



United States
Department of
Agriculture

Marketing and
Regulatory Programs

Animal and Plant
Health Inspection
Service

Plant Protection
and Quarantine

Pest Detection and
Management Programs

4700 River Road
Unit 26
Riverdale, MD 20737

Dear Colleague:

This is an invitation for you to attend the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) Karnal Bunt Field Trip and Workshop to be held October 13-14, 2004, in Texas. The field trip to the Olney laboratory is optional and will take place October 13. Transportation will be provided for the field trip, to and from the hotel where we will be staying in Dallas. The workshop will begin the second day, on October 14.

In October of last year, we sponsored a similar workshop to discuss the 2003 Karnal bunt program and solicit stakeholder and cooperator input regarding progress towards overcoming Karnal bunt as a pest of quarantine concern. As a result of that workshop, we updated and revised as appropriate our plan; overcoming Karnal bunt as a Quarantine Pest While Preserving Export Markets, which proposes an overall strategy for addressing Karnal bunt issues and guidance for decision making.

We are not planning to charge a registration fee for the field trip or workshop, *however; lodging, meals and travel expenses will be the responsibility of each participant.* A block of rooms have been reserved under "USDA Karnal Bunt Workshop" for the nights of October 12-14, at the Wyndham Anatole, 2201 Stemmons Freeway, Dallas, Texas, 75207. The hotel can be contacted by telephone at (214) 748-1200. Complete information regarding the workshop, hotel accommodations, rates, meeting facilities, shuttle service, and parking is enclosed. (Attachment 1)

In the optional field trip, October 13, Karnal bunt program managers will explain how the current program has evolved, demonstrate how the instruments operate, and provide a unique opportunity to ask the people who are most familiar with the program to explain procedures to you.

In the program workshop, October 14, we will communicate the status of actions taken during fiscal year 2004 referenced in the Karnal bunt strategic plan; obtain stakeholder input about those actions and accomplishments; and propose changes or modifications to fiscal year 2005 actions.

If you are interested in attending the one-day field trip and/or the one-day workshop, please respond via the PPQ KB Working Group e-mail box at ppq_kb_working_group@aphis.usda.gov, or by fax to the KB Working Group at (301) 734-8434, and provide the following information:

Your full name and title, organization name, mailing address, telephone and fax numbers, e-mail address, what name you prefer on your badge, and if you will be attending the field trip and/or the workshop (Attachment 2).



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For additional information you may contact Ms. Stacie Cain (301) 734-5451 or Juanita Whiting, USDA, APHIS at (301) 734-5230.

The cut off date for hotel confirmations will be October 1, 2004.

We look forward to working with you.

Sincerely,

Matthew H. Royer, Ph.D.
Acting Senior Program Adviser
Pest Detection and Management Programs
Plant Protection and Quarantine

2 Attachments

**USDA Karnal Bunt Field Trip and Workshop
Dallas, TX
October 14, 2004**

Attachment 1

Workshop and Accommodation Site

Wyndham Anatole
2201 Stemmons Freeway
Dallas, TX 75207
(214)-748-1200; or Toll Free: 1-800-wyndham

Hotel Rates

Group \$88.00 a night

Hotel Reservations

Reservations for your sleeping accommodations must be made by calling the hotel at 214-761-7500 or toll free 1-800-wyndham. Please be sure to reserve your room under the USDA Karnal bunt block or refer to group number 1013178NP. You will need a credit card to guarantee your reservation. Please reserve your room early. The cut off date for our room block is **October 1, 2004**. Check-in time is 4 pm and check-out is at 12 pm. For individuals who will be driving, parking is \$12.00 per night per, and overnight valet parking is \$17.00.

Transportation

The ride from Dallas/Ft. Worth Airport to the hotel is approximately 14 miles. Shuttle service is available at the lower level of the airport by the baggage claim by calling on the courtesy phone once you arrive. The cost for the shuttle is \$15.00 one way. The cost of a taxi is approximately \$40.00 one way.

Transportation will be provided free of charge to/from the hotel to Olney, Texas, where the field trip will take place on October 13. Vehicles will depart the hotel at 7:00 AM on October 13, returning early evening the same day.

Workshop and Registration Information

The Karnal Bunt Workshop will be held in the L'Entrecote room on Thursday, October 14, 2004. Registration is from 7:30 a.m. to 8:00 a.m. and the workshop is scheduled from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Dress is casual.

For additional information regarding the hotel please access their web site at:
<http://www.wyndham.com/hotels/DFWAN/main.wnt>

**Karnal Bunt Field Trip and Workshop
Dallas, TX
October 13 and 14, 2003**

Attachment 2

Participant Information Registration Form

Please provide the following information via the PPQ KB Working Group e-mail box at: ppq_kb_working_group@aphis.usda.gov, or by fax to the KB Working Group at 301-734-8434.

Attending Field Trip (yes/no) _____ Attending Workshop (yes/no) _____

Full Name:

(Last Name, First Name, MI)

(Title)

Affiliation/Organization:

Complete Mailing Address:

Telephone Number:

Fax Number:

E-mail Address:

Please print your name the way you would like your name tag to read:

Please check one of the following:

I will be making reservations at the Wyndham.

I will not be making reservations at the Wyndham.