Lab method survey summary
Lina Rodriguez Salamanca, Plant & Insect Diagnostic Clinic, Iowa State University Extension and Rachel Bomberger, Plant Pest Diagnostic Clinic, Washington State University

Thank you to all who took the time to respond to the survey regarding the laboratory method description terms in spring 2018. The survey was sent out to get diagnostician input on both additions to the method dictionary, as well as, input regarding old terms that may have expanded either in technology or in application.

This information is important for data upload into the national repository. Term revision and proposed changes aim to better capture how we, as diagnosticians, use the methods and clarify the definitions as required to help create more consistency for method selection. New technologies were added and vetted through the survey to make sure that the technology was actually used and the definition accurately reflected the practical application by our diagnosticians. See survey results and proposed definitions at www.npdn.org/lab-method-development (login required).

These method descriptions are to be viewed as a living dictionary: as different and new technologies are added into our collective toolbox; and as the application of a method increases requiring an expansion of the definition or the creation of a new category. These changes are an effort to make the reporting as accurate and consistent as possible while reflecting the frequency of and sample type for which they are used. Again thank you for your input, the changes and suggestions drive this living document.

The proposed method name changes are NOT set in stone nor finalized, so if you feel strongly or have feedback, please contact Lina Rodriguez (lina@iastate.edu) to make sure your input gets to the lab method working group.

Kindly,
Lab Method Dictionary Working Group

2019 NPDN National Meeting
Planning is underway...
April 15–20, 2019
Crowne Plaza-Indianapolis
Downtown Union Station
Indianapolis, Indiana

Crowne Plaza at Historic Union Station

Issue highlights
• First Detector tools and resources
• New: Search ID Aids
• APHIS provides an update on Spotted lanternfly
Training & Outreach

First Detector tools and resources
Andrea Bruns, Plant Pathology and Plant Microbe Biology, Cornell University

The First Detector website has transitioned to a new page with a revamped appearance and improved user experience! Since many of you are using and relying upon the website, we want to create the best possible platform for you—an easy-to-use, intuitive website that will allow you to register workshops, access educator resources, and direct First Detectors to more information. You can help ensure that the website best suits your needs and those of other First Detectors by taking a moment to explore the new website and send your feedback to Andrea Bruns at ab2689@cornell.edu.

E-learning modules and print education resources are due for updates, so keep watching for further improvements over the next year! 🌿

Now you can access all First Detector and educator resources with your NPDN account.

Contact Rachel Moore at moore256@purdue.edu and ask her to link your NPDN account with the First Detector site.

Then, visit www.FirstDetector.org and click log in. At the bottom of the login page select “Log in using CAS”. Complete the Captcha and login using your NPDN credentials.
Search ID Aids is USDA ITP’s new web interface

Julia Scher, Identification Technology Program (ITP), USDA APHIS PPQ Science & Technology (S&T)

The USDA APHIS ITP team is pleased to announce a new searchable interface for pest identification support. Built in cooperation with North Carolina State University’s Center for Integrated Pest Management, Search ID Aids can be used to quickly find useful web-based identification and screening resources.

ITP maintains an ongoing collection of ID Aids: high-quality web-based tools and apps that support identification of plant pests of concern to PPQ. Each ID Aid is thoroughly reviewed and evaluated to ensure it has value and is from a reputable source. This collection currently includes over 3,800 vetted ID Aids that are image galleries, fact sheets, screening aids, keys of all types, molecular tools, and more, and they cover all plant pest groups. Since we’re continually adding ID Aids, we also have a contact page where we welcome suggestions for pests to cover.

With Search ID Aids both experts and novices can find suitable identification resources. Search by either scientific or common pest name, and then instantly filter your results.

Search ID Aids is available at idtools.net/idaids/. To see all of ITP’s products or to learn more about ITP visit our website at idtools.org.

Regional News

APHIS provides an update on Spotted lanternfly (Lycorma delicatula) activities

On September 6, 2018, the Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) provided an update of spotted lanternfly (SLF) activities in Pennsylvania, Virginia, New Jersey, and Delaware. In February 2018, APHIS confirmed a localized SLF infestation in Frederick County, Virginia. In summer 2018, APHIS confirmed SLF in Warren, Mercer, and Hunterdon counties in New Jersey, as well as in New Castle County, Delaware. APHIS is working with the departments of agriculture in Virginia, New Jersey, and Delaware to contain the infestations and treat the affected areas. In addition, APHIS confirmed isolated incidents of single SLF
detected in New York and Maryland due to SLF traveling on non-agricultural material from infested areas.

APHIS and state partners are conducting SLF detection surveys in Delaware, Maryland, New Jersey, New York, Pennsylvania, Virginia, and West Virginia to monitor pest populations and detect new outbreaks outside known infested areas. A coordinated federal and state response, with industry and public support, is necessary to protect crops, forests, and residential landscapes from this pest. By attacking the pest on all fronts, we are maximizing the effectiveness of both locally applied and area wide activities. . .

This is an excerpt from an announcement dated September 6, 2018. To read the full announcement visit nationalplantboard.org/laws-and-regulations/spro-letters/.

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**contribute**

**Share tips and news with your colleagues**

Recently write an article for a trade journal? Do you have a tip, announcement, job listing or network update you would like to include in the NPDN News? Email Rachel McCarthy at rachel.mccarthy@cornell.edu.

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**connect**

NPDN outreach. Connect with us on social media!

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**Upcoming Events**

**November 11–14, 2018**

2018 ESA, ESC and ESBC Joint Meeting

Vancouver, BC, Canada

**April 15–20, 2019**

2019 NPDN National Meeting

Indianapolis, Indiana

**August 3–7, 2019**

2019 APS Annual Meeting

Cleveland, Ohio

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**Spotted lanternfly**

*Lycorma delicatula*

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