

California Department of Food & Agriculture
of the Joint Meeting / Conference Call
of the Pierce's Disease/Glassy-winged Sharpshooter Board
and Pierce's Disease Advisory Task Force
Held on Monday, November 8, 2010
CDFA Auditorium at 1220 N Street, Sacramento, CA

PD/GWSS BOARD

Members Present: Dennis Atkinson, Ben Drake, David House*, Drew Johnson*, Brad Lange, Dana Merrill*, Steve McIntyre, Al Rossini, Herb Schmidt*, Marilyn Wolf

Members Absent: Kevin Andrew, Greg Coleman, Pete Downs, Jim Ledbetter, Steve Schafer

PD ADVISORY TASK FORCE

Members Present: George Bruening, Nat DiBuduo*, Ben Drake, David House*, Nancy Irelan, Drew Johnson*, Richard Mounts, Judy Stewart-Leslie, Beth Stone-Smith,

Members Absent: Kevin Andrew, Ted Batkin, Larry Bezark, Scott Hudson, Joe MacIlvaine, Corky Roche, John Snyder, David Whitmer

OTHER ATTENDEES

Jim Allan, Jeff Erwin Tom Esser, Mike Falasco, Ken Freeze, Craig Hanes, Sue Ichiho, Eric Lauritzen, Paul Kronenberg, Janet LeMasters, David Morgan, Greg Morris, Chuck Morse, Matt Myers, Cathy Neville*, Stacie Oswalt, Ted Rieger, Roger Spencer, Jay Van Rein, Sean Veling, Bob Wynn

*Denotes attendance via conference call

CALL TO ORDER

PD/GWSS Board Vice Chairperson Dennis Atkinson and Acting PD Advisory Task Force Chairperson Ben Drake called the meeting to order at 9:35 a.m.

ROLL CALL AND INTRODUCTIONS

Bob Wynn conducted the roll call for the PD/GWSS Board (Board) and the PD Advisory Task Force (Task Force). A quorum was present for the Board but not the Task Force. The remaining attendees made self-introductions.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Monterey County Agricultural Commissioner Eric Lauritzen addressed the Board and Task Force. He discussed the residue samples and data collected in Monterey County from the Nursery Stock Approved Treatment Program (ATP) shipments. He provided a copy of the residue sample results from September 2008 to October 2010. He asked the Board to consider funding such residue data collection by the counties in the future. He commended the ATP program and nursery industry.

WELCOME AND OPENING REMARKS

Board Vice Chairperson Dennis Atkinson and Acting Task Force Chairperson Ben Drake welcomed all attendees to the meeting.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Vice Chairperson Dennis Atkinson asked the Board members to review and vote on the minutes from the joint meeting held on June 29, 2010.

- It was moved, seconded, and unanimously passed by the Board to approve the minutes from the joint meeting held on June 29, 2010.

Details of Board Vote

Motion: Ben Drake Second: Marilyn Wolf
In Favor: Atkinson, Drake, House*, Johnson*, Lange, Merrill*, McIntyre, Rossini,
Schmidt*, Wolf
Against: None
Abstain: None
Absent: Andrew, Coleman, Downs, Ledbetter, Schafer

Vice Chairperson Dennis Atkinson then asked the Board to review and vote on the minutes from the conference call meetings held on July 28 and October 20, 2010.

- It was moved, seconded, and unanimously passed by the Board to approve the minutes from the July 28 and October 20, 2010 Board conference call meetings.

Details of Board Vote

Motion: Ben Drake Second: Marilyn Wolf
In Favor: Atkinson, Drake, House*, Johnson*, Lange, Merrill*, McIntyre, Rossini,
Schmidt*, Wolf
Against: None
Abstain: None
Absent: Andrew, Coleman, Downs, Ledbetter, Schafer

NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of the Board and Task Force was set for Monday, January 24, 2011, at CDFA headquarters in Sacramento, and will convene at 9:30 am.

PD ADVISORY TASK FORCE MEMBERSHIP

Bob Wynn stated that, in discussions with the Secretary, it was decided to reduce the size of the Task Force. Bob reported that Ted Batkin, Larry Bezark, George Bruening, Steve Nation, and George Gutman have left or will be leaving the Task Force. He said that David House would remain on the Board and a replacement for his position on the Task Force was being sought from the nursery industry. They were also looking for representation from the UC system and citrus industry.

BOARD MEMBERSHIP TERM SUBCOMMITTEE

Al Rossini presented the recommendations of the Board Membership Term Subcommittee to the Board. The subcommittee recommended that membership terms should be three years in length, with the year starting on July 1 and ending June 30, and members should be limited to two consecutive terms. Terms should be staggered to ensure a balance of experienced and new members, and should be balanced among representatives of producers and producer-processors. The Board accepted the recommendations, and asked that a survey of members be conducted to determine each member's preference for when his/her term should end.

NOMINATION COMMITTEE

Bob Wynn stated that a new slate of Board officers should be elected at the upcoming January meeting. A nomination committee consisting of Ben Drake and Dana Merrill was appointed to come back to the Board in January and make recommendations for the new officers.

FISCAL UPDATE

Beth Stone-Smith gave an update on the federal budget for PD/GWSS. She said that the federal PD/GWSS appropriation for 2010 was \$22.983 million, the same as last year. More than likely the same amount would be allotted for 2011. She reviewed the budget request details and noted that they had moved the treatment coordinators over to the federal payroll to retain valuable and experienced employees.

Sue Ichiho provided the fiscal update for the PDCP's state program operations. The budget for FY 2010-11 is \$19,417,272. Bob Wynn stated that the program is expecting cuts in state general fund revenues. Sue next reviewed the PD/GWSS Board's budget.

NEW PEST DESIGNATION PROCESS SUBCOMMITTEE

Roger Spencer and Steve McIntyre gave the report of the New Pest Designation Process Subcommittee. Roger reported that subcommittee members Nat DiBuduo, Ben Drake, Nancy Irelan, Steve McIntyre, Corky Roche, Steve Schafer, and Judy Stewart-Leslie had met via conference calls and had come up with a new revised version of the Designation Checklist. The form contains three separate parts: Part I – covering the legislative mandates, Part II—impacts of the pest or disease, and Part III—if the pest or disease was already on a priority list or being funded for research by other entities, i.e. American Vineyard Foundation. Steve noted that further revisions of the form are likely.

OUTREACH COORDINATOR PROPOSALS FROM MENDOCINO, SOLANO, & SONOMA COUNTIES

Roger Spencer presented the outreach coordinator proposals submitted by Mendocino, Solano, and Sonoma counties. After discussion, it was decided to revise the proposals and then bring them back to the Board for consideration.

BROWN MARMORATED STINK BUG

Sean Veling of the PDCP gave a presentation on the brown marmorated stink bug (BMSB). He said it has been found in 30 states in the U.S. and nine California counties. It is a major pest in Asia and has the potential to become a serious agricultural pest in the US, attacking more than 300 host plants including fruits, vegetables, and ornamentals. Fifteen members of the House of Representatives are requesting the insect be classified as a regulated pest.

PIPRA UPDATE

N/A

RESEARCH DIRECTOR UPDATE

Research Director Nancy Irelan reported that she had been working with George Bruening and Tom Esser on the research priorities for the new request for proposal (RFP) for 2011. She said she has been looking into making changes to the RSAP, such as finding replacements for some of the original members and possibly adding another entomologist. Other activities include working on research and contract objectives, competitive grants, and with PIPRA, and serving as a member of the New Pest Designation Process Subcommittee. She has been in contact with scientific experts in Chile and will be meeting with them later in the month.

NURSERY SUBCOMMITTEE REPORT

David House, the Chair of the Nursery Subcommittee, reported on a nursery meeting held in mid-September. He said a working group consisting of Corky Roche, George Gutman, and John Kabashima was formed, and was developing two proposals to possibly submit to the Board for funding. The first dealt with conducting residue analysis at destination counties of nursery stock shipped from GWSS-infested areas under the ATP. The second dealt with UV tracer research at destination counties. He said the next meeting of the subcommittee will be on January 19, 2011, in Costa Mesa, from 10:00 am to 1:00 pm.

OUTREACH AND EDUCATION UPDATE

Craig Hanes reported that the new outreach contract with Brown-Miller Communications became effective July 1, 2010. He noted they are also including a new pest and disease campaign display as part of their presentation activities at events to groups, growers, etc. Ken Freeze from Brown-Miller Communications stated that they have been working on news clips and releases, EBlasts, and a fall newsletter, and had attended CAPCA and Napa Valley Expo events. Future locations and events will be Fresno, Paso Robles, wine grape shows, and the PD Research Symposium.

AREAWIDE PROGRAM OVERVIEW AND UPDATE

Beth Stone-Smith gave an update on trapping and treatment activities in Riverside County (Temecula and Coachella Valley), Kern County, Tulare County, and Fresno County. She reported that higher GWSS numbers were noted in the General Beale, Tulare, and Fresno areas.

PDCP STAFF REPORTS

Regulatory Nursery Program Update: Greg Morris provided updates on the regulatory nursery program and the Approved Treatment Program (ATP). He said there were only six nursery shipments requiring regulatory action so far this year out of a total of 44,030 shipments. This works out to a compliance rate of 99.99%. For the ATP, there have been 9,611 shipments totaling 2,739,266 plants with no viable life stages found. Greg said the annual ATP report was complete and on-line for people to review. He also discussed the residue analysis report. After receiving additional data, a revised report would be prepared and released. He noted that the research work and summary being done by Dr. Rick Redak would be completed by the fall of 2011.

Rapid Response: Craig Hanes reported on activities in Fresno, Madera, San Luis Obispo, Santa Clara, and Tulare counties. He noted that the GWSS infestations in the Branham and Evergreen areas of San Jose in Santa Clara County were eligible to be declared eradicated, since GWSS had not been found there in two years.

Biocontrol: David Morgan gave an update on GWSS biocontrol activities. He said that overall it had been a good year for releases and recoveries. Currently, releases are being made in Fresno, Madera, and San Luis Obispo counties.

CLOSED EXECUTIVE SESSION PURSUANT TO C.G. SECTION 11126

N/A

RECONVENING OF PUBLIC MEETING

N/A

OTHER ITEMS

Bob Wynn noted that the packets for the meeting included a copy of a letter concerning Pierce's disease written by Newton B. Pierce in September 1904. Craig Hanes had obtained the letter from John Gardner of San Bernardino County.

CLOSING COMMENTS AND ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 12:35 pm.

Respectfully submitted on December 7, 2010.

Janet LeMasters, Administrative Assistant
Pierce's Disease Control Program
Department of Food and Agriculture