



Mission of the SPDN

"The mission of the network is to enhance national agricultural security by quickly detecting introduced pests and pathogens. This will be achieved by creating a functional nationwide network of public agricultural institutions with a cohesive, distributed system to quickly detect deliberately introduced, high consequence, biological pests and pathogens into our agricultural and natural ecosystems by providing means for quick identifications and establishing protocols for immediate reporting to appropriate responders and decision makers."

Our goal is to (i) establish a secure, regional network for the detection and diagnosis of plant health problems, (ii) extend and support sound public policies, implement rapid and accurate diagnoses, and response strategies, and (iii) provide leadership and training.

NPDN: The Animal & Plant Disease and Pest Surveillance & Detection Network was established by the Secretary of Agriculture to the Cooperative State Research, Education, and Extension Service ([CSREES](#)) to develop a network linking plant and animal disease diagnostic facilities across the country. The National Plant Diagnostic Network ([NPDN](#)) focuses on the plant disease and pest aspect of the program. Lead universities have been selected and designated to represent 5 regions around the country. University of Florida has been designated as the Regional Center for the Southern states. Other regional centers include Kansas State University (Great Plains region), Michigan State University (North Central region), Cornell University (North East region), and University of California at Davis (Western region). The National Agriculture Pest Information System ([NAPIS](#)) located at Purdue University has been designated as the central repository for archiving selected data collected from the regions.