at Manoa, HI

- Virus testing and elimination



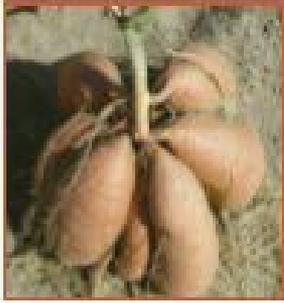
About the National Clean Plant Network (NCPN)

Established in 2008 and supported by the US Department of Agriculture, the NCPN is a national network of clean plant centers, scientists, educators, regulators and industry representatives who are concerned with the health of vegetatively propagated specialty crops.

nationalcleanplantnetwork.org

Start clean, stay clean.





NCPN SWEETPOTATO

National Clean Plant Network



Sweetpotato is susceptible to many diseases caused by viruses, such as russet crack. These diseases can reduce yield and quality.

The National Clean Plant Network for Sweetpotato (NCPN Sweetpotato) is an association of clean plant centers, scientists, educators, state and federal regulators, certified seed growers, and commercial growers from the fresh market and processing industries concerned with the health of planting stock (seed roots and vine cuttings). It joined the NCPN specialty crops network in 2015. The network operates under the umbrella of the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA).

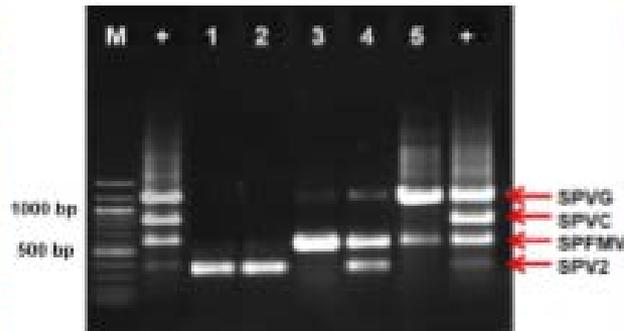


We eliminate viruses by meristem tip culture.



We rigorously test plants for viruses using testing standards that are the strictest possible.

Multiplex RT-PCR for Polyviruses Liu et al., 2012



We propagate foundation stock in carefully controlled greenhouses and monitor for diseases.



We provide clean, tested propagation material to certified seed growers, commercial growers and other clean plant centers throughout the United States and world.



NCPN Program Funding History – FY 2008-2015



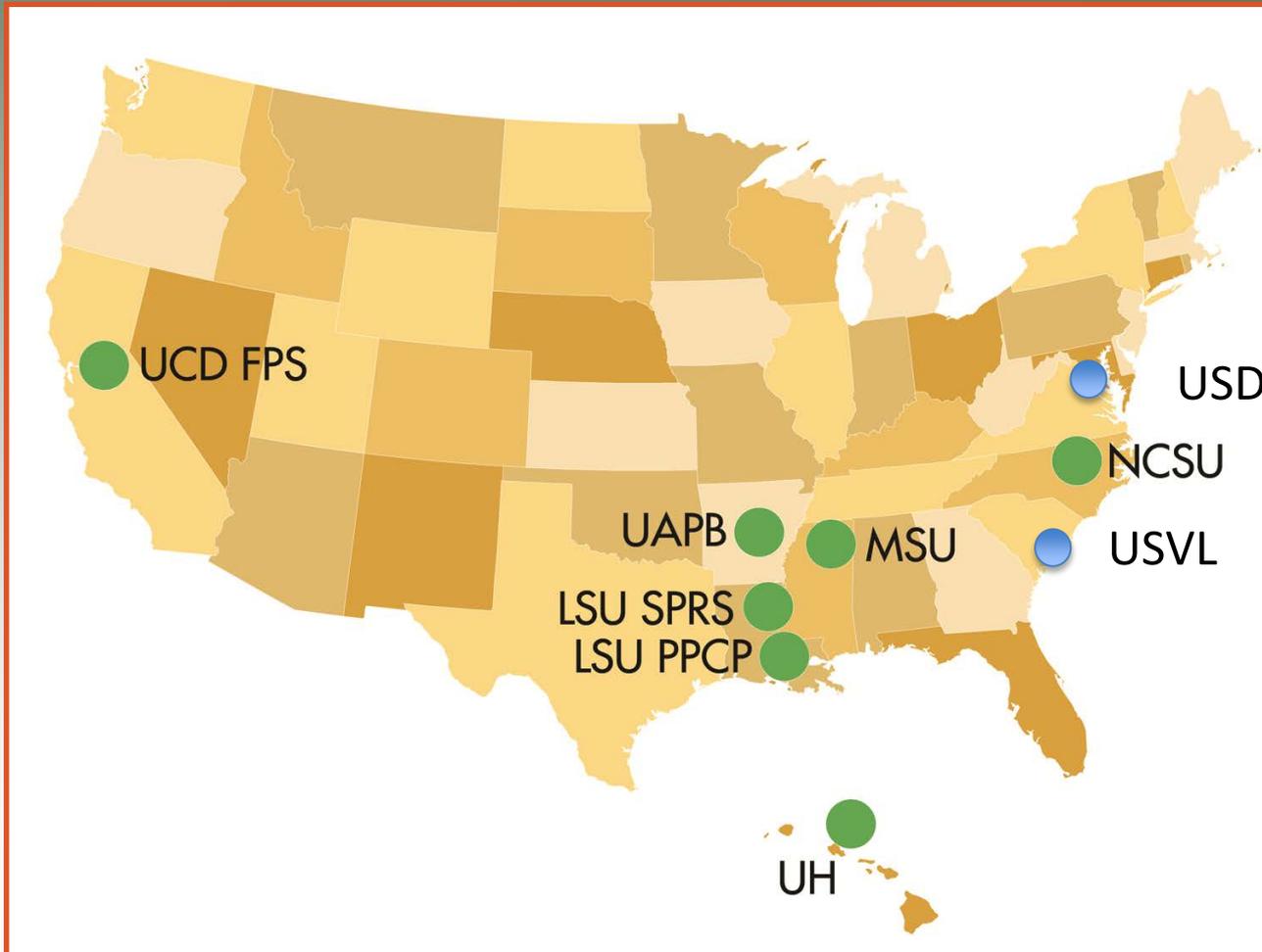
Specialty Crop	Farm Bill 2008 NCPN 2008-2012 TOTAL	Farm Bill 2014 NCPN 2014-2015	Total Program Funding To Date	Future Anticipated Yearly Ceiling Per Crop Base ~ \$4.2-\$4.7m
Fruit Tree	\$ 5,073,462	\$ 2,321,105	\$ 7,394,567	20%-25% of available base
Grapes	\$ 7,980,699	\$ 2,806,637	\$ 10,787,336	20% -25% of available base
Hops	\$ 470,800	\$ 381,794	\$ 852,594	3%-5% of available base
Citrus	\$ 3,858,224	\$ 2,430,128	\$ 6,288,352	20%-25% of available base
Berries	\$ 1,959,507	\$ 982,933	\$ 2,942,440	10%-15% of available base
Sweet Potato	N/A	\$ 459,232	\$ 459,232	8%-10% of available base
Roses	N/A	\$ 278,150	\$ 278,150	5%-7% of available base
Outreach	\$ 263,179	\$ 32,783	\$295,962	TBD
	\$19,605,871	\$ 5,077,621	\$29,361,883 97.9% Efficient	



<http://nationalcleanplantnetwork.org/>



NCPN-SP Centers



NCPN-SP: Centers

- Centers are very diverse
 - AR – target clientele is smallholder farmers (< 5 acres)
 - HI – targeting purple & heirloom cultivars, Pacific Island farmers
 - MS – great potential for growth in supply and demand
 - CA - established, focusing on improvements
 - NC – established, potential for growth in demand
 - LSU – established, potential for growth in supply (aeroponics)



NCPN-SP Centers



Center	Virus testing and elimination	Maintain stocks in tissue culture	Propagate and disseminate clean plants	Research on virus identification and detection	FY 2015 funding
Ark. Pine Bluff	+	+	+	-	\$77,500
UC Davis FPS	+	+	+	-	\$60,000*
U. Hawaii	+	-	-	-	\$38,051
LSU AgCenter	+	+	+	+	\$93,676**
Miss. State	-	+	+	-	\$83,550
NCSU	+	+	+	+	\$72,270
USDA, APHIS	+	-	+	-	--
USDA, ARS	-	-	-	+	--

* Includes funds for outreach support, ** includes funds for travel support for all NCPN-SP

Emphasis on Deliverables!



Actual Deliverables (Quantities/Numbers)	Qtr 1	Qtr2	Qtr 3	Qtr 4	Total for the Funding Period	Comments
Introductions/Selections						
Plant Introductions (New Accessions)	Public: ____ Total: ____					
Tissue Culture Selections Created	Public: ____ Total: ____					
Diagnostics						
Disease Testing (Number of tests)	ELISA Tests: ____ PCR Tests: ____ Herbacous Tests: ____ TOTALS: ____	ELISA Tests: ____ PCR Tests: ____ Herbacous Tests: ____ TOTALS: ____	ELISA Tests: ____ PCR Tests: ____ Herbacous Tests: ____ TOTALS: ____	ELISA Tests: ____ PCR Tests: ____ Herbacous Tests: ____ TOTALS: ____	ELISA Tests: ____ PCR Tests: ____ Herbacous Tests: ____ TOTALS: ____	
Indexing Activities (Numbers)	Buds: ____ Indicator Plants: ____ Selections: ____					
Field Diagnostics (Numbers)	Assays: ____					
Therapeutics						
Therapeutics Conducted	Heat Therapy # of Plants: ____ Other Therapies # of Plants: ____	Heat Therapy # of Plants: ____ Other Therapies # of Plants: ____	Heat Therapy # of Plants: ____ Other Therapies # of Plants: ____	Heat Therapy # of Plants: ____ Other Therapies # of Plants: ____	Heat Therapy # of Plants: ____ Other Therapies # of Plants: ____	
Foundations						
Material Planted in a Foundation Planting	Plants: ____ Accessions: ____					
Total Material Maintained in a Foundation Planting					Plants: Accessions:	
Public Release						
New Releases (Imported and Domestic Accessions)	Public: ____ Total: ____					
Clean Plant Units Distributed	Buds: ____ Cuttings: ____ Rootstocks: ____ Plants: ____					

And accountability to stakeholders

NCPN – Sweetpotato Tier 2 GB

- University
 - Chris Clark (chair)
 - Scott Stoddard
- Admin/Education & Outreach
 - Sue Sim
 - Tara Smith
 - Diane Coats (Admin. Coordin.)
- Regulatory
 - Richard Miller (LDAF)
 - Ann Gallagher (NCDA)
 - Sean Runyon (CA)
- Industry
 - Jason Chandler (GA/FL)
 - Bill Foote (NC) (co-chair)
 - Matt Garber (LA)
 - Jim Jones (NC)
 - Sue Leggett (NC)
 - Steve Meyers (MS)
 - Dave Souza (CA)
- *Ex officio*
 - Jorge Abad
 - Bob Jarret
 - Kai-shu Ling
 - Erich Rudyj
 - Dave Prokrym



Priorities from T2GB Meeting

August, 2015

- High

- Maintain existing clean plant material at including periodic retesting.
- Perform pathogen-elimination therapy and testing on as many new and existing selections as possible.
- Assist centers to obtain needed equipment.

- Medium

- Develop protocols for virus elimination, propagation, and maintenance of nuclear stocks.
- Develop best methods for virus detection and elimination.
 - Assure adequate supplies, staffing.
- Develop outreach and extension programs.



NCPN-SP: Accomplishments

- 1) Developed virus testing protocols collaboratively
 - Compared current testing protocols
 - Recommended protocol and panel of viruses to test for
 - Paper – minimum virus testing protocols.
 - Resulted in procedural changes in each center
 - For ex. At FPS more virus types were included in panel; tests run on indicator plants
 - Better able to recommend procedures to new centers.



NCPN-SP: Accomplishments

- 2) Production of Clean Stock Increased
 - Facilities improvements (supplemental lights,.....)
 - Procedural improvement (aeroponics...)
 - Sharing results and clean plants with other centers



NCPN-SP: Accomplishments

3) Outreach Efforts begun – ‘Benefits of Virus Tested Planting Stock’ Fact Sheet

FACT SHEET
National Clean Plant Network

Benefits Of Using Virus Tested Planting Stock

Why Sweetpotatoes are one of the most important production commodities from conventional agriculture in the U.S. Sweetpotatoes contribute 10% to the nation's economy. Sweetpotatoes come in many varieties. Table 1 lists clean and quality of storage roots for the grower.

Clean stock is the solution. Harvest clean, virus tested plants can help mitigate the losses caused by transmission diseases. The first clean seed program for sweetpotatoes was started in the 1950s in California. In that time it was well known in the industry that clean seed stock was required to grow in Hawaii, Cook and many other states. The use of clean seed is critical to the success of commercial sweetpotato production. Clean material, coupled with high-yield planting, increases net returns for commercial sweetpotato growers. Clean stock is available for sweetpotatoes in California, Hawaii, Florida, and other states. Clean stock is available for sweetpotatoes in California, Hawaii, Florida, and other states. Clean stock is available for sweetpotatoes in California, Hawaii, Florida, and other states.

Other 100% of plants are

Not used in an adjacent season. When transmission diseases are present, the yield and quality of the crop are reduced. Clean stock is available for sweetpotatoes in California, Hawaii, Florida, and other states. Clean stock is available for sweetpotatoes in California, Hawaii, Florida, and other states.

Table 1. Yield Comparison of Clean vs. Virus Tested Sweetpotatoes

Planting stock of Sweetpotato in California	Yield (t/ha) of clean stock		Yield (t/ha) of virus tested stock	% Yield reduction
	2010	2011		
Clean Stock	471	503.2	368.2	24%
Stock infected with SPV (No Clean Stock)	422	454.4	402	10%
Former Plant 1 (No Clean Stock) (SPV-free)	327	352.4	402	19%
Former Plant 2 (No Clean Stock) (SPV-free)	306	322	309	0%
Former Plant 3 (No Clean Stock) (SPV-free)	381	373.9	402	6%



NCPN-SP: Accomplishments

4) Unified Proposal 2018-19

- Consistent reporting across centers for Anticipated Accomplishments and Accomplishment Reports reflect the way different centers are addressing the varying needs of the stakeholders they serve.



NCPN-SP: Future plans

- **Hawaii** is proposing therapy, maintenance, virus testing, and providing clean plants to growers. Cultivars are unique to Hawaii
- **Mississippi** is broadening long-standing collaboration with Louisiana to re-test foundation planting materials.
- **Plans to increase collaboration** between established and newer centers to aid newer centers. Travel, technical training and outreach efforts will be discussed at meeting in January in NC
 - In the process of organizing a meeting for mid-March in Baton Rouge to focus on collaborative efforts especially enhancing capabilities of smaller centers
- Additional outreach materials (virtual tours, videos)



Pathogens and pests carried on 'seed' roots and slips

- Bacteria
 - Bacterial root and stem rot - *Erwinia chrysanthemi*
- Fungi
 - Black rot - *Ceratocystis fimbriata*
 - Foot rot - *Plenodomus destruens*
 - Fusarium wilt - *Fusarium oxysporum* f. sp. *batatas* / *nicotianae*
 - Scurf - *Monilochaetes infuscans*
 - Fusarium root and stem canker - *Fusarium solani*
- Nematodes
 - Root-knot nematode, *Meloidogyne* spp.
 - Reniform nematode, *Rotylenchulus reniformis*
- Insects
 - Sweetpotato weevil, *Cylas formicarius*



Questions?