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# HIS CENTRAL CHAPTER NEWSLETTER

CCHIS NEWSLETTER VOLUME 54 - ISSUE 1, FEBRUARY 2026

*Photo by Tim B*



# The President's Message

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As winter settles in across much of the Central Chapter, it offers a natural pause to reflect on the year behind us and prepare for what lies ahead. The 2025 inspection season moved quickly, filled with familiar responsibilities and new challenges that once again highlighted the professionalism, adaptability, and dedication of our membership. Whether in the field, at a facility, or behind the scenes, your work continues to protect agriculture, natural resources, and the industries we serve.

This past summer, members from ten states across the Central Chapter came together for the Multi-State Inspection hosted in Dayton, Ohio. These group inspections provide valuable, real-world learning opportunities, allowing inspectors to exchange ideas, compare approaches, and see different operations firsthand. Thank you to Ohio and all those involved for hosting and supporting a productive and well-attended event. Planning is already underway for the next Multi-State Inspection, and additional details will be shared as they become available. I encourage everyone to participate when the opportunity arises.

Building on that spirit of collaboration, we gathered again this past fall in Manhattan, Kansas, for the 2025 Annual Conference. The opportunity to share information, learn from knowledgeable speakers, participate in hands-on discussions, and reconnect with colleagues from across the chapter remains one of the greatest strengths of CCHIS. These meetings reinforce the value of collaboration and the importance of maintaining strong professional relationships across state lines. Thank you to everyone who attended, presented, served on committees, and helped make the conference a success.

Looking ahead, planning is already underway for our next Annual Conference this fall in Illinois. Andrew Mathis and his team have been working diligently to organize and lay the foundation for what is expected to be an excellent conference, and I hope to see many of you there. Until then, I encourage everyone to take advantage of the slower season to rest, recharge, and continue growing professionally.

Winter has provided time to step back, review new research, catch up on reading we didn't have time for during the busy season, and exchange ideas with fellow inspectors. I encourage you to continue sharing information through our listserv and committee work, as every conversation, question, and shared experience strengthens our collective knowledge and prepares us for whatever challenges the next growing season may bring. We look forward to the winter webinars being prepared by the Virtual Meeting Committee.

Thank you for your commitment to CCHIS and to the vital work we do every day. Best wishes for a safe, productive, and successful year ahead.

Braden Hoch  
Kansas Department of Agriculture  
President, HIS Central Chapter

# 2026 CCHIS Committees

These are standing committees. Members remain on committee(s) and can rotate on/off at the annual business meeting.

- Committees meet as determined by the committee chair -

Contact the committee chair with any questions, submissions, or to help out.

## Executive Committee

**President** - Braden Hoch, KS

**Vice President** - Andrew Mathis, IL

**Secretary** - John Mortenson, ND

**Treasurer** - Liz Meils, WI

**Newsletter Editor** - Matthew Cullen, MO

**Past President** - Jeff Lounsbery, SD

## Manual/Research/Education Committee

**CHAIR: Rachel Wilkins, KS (HIS Manual Editor)**

Dani Sackett, MN; Liz Meils, WI

Yuhong Li, MO

Thomas Jepsen, MI

Purpose: Update and develop articles for the CC-HIS manual as determined by the Manual Chair or the membership. Follow current applicable research and distribute to CC-HIS members. Generate or share educational content for inspectors.

## Auditing Committee

**CHAIR: Zach Starr, MO**

Mike Hill, OH

Matt Hoffman, MN

Brittany Olson, MN

Liz Meils, WI (HIS Treasurer)

Purpose: Review the records maintained by the CC-HIS Treasurer prior to the annual business meeting.

## Membership & Equity Committee

**CHAIR: Eze Pojmann-Ezeonyilo, MO**

Dani Sackett, MN

Amy Kennedy, MI

Liz Meils, WI

Kelsey Ziebarth, MN

Purpose: Communicate with each state and strive for full membership and representation at HIS events. High recruitment and retention. Create opportunities to engage within our chapter and other chapters.

## Newsletter Committee

**CHAIR: Matthew Cullen, MO (HIS Newsletter Editor)**

Erin Lepski, KS

Rachel Bienemann, OH

Tim Boyle, WI

Ty Schaefer, KS

Purpose: Generate 2+ CC-HIS newsletters/year. Generate content for other industry publications upon request.

## Annual Meeting Committee

**CHAIR: Susan Ehlenbeck, MO**

Ali Wright, IL; Joe Fujan, IL

Brittany Olson, MN; Charles Elhard, ND

Zach Starr, MO

Braden Hoch, KS

Liz Meils, WI

Purpose: Develop Hosting Manual for VP. Resource for current VP. Communicate with upcoming hosting states to confirm willingness to host.

## Nominations/Awards Committee

**CHAIR: Susan Ehlenbeck, MO**

Matt Hoffman, MN

John Larsen, MN

Purpose: Nominate CC-HIS members for the officer positions. Elections are held at the annual business meeting. Solicit nominations for the annual McAdams Award.

## Resolutions Committee

**CHAIR: Susan Ehlenbeck, MO**

Braden Hoch, KS

Jeremy Maples, KS

Will Drews, IN

Purpose: Gather Resolutions throughout the year and submit all standing and proposed Resolutions to the CC-HIS members prior to the annual business meeting.

## Multi-State Inspection Committee

**CHAIR: Mike Hill, OH**

Matt Hoffman, MN

Ben Quisenberry, MO; Mandy Tizon, MO

Robert Johnson, KS

Purpose: Communicate with CC-HIS states to select an annual hosting state for multi-state inspections, provide support to hosting state.

## Website Committee

**CHAIR: Tim Boyle, WI (HIS Web manager)**

Eric Biddinger, IN

Amy Kennedy, MI

Braden Hoch, KS

Purpose: Monitor, maintain and update regularly CCHIS.org

## Virtual Meetings Committee

**CHAIR: Eric Biddinger, IN**

Lee Conner, MO

Amanda Tizon, MO

Tim Boyle, WI

Purpose: coordinate 2+ virtual presentations/year on topics applicable to CC-HIS members

## Constitutional Committee

**CHAIR: Zach Starr, MO**

Jeff Lounsbery, SD; Eze Pojmann-Ezeonyilo, MO

Erin Lepski, KS; John Mortenson, ND

Matt Hoffman, MN

Purpose: Consider constitutional changes discussed at 2025 HIS business meeting; propose amendments.

# Committee Corner

## What's new with Central HIS Committees?

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### **Manual Committee**

The Manual Committee is currently in the process of reviewing and updating each article in the HIS-CC Inspector's Manual—and we need your help! These reviews ensure that the manual remains an accurate and helpful resource for the chapter. Reach out to the committee chair, Rachel ([rachel.wilkins@ks.gov](mailto:rachel.wilkins@ks.gov)), for more information on how to get involved in the review process.

For Reference: Check inbox for February 6 Email "HISCC Inspector's Manual – Volunteers Needed"

### **Membership & Equity Committee**

See membership flyer on page 15



#### **UPCOMING:**

The 2026 CCHIS Conference will be hosted by Illinois...!  
More details will be posted here as they become available.

# Laboratory Spotlight

Get to know the behind-the-scenes partners of plant health inspection

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## Missouri Department of Agriculture Plant Pest Diagnostic Laboratory (MDA-PPDL)

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The PPDL supports the inspectors, survey coordinators, and plant health officials for the Missouri Plant Pest Control program. They diagnose plant samples from inspections, perform phytosanitary tests for exported plant materials, and run the state's virus-free certification programs for Fruit Trees and Grapevines.

The PPDL specializes in diagnostic work on perennial ornamentals and examines many samples for diseases such as Tobacco Rattle Disease, Rose Mosaic Disease Complex, Boxwood Blight/Dieback, and Leafy Gall.

Laboratory staff also assist on inspections of large nurseries and samplings for pest monitoring, such as for Plum Pox Virus. The lab occasionally hosts tours for local schools, colleges, and Future Farmers of America.

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### Meet the Staff



**Dr. Matthew A. Cullen**  
**Plant Pathologist, Lab Supervisor**

“I’ve worked here for over two years, first as diagnostician, and now as supervisor. I love working on such a wide variety of plant species and collaborating with our inspectors in the field. I’m constantly learning new things about plant pathology, entomology, and horticulture.”



**Dr. Seyed M. Rouhani**  
**Entomologist, Lab Diagnostician**

“I have worked as plant lab diagnostician for nearly one year, focusing on identifying and analyzing plant health issues using a range of laboratory techniques. My work supports accurate and timely diagnosis to protect plant health. I enjoy learning new techniques and applying laboratory findings in practical ways.”

## 2025 CCHIS Fall Conference Presentation Highlights

### **Insect Eavesdropper, Dr. Emily Bick, University of Wisconsin, Madison**

Insect population dynamics enable data-driven agricultural decisions

The University of Wisconsin Bick Lab's invention, known as the Insect Eavesdropper, uses "guitar sound-hole" style sensors (actually vibration sensing transducers) that attach to plant stems in the field to detect insect sounds, such as chewing, movement, and communications.

The field equipment is low cost compared to much current technology, at a cost of \$125.00 for everything to build each field recorder unit, including a weather-resistant case. These units are comprised of four mics (sound transducers) and a soundcard that plugs into a small, low-power consumption single-board computer (Raspberry Pi) with a solar converter, USB ports, and removable memory which can be read offsite.

The collected data is analyzed and organized into predictive models to understand what types and amounts of insects are present and how their sounds change with time, behavior, treatments, and environments. They judge recorded waveform validity by analyzing visual spectrographs of the recorded sounds, (not by comparing the audio itself) then use clustering algorithms to develop modeling of the distinctions within the visual spectrograph data.

In summer of 2025 the units were used at 75 sites around the US on different, mostly crop plants. For viable data collection, a "control" is required for each site, along with a known insect to provide a reference audio spectrograph as a baseline model. The device groups similar sounds, then filters out the sounds that are present on both the control and the infested plants. It processes sounds using deep learning ("machine learning" and AI) that classifies clusters of sounds as biting or chewing noise, beetle tapping, wing sounds, etc.

Testing on the devices began in 2023 in fields containing tobacco hornworm, Colorado potato beetle, European corn borer, and northern corn rootworm.

In October 2025 data was being gathered on over 16 types of crops and over 25 types of insect species, including some with multiple life stages. In an example of three apple trees that were infested with ambrosia beetles, the recorded data basically fit into three types of clusters; wind noises, sounds of perching and feeding robins at a particular time of day, and the target sounds of the beetles.

Though the equipment can distinguish between insect sounds and wind or irrigation noises, it isn't well suited for all pests and plants, however. For example, it doesn't work well for soybean gall midges, as the plants are too squishy to transfer their sounds effectively. It does work well for chewing insects such as caterpillars and for piercing/sucking insects like aphids. There is potential for more diverse development and increased selective sensing based on application needs. A free license for academic use is expected to be available in June 2026.



*Dr. Emily Bick*

## Broad Mite and Mealybugs, Dr. Raymond Cloyd, Kansas State Entomology



*Dr. Raymond Cloyd*

Broad mites are the microscopic cousin of cyclamen mites and have been present in the US since 1939. They are typically 1/100" long, with a short lifespan, (typically 1-2 weeks) and are at home on many herbaceous annual hosts.

Broad mites inject toxic saliva when they feed which causes distorted plant growth. This damage is often mistaken for herbicide injury, nutrient deficiencies, virus, or abiotic issues. Broad mites do not produce webbing, and feed primarily on the undersides of leaves. One of the best physical identifiers are the bumps on their eggs.

When you come across a plant infested with broad mites, remove it and all the plants within one foot of the infested plant to reduce spread.

Broad mites attach themselves to whiteflies to disperse. When broad mites are detected, remove any infested plants, control the whiteflies, and apply miticides that are labeled for broad mites (those with translaminar activity are best). Predatory mites can assist with preventative control.

Mealybugs have limited control options. They can feed anywhere on the plant to access the phloem, and tend to congregate. Like broad mites, their feeding also causes leaf distortion, plant stunting, and wilting. Mealybugs produce a lot of honeydew and have a 25 - 60 day lifecycle.

Late instar and adult mealybugs develop a protective hydrophobic waxy covering which can protect them from insecticides. Currently, no effective biological control agents are known.

Perform aggressive scouting, (yellow sticky cards don't work) if a plant is 20% infested, remove it. Mealybugs can't fly, but can move from plant to plant if plants are touching.

Prevention includes using less susceptible cultivars and avoiding excess fertilizer. For woody plant material, wash off using high water pressure or use a brush for removal. Prune out heavily infested branches and remove the plant debris from the growing area.

Mealybugs emerge over several weeks, thus requiring multiple pesticide applications and rotation of insecticides as they can develop resistance. A general rule is not to use a single mode of action for more than 30 days. Nymphs (crawlers) are the target lifestage as treatment is only effective before they completely develop their waxy covering.

Tristar and Altus are currently the most effective insecticides. Thorough coverage with insecticides is critical, the insects need to be saturated. Use water sensitive paper to check for good coverage.

Mealybugs feed similarly to hard scales. A key point is that systemics are not effective because they feed on stems and not the plant's vascular tubes. This type of feeding applies to almost all mealybugs.

BMPs include spraying down the greenhouse at end of season, disinfecting benches between crops, and removing all weeds.

## Insights on Plant Pest and Disease Complexes, Dr. Megan Kennelly, Kansas State Plant Pathologist



Dr. Megan Kennelly

Dr. Kennelly explained that the [National Plant Diagnostic Network \(NPDN\)](#) has a 20 year history as a consortium of interconnected diagnostic labs throughout all of the US states and territories, with an emphasis on plant pathology and communications between the labs.

Her presentation focused on the best management fundamentals: Use reputable sources supplying disease free material that is virus-indexed if possible. Always inspect shipments upon arrival, including the roots. Quarantine new material prior to incorporating into current stock to prevent introduction of pests and diseases. Research and begin new lines with disease resistant cultivars.

It is essential to keep the growing areas clean, with attention to using clean boots, hands, and tools, removing deadheaded or infected material quickly, providing adequate airflow and plant spacing, managing weeds, performing regular scouting, and continually monitoring and managing moisture and irrigation.

## Red Imported Fire Ants (RIFA), Rachel Wilkins, State Entomologist, Kansas Department of Agriculture

Rachel's presentation began with a background of the three native fire ant species in the United States (Southern, Desert, Tropical).

In the 1930s, soil from cargo ships in Mobile, Alabama was thought to have introduced RIFA and black imported fire ants, eventually resulting in a USDA-implemented federal quarantine in the 1950s.

RIFA are more aggressive than our native ant species, inhabiting their nests in mounds typically found in open, sunny areas, fields, and pastures. Mounds are less common in forested areas. The ant colonies spread by "budding" (when multiple queens exist and split with groups of worker ants to found new colonies).

RIFA movement also occurs during flooding events and mating flights, where mated queens have been known to disperse 1-12 miles from the original colony. RIFA is primarily spread via human-mediated transport. Their range is principally limited by moisture and temperature, where hard winters and dry conditions limit their spread. Sustained, cold temperatures at or near freezing can limit the overwintering survival of RIFA. During warmer months, RIFA is most active at temperatures from 65 - 95 degrees F, and won't generally be out foraging below 65 degrees F. In one case recently investigated by KDA, RIFA was thought to have overwintered in southeast Kansas under the weed barrier of a winterized greenhouse.

RIFA can cause painful stings to humans, displace wildlife and native ant species, and disrupt agricultural operations. The ants have also been documented chewing through the insulation of electrical wiring. There is currently a federal quarantine for RIFA, with restricted materials



Red Imported Fire Ant

including the red imported fire ants themselves, soil, plants and sod with roots and soil attached, soil-moving equipment, and baled hay or straw stored in contact with the ground. The USDA is currently working with industry groups to assess deregulation or harmonization policies.

## **Disease-Free Hostas, Rob Mortko, Made in the Shade Gardens**

Made in the Shade Gardens began in 2010 as a tissue culture lab start-up for hostas. Hosta species have taken the top spot in sales since 1995, with daylily as number two.

Currently there are 8 known viruses known to infest hosta: ArMV, CMV, INSV, TSV, ToRSV, HVX, & TRV, with many viruses persisting viably in soil for over two years. Infected plants are not always symptomatic. HVX and similar viruses are transported by sap contact or transfer, in tissue culture sanitation is key.

Rob works with breeders to develop new cultivar introductions. His lab tests for the 8 viruses before tissue culture begins. Care must be taken as nematodes can also be introduced during the tissue culture process. Tissue culture can be finicky as each genus, sometimes each species, requires its own specific agar media recipe.

There are 4 stages of tissue culture:

Stage 1- Meristem prep, macro cleaning, micro cleaning, initiation

Stage 2- Multiplication (Hostas don't multiply as quickly as some other plants)

Stage 3- Rooting media

Stage 4- Return to soil



*Rob Mortko*



*CCHIS Members enjoying the presentations at the Bluemont Hotel in Manhattan, KS*

# 2025 Conference – Field Trip Day

by Erin Lepski

For our first field trip we visited [The Land Institute](#) near Salina, Kansas for a tour of their facility. The Land Institute's mission revolves around developing perennial crops to address climate change, food security, soil health, water quality, and regenerative agriculture. They are leading a global movement to transform agriculture and create a sustainable future.



Two crops of focus during our visit were Kernza, their trademarked name for their domesticated intermediate wheatgrass (*Thinopyrum intermedium*) and perennial wheat, which is developed by crossing annual wheat with other perennial grain, including Kernza. The Land Institute has partners across the world working with them in development.



During the visit, we learned about their goals for sustainable agriculture and toured several areas of their facility. We had the opportunity to ask questions of their scientists who are leading their various projects.

Following the Land Institute, we visited [Neosho Gardens](#) in historic Council Grove, Kansas. They have been growing vibrant plants and flowers since 1981. They are wholesale growers that supply the Midwest. Neosho Gardens is committed to producing quality products and utilizing sustainable, environmentally friendly practices. Three areas of their focus are biological controls, unusual growing techniques, and unique irrigation systems.

Neosho Gardens relies on beneficial insects and microorganisms that naturally protect crops by controlling harmful pests and diseases. These biological partners colonize the root zone and greenhouse environment, allowing the growers to minimize the use of insecticides and fungicides while maintaining healthy, vibrant plants.

Neosho Gardens also places a focus on growing plants colder, slower, and with less water to create stronger, garden-ready products. This intentional process yields sturdier plants that thrive after sale without the use of chemical growth regulators that can limit post-transplant vigor and garden performance.

For irrigation, they employ a flood-floor design and automated watering boom system. This provides uniform irrigation, ensuring crop consistency and healthier plants from beginning to end.

To wrap up the day we visited the [Flint Hills Discovery Center](#) in Manhattan, a museum with interactive exhibits revolving around the culture, geology, and history of the Flint Hills region and native tallgrass prairie.

Exhibits ranged from the local fauna, such as the greater prairie chicken, to the local flora, such as the native grasses and wildflowers that cover the rolling hills. We learned how the area was changed and shaped over millions of years to become the ecosystem we know now.

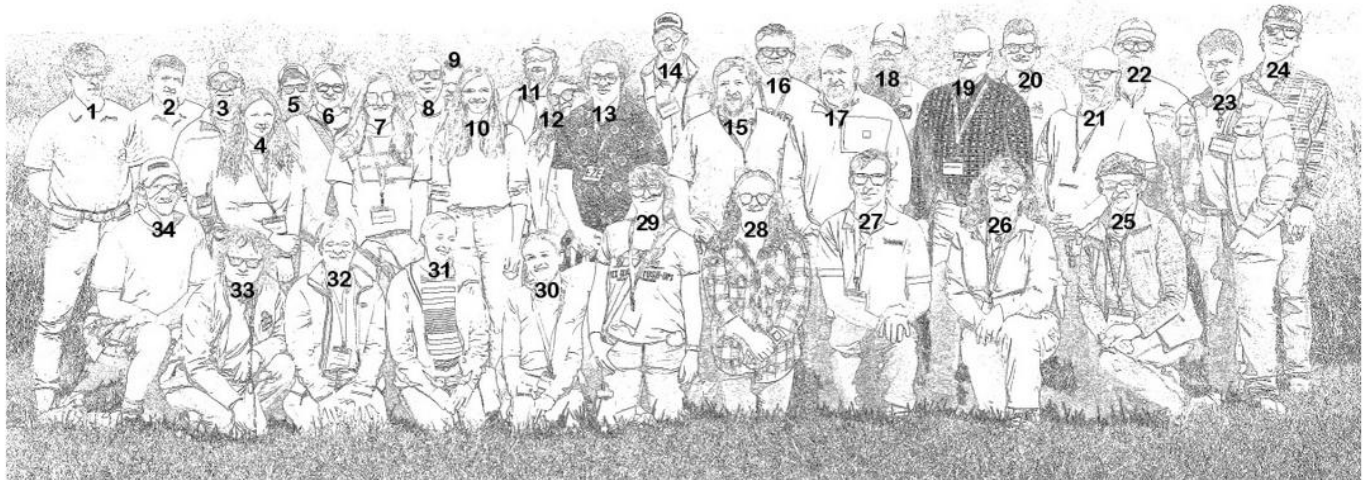
Emphasis was placed heavily on efforts to preserve the native tallgrass prairie and to expand it to its original range within the Great Plains.

One major theme from all three visits was sustainability – sustainable practices, sustainable food sources, sustainable agriculture, and ultimately, a sustainable future.



# HIS Central Chapter Annual Conference Attendees

## October 20<sup>th</sup> – 23<sup>rd</sup> 2025 in Manhattan, Kansas



- |                       |                              |                         |
|-----------------------|------------------------------|-------------------------|
| 1 Braden Hoch, KS     | 12 Mandy Tizon, MO           | 23 Robert Johnson, KS   |
| 2 Michael Hill, OH    | 13 Eze Pojmann-Ezeonyilo, MO | 24 Lee Connner, MO      |
| 3 Andrew Mathis, IL   | 14 Tim Stumpf, IL            | 25 Cathy Ward, IL       |
| 4 Ali Wright, IL      | 15 Zach Starr, MO            | 26 Susan Ehlenbeck, MO  |
| 5 Ben Quisenberry, MO | 16 John Larsen, MN           | 27 Thomas Jepsen, MI    |
| 6 Catherine Smith, MO | 17 Ty Schaeff, KS            | 28 Erin Lepski, KS      |
| 7 Rachel Wilkins, KS  | 18 John Mortenson, ND        | 29 Dani Sackett, MN     |
| 8 Matt Hoffman, MN    | 19 Jeff Lounsbury, SD        | 30 Kelsey Ziebarth, MN  |
| 9 Andrew Gorsuch, IL  | 20 Matthew Cullen, MO        | 31 Liz Meils, WI        |
| 10 Brittany Olson, MN | 21 Jeremy Maples, KS         | 32 Rachel Bienemman, OH |
| 11 Joe Fujan, IL      | 22 Will Drews, IN            | 33 Yuhong Li, MO        |
|                       |                              | 34 Tim Boyle, WI        |

# The Robert McAdams Award – Recent Recipients

The Robert McAdams Award is an annual commendation established to recognize superior achievement of professional horticultural inspection development within our Central Chapter Horticultural Inspection Society from nominations made and voted upon by the membership present at the chapter’s annual Business Meeting, a part of our chapter’s Annual Conference.

The award commemorates Robert McAdams, a charter member of the Central Chapter HIS and former nursery inspector with the Illinois Department of Agriculture. Robert McAdams epitomized the motto of the Horticultural Inspection Society, “Make professionalism a part of every effort.”

## Robert McAdams Award Winners:

| <u>YEAR</u> | <u>RECIPIENT(S)</u>                        |
|-------------|--|
| 2025        | Yuhong Li (MO)                             |
| 2024        | Mary Smallsreed (OH)                       |
| 2023        | Amy Kennedy (MI) and Marcia Wensing (WI)   |
| 2022        | Deb Hudak Davis (MN)                       |
| 2021        | Eric Biddinger (IN)                        |
| 2020        | David Simmons (MN)                         |
| 2019        | Fred Meyer (OH)                            |
| 2018        | Ken Cote (IN)                              |
| 2017        | Kathleen Pratt (NE)                        |
| 2016        | Charles Elhard (ND) and Paul Anderson (SD) |
| 2015        | Konnie Jerabek (WI)                        |
| 2014        | Julia Thompson (MO)                        |
| 2013        | Ryan Krull (IA)                            |
| 2012        | John Bock (MI)                             |
| 2011        | Bob Buhler (KS)                            |
| 2010        | Todd Voss (IA)                             |
| 2009        | Barry Menser (MI)                          |
| 2008        | Susan Ehlenbeck (MO)                       |
| 2007        | Stephen White (KS)                         |
| 2006        | Dave Johnson (MO)                          |
| 2005        | Steven Shimek (MN)                         |
| 2004        | Lee Burgess (MO)                           |
| 2003        | Bill McAdams (IA)                          |
| 2002        | Vicki Wohlers (NE)                         |
| 2001        | Bill Hilbert (KS)                          |
| 2000        | Bruce Cummins (IN)                         |



**Congratulations** to Missouri nursery inspector **Yuhong Li**, the 2025 winner of the Robert McAdams Award! Yuhong is based in southeast Missouri and is trained as a plant pathologist, with special interests in rust fungi, parasitic plant nematodes, scales and wild mushrooms.



**Amy Kennedy** accepts her award at the 2024 conference in South Dakota.



**Mary Smallsreed** accepts her award at the 2025 multi-state inspection



**Marcia Wensing (L)** is presented her award at a 2024 section meeting by Liz Meils (R).

# HIS Central Chapter States Social Media Links & Newsletters

## Illinois

- [Illinois Department of Agriculture Website](#)
- [LinkedIn](#)
- [Facebook](#)
- [X](#)

## Indiana

- [Indiana Department of Natural Resources Website](#)
- [LinkedIn](#)
- [X](#)
- [Instagram](#)
- [YouTube](#)

## Iowa

- [Iowa Department of Agriculture and Land Stewardship Website](#)
- [Facebook](#)
- [Instagram](#)
- [YouTube](#)
- [X](#)

## Kansas

- [Kansas Department of Agriculture Website](#)
- [LinkedIn](#)
- [Facebook](#)
- [X](#)
- [YouTube](#)

## Michigan

- [Michigan Department of Agriculture and Rural Development Website](#)
- [LinkedIn](#)
- [Facebook](#)
- [X](#)
- [YouTube](#)
- [Instagram](#)
- [Bluesky](#)
- 

## Minnesota

- [Minnesota Department of Agriculture Website](#)
- [LinkedIn](#)
- [Facebook](#)
- [X](#)
- [YouTube](#)

## Missouri

- [Missouri Department of Agriculture Website](#)
- [LinkedIn](#)
- [X](#)
- [Instagram](#)

## Nebraska

- [Nebraska Department of Agriculture Website](#)
- [LinkedIn](#)
- [Facebook](#)
- [X](#)
- [YouTube](#)

## North Dakota

- [North Dakota Department of Agriculture Website](#)
- [Facebook](#)
- [X](#)
- [YouTube](#)

## Ohio

- [Ohio Department of Agriculture Website](#)
- [Facebook](#)
- [X](#)
- [YouTube](#)
- [LinkedIn](#)

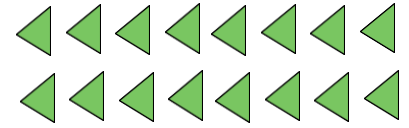
## South Dakota

- [South Dakota Department of Agriculture and Natural Resources](#)
- [Facebook](#)
- [X](#)
- [Instagram](#)
- [LinkedIn](#)

## Wisconsin

- [Wisconsin Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection Website](#)
- [Facebook](#)
- [YouTube](#)
- [X](#)
- [Instagram](#)
- [What's Growing On? Newsletter](#)
- [Field Notes Newsletter](#)
- [Apiary Program Newsletter](#)

# BECOME A MEMBER



## You're Invited!

**The Horticulture Inspection Society Central Chapter would like to welcome you to the industry and invite you to join our organization!**

We are a cooperative organization of inspectors in the Midwestern states of Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, Nebraska, North Dakota, Ohio, South Dakota, and Wisconsin. Our members are field inspectors, plant pathologists, and entomologists. As an organization, we create partnerships across state lines to help protect industry and the environment from plant pests and diseases. Our group is one of four HIS chapters in the US that works to develop best practice inspection methods and protocols to maintain high standards of vigilance in phytosanitation.

## Why Join?

Our chapter strives to promote high standards of plant inspection, to provide networking and professional development opportunities to inspectors, and to help inspector knowledge diffuse across state lines. By joining Central Chapter, you can help further this mission. Yearly dues contribute directly to the work of the Central Chapter in a myriad of ways.

## How to Join?

Membership costs \$20 a year. See the next page or visit the [membership page](#) of the HIS Central Chapter website to apply today!

## Membership Benefits



- Attend annual meetings, workshops, webinars, and interstate inspections for continuing education and training in nursery inspection work.
- Network with inspectors from other states.
- Receive the official CC HIS Newsletter.
- Promote high standards of inspection work and share knowledge.
- Utilize the *Central States Nursery Inspector's Guide* and contribute to updates.
- Participate in a forum for regulatory issues.



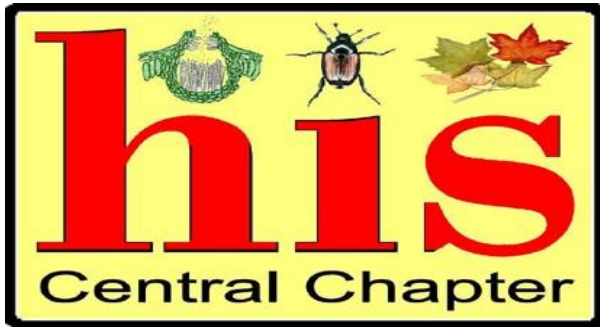
## Have questions? Reach out to the Central Chapter membership committee!

Eze Pojmann-Ezeonyilo (MO)  
 Amy Kennedy (MI)  
 Dani Sackett (MN)  
 Liz Meils (WI)

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[Elizaeth.meils@wisconsin.gov](mailto:Elizaeth.meils@wisconsin.gov)

(573) 291-0276  
 (517) 282-2046  
 (651) 443-2480  
 (608) 516-7617





# HORTICULTURAL INSPECTION SOCIETY

## MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

-Return no later than December 10 of each year-

(Please Print)

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_ POSITION: \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

CITY: \_\_\_\_\_ STATE: \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP: \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_ EMAIL: \_\_\_\_\_

DATE: \_\_\_\_\_

AREA OF INTEREST: \_\_\_\_\_

(OPTIONAL: Example - aphids, scale insects, biological control, plant pathology, horticulture, etc.)

TYPE OF MEMBERSHIP (Check one):  Regular  Subscribing

AMOUNT ENCLOSED: \_\_\_\_\_

Check here if you wish to have a receipt emailed to you:

Please return this form no later than December 10th of each year along with \$20.00 for each regular, or subscribing membership (see definition below).

Submit one form for each member in order to collect contact information.

*(Make checks payable to HIS Central Chapter)*

Mail to: DATCP - Liz Meils (HIS Treasurer)  
2811 Agriculture Dr., Madison, WI 53718

Email: [elizabeth.meils@wi.gov](mailto:elizabeth.meils@wi.gov)

### MEMBERSHIP

Anyone who meets the qualifications as specified in the Horticultural Inspection Society, Central Chapter constitution is eligible for regular membership in the Society, subject to payment of annual dues. The membership year begins with the annual meeting (typically held in October each year). Regular members will receive the Horticultural Inspection Society, Central Chapter Newsletter, and should contribute to the Newsletter frequently. Regular members should also attend Horticultural Inspection Society, Central Chapter meetings

### EXCERPTS FROM THE CONSTITUTION

"The regular membership of this organization shall be limited to state employees engaged in plant pest inspection work as inspectors or as supervisors, in field, laboratory, or office, other than administrative personnel. Honorary membership may be awarded to administrators or to others, who by their experience and achievements and interest are worthy of this distinction."

"Members from outside the Central Plant Board region shall be welcome to attend and participate in discussions of this organization chapter. Administrative personnel in plant pest control work are welcome to attend and participate in discussions as special guests of this organization."

Subscribers: This chapter has established the category of "Subscribers" to enable friends of the society, such as previously employed inspectors, inspectors from outside the Central Plant Board region, researchers and similar persons to be affiliated with, to receive and contribute to the newsletter, and to attend meetings.

# MASSIVE PLANT WORD SEARCH PUZZLE

T X Q A B M Y Q U I F R A X I N U S D O N O D N V D G B X R S M A U K X L X E G K C C L Q A A P S E  
 K P V J W A G L A H Z G U G J H K G Z I G K N G L N Q W T V D X T I M J Q E M D C G V D R A L O V P I  
 G A A G G X P Y Z T R C E D Z H M A K F Y H W Y G S R U C H O D L E L K H L Y S Y I A W X A C E N C I  
 N B W N C S J Y Z T R C E D Z H M A K F Y H W Y G S R U C H O D L E L K H L Y S Y I A W X A C E N C I  
 C M F C C O P F K F Q K D I N G K K I Y H W Y G S R U C H O D L E L K H L Y S Y I A W X A C E N C I  
 O J U A A C N I V P A A T N G K K I Y H W Y G S R U C H O D L E L K H L Y S Y I A W X A C E N C I  
 I O N A C N I V P A A T N G K K I Y H W Y G S R U C H O D L E L K H L Y S Y I A W X A C E N C I  
 Z C U U M L F I F N P W O X L T W D L R L O P T S O R H W A N B V G R E X C E J T M K I A Q L H M  
 V G Q Z E D Q I Y T Y C F G X H L C O E I V O R Y Z P H P M J C L I Z L F Q Y M M F A G J N Y L A T T Q  
 U D Y L T J Y L P T Y C F G X H L C O E I V O R Y Z P H P M J C L I Z L F Q Y M M F A G J N Y L A T T Q  
 F R M T L I Q A X I Z J Y H L C O E I V O R Y Z P H P M J C L I Z L F Q Y M M F A G J N Y L A T T Q  
 H S C T O U L R D G D E R T E A N C R V M W F H L H R E A J I S C N X J L F W I J Y B X Y T R H W E  
 U Q K N Y L N O O V Y J N C I J I U D S U T V Q Y L D P I A T X A O R Z Y V T G H S Y H M A H N C E E  
 X G K H R P P U O K P J N E E P F F O Z B E L R L P V A I N G P G B O P O Z H E M K I  
 V N F V C H U S Q O U D O K O K P J N E E P F F O Z B E L R L P V A I N G P G B O P O Z H E M K I  
 A C L Q O F Q L U P K E S E C Y M D H X G I H A S R Y U Q E I A H T E Z V G L D E P J E M V Y Z I S  
 F Z I G S Z D J I P Z B L K L M V R V Y B A H R Y U Q E I A H T E Z V G L D E P J E M V Y Z I S  
 D A D Y A U E F S I B L G A E L V F M D L L P E L O X Z J F S W R T Z Y G H G O U M R S A Z Y D J T  
 U A J J Y V F C S B N E C V T P B E R S B O L M Y C E L I U M Y K A A H C F L Q O Y H T R P P N Y  
 Q J W P L V A N T A R G E Z E E A O Z E I L T R H E D Q W Y V M W M D L P T V R A I P R R S F L H S Z I Q O J J G D  
 U N M F V B C I B C Y X K O E H P O X L S N M I E B W I S N J D V I M S P A T G N K R O Q T I A D V W E  
 I S G D N X M Z E Y R S R W P O X L S N M I E B W I S N J D V I M S P A T G N K R O Q T I A D V W E  
 N X E S Y Q L J D H W H O Y N Y O S J P Q Z N V P P U Z L X W E H M B J J T E Z C T I H Q C X T F  
 O T A N S V X I X H W L H I X O L A A A D S E V E F X L W R A O L T O I N C V G B R V W E R I A D  
 A L B K Y Y H O C L B N C Z S I A T Y T B V J L Z D V A L K W X U P U N F O S H L K P L U I Q L P C U V  
 J O S Q A T Y T A C N B Q P F V B R W P O Q Z B N M A R W S M L I Y A O S M L B L P D Z U E Q M W  
 V A V N Y E P M A N G R O V E U K Q V D A I A N J O X E A T C F M Q L L D I L I F Q F K C U P A B Z  
 Z X M G Q Y O A Y I K Q Z K I N E N X Y S H O R I F A C W J P I L M G U R R I M Z I S O Y A V C  
 R C P H E C N E C S E R O L J S H E L T E R B E L T Q A O B J C V C O A E P K A D P R T A T H X T A O  
 H Y Q T K H S Y L T W I B L O S S O M A P P S R F L U Q Q H W S C I S B U B N N E X C I W K U I L X  
 O G Q I L K T Y A R C A G A O M K K N Q T V V N I E I A T W H O I U O R I U Z V I E O L C L E S L Q  
 E Z C H Y Q N K O F X Q Q Z V B E U T C T O G W T N B T Q R A L Y L N U O H F M S K N C Z V C O W  
 J L P O N N F V R P G F M B O R N C S K Z O N T L E M K C M V L C R O N Q W G X I T O Q N D C X W X  
 L M C S A O A C A I W B R L A A L N H R Y I D Y E Y D D A U A J I O F M A Q E U T P T G M S Q U L  
 U X G I F Y I K A E I V S T A S E K L N E C O I N A M U H F U C I D D N I Z E N W T R R D K F U X  
 Z I Q D N L A S O S K T S N T L V C S G G E A F D U Q M T X Y Q R T K A Q D Y Z V E S W R O Y D S H  
 A T R B A Q I P R E I C M P Q N V E N Y L E A R D N Y U R H U H G J N N R N T W P N R C I K Q F I G N  
 L P X T J B F N I A C O E Z Z O M F F E Q I K B E U M J L Q O W U G L K M T A W B E M U K O N K F C E M  
 O T L T V I O B C R S Z O M F F E Q I K B E U M J L Q O W U G L K M T A W B E M U K O N K F C E M  
 R U G A I M H E T C U R B S U C L S O U M A U N P A X T H W Q B Q A H W I Z S P R B C R U L F T C A  
 C H Y A U T C T C I P V T S Q V A M W O A L T N H Y E R H D P O U G U P J Q L N N E I W I X G H S J L  
 O I J O T J S U K Q P J B U Y U Q B O E O H I L P O Y H H Y Q B V C E J S K G V Q E H C R B V I Y B  
 T I C A A K Z S Z U A I R R L F P B B R N O T Y J T G T Y N Z X X D Y G A I P Y G R Y L E B Q N Z  
 H T W S E R W P U N L F P R J E K U T E J N Z I T T O P I A R Y X H Z A U A I N A Z A G Q E L D W G  
 Q V F I G W T Q J H L I D W V P I R I F U C I S Z K V K G E P Z W A N T H E R S I W Q L A K T W M K

ZEA  
 GIBBERELLIN  
 GINKGO  
 GORSE  
 GREENWARD  
 HALOPHYTE  
 HAW  
 HORTICULTURE  
 HYDROPONICS  
 HYPERPARASITIC  
 HYPHAE  
 HYPONASTY  
 INFLORESCENCE  
 JASMINE  
 LAMINA  
 LIGNIN  
 LLANO  
 MANGROVE  
 MANIOC  
 MONTANE  
 MOTHERWORT  
 MYCELIIUM  
 NAIAD  
 OOMYCETE  
 PANICLE  
 PARAQUAT  
 PEDUNCLE  
 PERIANTH  
 CHLOROPHYLL  
 PERITHECIA  
 PHILOEM  
 PHYTOCHORION  
 PISSABED  
 PLANT  
 POMACE  
 QUINOA  
 RACEME  
 SCION  
 SCHWENDERERISM  
 SEAWRACK  
 SENESCENCE  
 SEPALS  
 SHELTERBELT  
 SPILE  
 THALLUS  
 TOPIARY  
 TULIP  
 UMBEL  
 UREDINOLOGY  
 VERMICULITE  
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ABIogenesis  
 ABSciSSION  
 ACIDANTHERA  
 ACIDOPHOBIA  
 ACROPETAL  
 ALGA  
 AMENSALISM  
 ANISOTROPIC  
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 ANTERS  
 ANUAL  
 APHELIOtropISM  
 ARBORETUM  
 ATTAR  
 BASIPETAL  
 BATology  
 BIENNIAL  
 BIOMIMETIC  
 BLASTODIACEAE  
 BLOSSOM  
 BOTANY  
 BRAct  
 BRASSICA  
 BRYology  
 CALYX  
 CAPITATE  
 CARICOLOGIST  
 CHLOROPHYLL  
 COIR  
 COPPICE  
 CORM  
 COROLLA  
 CORYMB  
 COUCH  
 COUCHING  
 CROCI  
 CROCUS  
 CYME  
 DANDILION  
 DIEl  
 EFFLORESCENCE  
 EPINASTY  
 FALLOW  
 FIG  
 FLORICULTURE  
 FLOWER  
 FOLIAR  
 FRAXINUS  
 GAZANIA  
 GLYCIcINE

VIVIPAROUS  
WATTLE

# Word Search Puzzle Definition Links

(In case you were wondering)

|                                |                               |                                |                                |                             |
|--------------------------------|-------------------------------|--------------------------------|--------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| <a href="#">abiogenesis</a>    | <a href="#">calyx</a>         | <a href="#">Glycine</a>        | <a href="#">panicle</a>        | <a href="#">vermiculite</a> |
| <a href="#">Abscission</a>     | <a href="#">capitate</a>      | <a href="#">gibberellin</a>    | <a href="#">paraquat</a>       | <a href="#">vinca</a>       |
| <a href="#">acidanthera</a>    | <a href="#">caricologist</a>  | <a href="#">ginkgo</a>         | <a href="#">peduncle</a>       | <a href="#">viviparous</a>  |
| <a href="#">acidophobia</a>    | <a href="#">chlorophyll</a>   | <a href="#">gorse</a>          | <a href="#">perianth</a>       | <a href="#">wattle</a>      |
| <a href="#">acropetal</a>      | <a href="#">coir</a>          | <a href="#">greensward</a>     | <a href="#">perithecia</a>     | <a href="#">Zea</a>         |
| <a href="#">alga</a>           | <a href="#">coppice</a>       | <a href="#">halophyte</a>      | <a href="#">phloem</a>         |                             |
| <a href="#">amensalism</a>     | <a href="#">corm</a>          | <a href="#">haw</a>            | <a href="#">Phytochorion</a>   |                             |
| <a href="#">anisotropic</a>    | <a href="#">corolla</a>       | <a href="#">horticulture</a>   | <a href="#">Pissabed</a>       |                             |
| <a href="#">Anisotropies</a>   | <a href="#">corymb</a>        | <a href="#">hydroponics</a>    | <a href="#">plants</a>         |                             |
| <a href="#">Anthers</a>        | <a href="#">couch</a>         | <a href="#">hyperparasitic</a> | <a href="#">pomace</a>         |                             |
| <a href="#">Anual</a>          | <a href="#">croci</a>         | <a href="#">hyphae</a>         | <a href="#">quinoa</a>         |                             |
| <a href="#">apheliotropism</a> | <a href="#">crocus</a>        | <a href="#">hyponasty</a>      | <a href="#">raceme</a>         |                             |
| <a href="#">arboretum</a>      | <a href="#">cyme</a>          | <a href="#">inflorescence</a>  | <a href="#">Schwendenerism</a> |                             |
| <a href="#">attar</a>          | <a href="#">Dandelion</a>     | <a href="#">jasmine</a>        | <a href="#">scion</a>          |                             |
| <a href="#">basipetal</a>      | <a href="#">diel</a>          | <a href="#">lamina</a>         | <a href="#">Seawrack</a>       |                             |
| <a href="#">batology</a>       | <a href="#">efflorescence</a> | <a href="#">lignin</a>         | <a href="#">senescence</a>     |                             |
| <a href="#">biennial</a>       | <a href="#">epinasty</a>      | <a href="#">llano</a>          | <a href="#">Sepals</a>         |                             |
| <a href="#">biomimetic</a>     | <a href="#">fallow</a>        | <a href="#">mangrove</a>       | <a href="#">shelterbelt</a>    |                             |
| <a href="#">Blastodiaceae</a>  | <a href="#">fig</a>           | <a href="#">manioc</a>         | <a href="#">spile</a>          |                             |
| <a href="#">blossom</a>        | <a href="#">floriculture</a>  | <a href="#">montane</a>        | <a href="#">Thallus</a>        |                             |
| <a href="#">botany</a>         | <a href="#">flower</a>        | <a href="#">motherwort</a>     | <a href="#">topiary</a>        |                             |
| <a href="#">bract</a>          | <a href="#">foliar</a>        | <a href="#">mycelium</a>       | <a href="#">Tulip</a>          |                             |
| <a href="#">Brassica</a>       | <a href="#">Fraxinus</a>      | <a href="#">naiad</a>          | <a href="#">umbel</a>          |                             |
| <a href="#">bryology</a>       | <a href="#">gazania</a>       | <a href="#">Oomycete</a>       | <a href="#">uredinology</a>    |                             |

