



Horticultural Inspection Society  
Eastern Chapter

**EASTERN PLANT BOARD**  
**99<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL MEETING AGENDA**  
**Hyatt Place Dewey Beach**  
 1301 Coastal Highway, Dewey Beach, DE, 19971

**MONDAY March 31, 2025**

<b>Time</b>	<b>Topic</b>
	Travel
5:00–7:00 PM	Registration
7:00–9:00 PM	<b>Reception</b> (light hors d'oeuvres and drinks) – Prefunction

**TUESDAY APRIL 1, 2025**

<b>Time</b>	<b>Topic</b>
7:00–8:00 AM	<b>Breakfast (provided)</b> – Prefunction
8:00–8:15 AM	<b>Housekeeping, Welcome</b> – Ballroom East & West
	<b>BREAK OUT SESSIONS</b>
8:15–10:00 AM	<b>EPB Members only</b> – Ballroom East
	<b>APHIS, PPQ Meeting–PPQ Lead</b> – Ballroom West
	<b>CBP Meeting, CBP Lead</b> – Meeting Place 1
	<b>HIS Meeting</b> – Sunset South 1
	<b>CAPS Meeting</b> – Sunset South 2
10:00–10:30 AM	<b>Break</b>
10:30–12:00	<b>EPB Members only</b> – Ballroom East
	<b>APHIS, PPQ Meeting–PPQ Lead</b> – Ballroom West
	<b>CBP Meeting, CBP Lead</b> – Meeting Place 1
	<b>HIS Meeting</b> – Sunset South 1
	<b>CAPS Meeting</b> – Sunset South 2
12:00–1:00	<b>Lunch (provided)</b> - Prefunction
<b>JOINT WELCOME SESSION</b>	
Ballroom	
<i>Moderator: Chris Logue, New York State Department of Agriculture and Markets</i>	
1:00–1:15	<b>EPB Welcome</b> Gary Fish, Eastern Plant Board President Maine Department of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry
1:15-1:45	<b>Delaware State Welcome</b> Wm. Donald Clifton, II, Secretary, Delaware Department of Agriculture-INVITED

1:45-2:00	<b>View from the National Plant Board</b> Piera Siegert, National Plant Board Vice President New Hampshire Department of Agriculture, Markets & Food
2:00-2:20	<b>PPQ Field Operations Update</b> Calvin Schuler, Associate Deputy Administrator, USDA-APHIS-PPQ
2:20-2:40	<b>Customs and Border Protection Update</b> Kevin Harriger, Executive Director Agriculture Programs and Trade Liaison, Office of Field Operations, Customs & Border Protection US Department of Homeland Security
2:40-3:00	<b>BREAK</b> Door Prizes
3:00-3:20	<b>Canadian Food and Inspection Agency Update</b> <b>National and Regional Update</b> Dominique Pelletier, National Manager, Forestry Section, Plant Protection Division Canadian Food Inspection Agency   Government of Canada
3:20-3:40	<b>US Forest Service Update</b> Angel Saavedra, USDA Forest Service
3:40-4:20	<b>Box Tree Moth – Delaware Update and Program Updates</b> Jeff Brothers, Environmental Program Administrator, Delaware Dept. of Agriculture Stephen Hauss, Environmental Program Manager, Delaware Dept. of Agriculture Michael Hutchinson, Plant Protection Division Chief, Pennsylvania Dept of Agriculture Russ Bulluck, National Operations Manager, USDA APHIS PPQ Dominique Pelletier, National Manager, Forestry Section, Plant Protection Division Canadian Food Inspection Agency   Government of Canada
4:20-5:00	<b>300 years of Agricultural Progress</b> Ed Kee, former Delaware Secretary of Agriculture
<b>Dinner on your own</b>	

**WEDNESDAY APRIL 2, 2025**

<b>Time</b>	<b>Topic</b>
7:00-8:00	Breakfast (provided) – Atrium
<b>EASTERN PLANT BOARD MEETING – <i>Pest Updates</i></b> Ballroom <i>Moderator: Gary Fish, Maine Department of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry</i>	
8:00-8:45	<b>Invasive Plant Laws – Panel Discussion</b> Jeff Brothers, Environmental Program Administrator, Delaware Dept. of Agriculture Kim Rice, State Plant Regulatory Official, Maryland Dept. of Agriculture Sarah Scally, Assistant Horticulturist, Maine Dept. of Agriculture, Conservation & Forestry Jay Bagely, Regional Supervisor, Bureau of Plant Industries, Pennsylvania Dept. of Agriculture
8:45-9:05	<b>Native Alternative to Invasive Ornamental Plants in the Landscape</b> Leah Brooks, Public Programs Coordinator, Mt. Cuba Center
9:05-9:25	<b><i>Thrips parvispinus</i></b> Dr. Patricia Prade, Penn State Extension
9:25-9:45	<b>Yellow Legged Hornet (<i>Vespa velutina</i>) Update</b> Josie Ryan, National Operations Manager, USDA APHIS PPQ
9:45-10:05	<b>Illegal imports from China and illegal interstate sales from unlicensed nurseries: What do we do about it?</b> Travis W. Bliss, Ph.D., Esq., Plant IP attorney, Panitch Schwarze Belisario & Nadel LLP

10:05-10:20	<b>BREAK</b> Door Prizes
10:20-11:00	<b>Imported Fire Ant – What are the latest updates to the program and state surveys?</b> Stephen Hauss, Environmental Program Manager, Delaware Dept. of Agriculture Aaron Shurtleff, State Survey Coordinator, Maryland Dept. of Agriculture TBD, IES Ryan Vazquez, National Operations Manager, USDA APHIS PPQ
11:00-11:20	<b>526 Permits, eFile – The how’s and why’s of a federal permit. Pest Issues</b> Deric Picton, Risk Management Specialist, Pest Pathogen & Biocontrol Permit Unit, USDA APHIS PPQ Saul Vaiciunas, Supervising Plant Pathologist, NJ Dept of Agriculture
11:20-11:40	<b>Beech Leaf Disease – The latest updates</b> Angel Saavedra, USDA Forest Service
12:00	<b>Pick up Boxed Lunch and Board Bus - Prefunction</b>
12:30-5:00	<b>BUSES LEAVING at 12:30</b> <b>Field Trips</b> Delaware Botanic Gardens and East Coast Garden Center (Tentative and DDA is determining if we can combine them)
6:00	<b>Banquet and Beach Bonfire, Hyatt Place – Prefunction or Ballroom</b>

**THURSDAY APRIL 3, 2025**

Time	Topic
7:00-8:00	Breakfast (provided) – Atrium
<b>EASTERN PLANT BOARD MEETING</b> Ballroom <i>Moderator: Joe Zoltowski, New Jersey Department of Agriculture</i>	
8:00-8:15	<b>EPB Members on NPB Committee Updates</b> (NCC, P. ramorum, Cooperative Agreement, SANC, and others)
8:15-8:35	<b>PPA 7721 Update – What’s new with the program?</b> Chelsea Carey, Assistant National Policy Manager, USDA APHIS PPQ
8:35-9:15	<b>ACIR (Agriculture Commodity Import Requirements) – Replacing Plants for Planting Manual</b> Alana Wild, National Operations Manager, USDA-APHIS-PPQ
9:15-9:55	<b>Pest Risk Committee – Tri-state Biological Risk Assessment Committee (TSBRAC)</b> <b>DELAWARE</b> Darryl Moore, Delaware State Plant Health Director, USDA APHIS PPQ Jeff Brothers, Environmental Program Administrator, Delaware Dept. of Agriculture <b>NEW JERSEY</b> Tapos Mondal, New Jersey State Plant Health Director, USDA APHIS PPQ Saul Vaiciunas, Supervising Plant Pathologist, NJ Dept of Agriculture <b>PENNSYLVANIA</b> Tim Newcamp, Pennsylvania State Plant Health Director, USDA APHIS PPQ John Baker, PPQ Supervisor, USDA APHIS PPQ Michael Hutchinson, Plant Protection Division Chief, Pennsylvania Dept of Agriculture David Ng, Customs & Border Protection US Department of Homeland Security Elliot Ortiz, Customs & Border Protection US Department of Homeland Security

9:55-10:15	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Oak Wilt</b>  Angel Saavedra, USDA Forest Service  TBD, USDA APHIS PPQ – Logs crossing border  Judy Rosovsky, State Entomologist, Vermont Dept. Agriculture, Food and Markets</p>
10:15-10:35	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Bark Shingles and other Surprise Pest Pathways (in Pennsylvania)</b>  Shane Phillips, Compliance and Enforcement Specialist Pennsylvania Dept. of Agriculture</p>
10:35-10:40	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>2026 Eastern Plant Board Meeting – Welcome to Pennsylvania</b>  Mike Hutchinson, PA Dept. of Agriculture</p>
10:40–10:50	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>BREAK</b>  Door Prizes</p>
10:50–11:10	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>HIS Report (joint)</b></p>
11:10–11:30	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>CAPS Report (joint)</b></p>
11:30–12:00	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>EPB Meeting/Wrap Up, Members only</b></p>

*Safe travel home to everyone!*

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