

Seed Certification-Foundation Seed & Plant Materials Board Meeting
February 12, 2008
Oregon State University, LaSells Stewart Center
Agriculture Production Room

Members Present: Larry Curtis, Mike Flowers, William Young, Barbara Reed, Keith Jayawickrama, Anita Azarenko, Reed Barker, Carl Haugerrud, Dan Hemshorn, Barry Schrupf, Jim Steinke, Russ Karow*, Dan Curry* Dennis Lundeen*, Adriel Garay*, Rob Lane (Via Phone) (* indicates ex-officio member)

Members Absent: Thane Dutson, Isabel Vales, Tom Chastain, James Peterson, Phil Hamm, Bill Braunworth, Greg Bingaman, Tervor Abbot, ,Jim Cramer.

Guest Present: Terry Burr, Matt Herb, Iraj Motezedian, Solomon Yilma, Sandy Smith, Randy Knight, John J Zielinski, Jeff McMorrان.

Call to order: 1:00 PM Intro By Dan Curry

Approval of the 2007 Minutes

Dan Hemshorn moved to accept the minutes from the 2007 Seed Certification-foundation Seed & Plant Materials Board Meeting. Reed Barker Second the motion. The motion passed by unanimous vote.

OSU Crops and Soil Science Department Report- Russ Karow, Department Head

The following are highlights of activities over the past months in Crop and Soil Science (CSS) and the College of Agricultural Sciences as they affect clientele groups affiliated with CSS.

1. **Ag Experiment Station (AES) and Extension** – The College of Ag allocated funds for 21 full or partial positions in 18 departments or branch experiment stations. CSS received permission to fill an environmental soil science position. A Central-South Central Oregon plant pathology position (Fred Crowe successor but with Klamath responsibilities as well) is among the new positions. Work has begun on filling all these positions with most having projected starting dates of July 1. The wine industry is still working to gather their needed \$2M in order to receive \$1M in College funding for viticulture and enology positions. Central Extension Administration has held back some of its new funds as an emergency back stop in case federal funding for the timber harvest offset to counties is not provided by Congress – an outcome that now seems likely. The College has decided to hire a Director for the Sun Grant program. Dean Dutson and Assistant Dean Jan Auyong have served in this role over the last years but activities are intensifying and someone with specific focus on this program is needed and will be beneficial to attract additional funding. The intent is to fill the

position via national search by late spring.

2. **Signature Research Centers** – Funds to implement the Oregon Innovation Council’s 2007 Innovation Plan were allocated by the Legislature. Funding was at a reduced level from that requested. ONAMI (the Oregon Nano and Micro Technology Institute), BEST (Bio-Economy and Sustainability Technologies Center) and a pharmaceutical innovations center are among the groups to receive funding. A steering committee has been formed to deal with BEST fund allocations. About \$2.5M will be available in BEST funds this biennium (2007-09) for research work leading to near-term commercial application of ideas. A request for proposal for small grants (@\$40K) has been released with a March 3 due date and a RFP for larger grants (@\$200K) in March. Details on these RFPs can be provided to those interested as they become available.

3. **Federal budgets** – Congress passed the Omnibus Spending Bill for FY08. It included monies for AES special grants (earmarks) that have funded significant amounts of research in Crop and Soil Science over past years – Grass Seed Cropping Systems, STEEP, meadowfoam research, potato variety development, barley genome mapping. Funding was provided at @74% of FY07 funding levels. We thank clientele groups who have provided on-going support with our Oregon Congressional delegates for these funds.
OSU has begun the process of setting its FY09 federal agenda. All special grants funded for FY08 will be submitted. Pres. Bush said in his State of the Union Address that he would veto any spending bill that included more than half of the current level of earmarks in number or dollar value or any bill that included add-on earmarks. While he can do the latter while in office, the chance of him seeing any additional general spending bills is zero in an election year with his status as a lame duck President. Clientele support will again be needed to move these programs through Congress.

4. **Sun Grant** – As noted under item 1 above, the search process for a Sun Grant Program Director has begun. Fall camelina plantings that are part of the tristate Sun Grant camelina project have been completed at Corvallis, Pendleton, Lind, WA and Moscow, ID. Mid-winter seedings will be done as weather allows. A listing of other Sun Grant research projects can be found at - <http://sungrant.oregonstate.edu/>. National-level work to refine assessments of biomass available for biofuels is also underway – refinement of the Oak Ridge National Lab “Billion Ton Study.”

5. **ODA-OSU Oilseeds Project** – work on the 2007-08 oilseeds project has begun. Trials with Dean Freeborn and Tim VanLeeuwen have been planted with Athena canola – a University of Idaho, non-GMO variety – the same used last year. Fall plantings of camelina, canola and flax were done in October. Small variety assessment plots including flax, camelina, canola, yellow mustard, and safflower will be planted in late-winter/early spring. Work on GIS mapping, weed

management in oilseeds and economic assessments are in process.

- a. An interesting observation in the 2007-harvested grower canola fields which are now in grain crops. While there was a significant shattered seed load (40 million seeds per acre on average) and a significant seedling recruitment (seedlings that grew from the shattered seed in the fall – 4 million plants per acre) the standard herbicide programs used in these fields has essentially eliminated fall-germinating volunteer plants. However, additional seedling flushes are expected later this winter and spring and to a lesser extent in future years.
 - b. Camelina is the crop that appears to have greatest potential for use as an oilseed feedstock across the western US. As noted in item 4 above, some work on camelina is being funded through the Sun Grant program. A \$1.25M USDA-DOE grant for camelina work across the greater NW has been submitted with awards to be announced in January – no word to date. Herbicide assessment work has begun in OR, WA and MT. The OSU Seed Lab is also slated to begin work on germination, dormancy and other standard seed testing. Willamette Biomass Processors (WBP), a new oilseed processor in western Oregon, is contracting for camelina for 2008 production. See their website at <http://www.willamettebiomass.com/> for more information. WBP is located on the site of the former Dallas Coop in Rickreall.
 - c. ODA held hearings in late November regarding continuation of the ODA administrative rule that prohibits canola production in western Oregon, Central Oregon and parts of eastern Oregon. Director Coba has decided to keep the rule in place with no specific sunset date but an allowance for individuals or groups to call for a review of the rule.
6. **Association of Official Seed Certifying Agencies** – The 2009 meeting of AOSCA will be held in Oregon. June 26 - July 1 are the tentative dates. Tours of Oregon's seed industries will be included as part of this meeting. Dan Curry and Dennis Lundeen will be coordinating the meeting in cooperation with AOSCA staff. Any input that you have regarding tours and other activities should be directed to Dan Curry.
7. **Reed Barker** - Dr. Reed Barker retired from the USDA-ARS effective June 30, 2007, and holds a courtesy appointment in Crop and Soil Science. Dr. Barker is continuing his work on the FY 2007-08 Oregon Seed Council funded grant "Implementation of a Gene-Specific Test for Perennial Ryegrass Purity" in lab space in the Crop Science Building. Dr. Barker's intent is to continue to explore options to ensure that his protocol is carried forward to the seed testing community. Acceptance of this procedure into the seed testing rules governed by AOSA and training/equipping of commercial seed testing laboratories are the next steps in the development of this testing procedure.

OSU Horticulture Department Report- Anita Azarenko, Department head

1. New teaching positions available in the Department for Turf Management .7%
Teaching the other .3% for Extension.
2. Tom Cooks retirement trying to come up with 1.35 million. A one million dollar Endowment from Jistunia Family, and the remainder from commissions and golf course superintendents.
3. An Unofficial grant for \$139,000 to explore Organic cropping systems which include Specialty seeds.

Potato Advisory Committee - Rob Lane / Jeff McMorran

Action Items

Potato Advisory Committee - January 31, 2008

1. Isolation from 'commercial seeds' – General requirement

Amend the isolation table on Page 13 of the current Standards (Part XI-D) replacing the wording following “Generation 2 & 3” (third line) to read - **“300 feet from fields planted with seed higher than certified G4 class”**

2. Isolation from 'commercial seeds' – Own Use Only provision

Amend the isolation table on Page 13 of the current Standards (Part XI-D) to add the following footnote to the line following the Generation 2 & 3 requirements:

**“* does not apply to seed of
'own use only' sub-class”**

3. North American Health Certificates – required with seed applications

Require that a North American Seed Health Certificate accompany all potato seed applications. A statement to this affect would be added to the end of Part VIII “Seed Stock Documentation” and to the Field Application.

4. Addition of ‘new’ varieties to required PVY testing list

Require PVY ELISA testing of all Nuclear and G1 lots of varieties of unknown symptom expression to PVY. Specific change: Under Part XIII – A (page 15) add the following to sentence 3:

“Nuclear* and Generation 1 lots of PVY symptomless varieties (see B & C below) or varieties of unknown symptom expression to PVY, must be laboratory tested for PVY. Nuclear* and Generation 1 lots of varieties known to be latent for PLRV must be laboratory tested for PLRV.”

5. Winter Growout Sample Size

Amend the sample requirements for the winter growout such that a maximum of 1,200 tubers be submitted (regardless of acreage). Part XIV – C 3 (page 16) add: “Sample size need not exceed 1,200 tubers regardless of acreage.” Modification of fee charged to reflect this change (maximum fee for a WGO sample would be \$625 (or \$765 after November 20th).

6. Remove tolerance for ‘Chemical Injury’ in Winter Growout

Remove any reference to “Chemical Injury” from the tolerance table for the Winter Grow-outs. Specific change: Under Part XIV – C table after D (page 16) “WINTER TEST TOLERANCES” remove the two lines “Chemical injury: Severe” and “Chemical injury: Mild” and accompanying foot note “c”.

Rob Lane Motions to accept the changes as written, Keith Jayawickrama Seconds Motion Passed.

Grass and Legume Advisory Committee – Dan Hemshorn

1. Amend the field history requirement for Rough bluegrass (*Poa trivialis*) to reduce the field history requirement for Certified production from three years to two years when following another variety of Rough bluegrass. Jim Steinke motioned to accept as written second from Dan Hemshorn Passed
2. Establish certification standards for Chicory (*Cichorium intybus*). Randy Knight reviewed development of the proposed standards for Chicory based on ones used by other certifying agencies (NZL and MN).
3. Establish certification standards for Camelina (*Camelina sativa*). Sandy Smith used Montana standards to develop standards for Oregon.
4. Establish certification standards for hybrid Sunflower (*Helianthus annuus* L.) Randy Knight reviewed development of the

proposed standards from guidelines provided by the Association of Official Seed Certifying Agencies and standards applied by agencies in North Dakota, Minnesota and California.

5. Establish certification standards for hybrid Rapeseed (Canola) (*Brassica napus*, *B. rapa*). Randy Knight reviewed development of the proposed standards from guidelines provided by AOSCA and standards applied by the Canadian Seed Growers Association. Several sections of the existing OSCS certification standards for Rapeseed were amended to accommodate production of hybrid varieties. Most of the discussion involved the proposed isolation distance of 2640 feet and whether it was adequate to meet industry needs. Suggested distances mentioned were one mile under some circumstances, to more than three miles for other situations. A consensus recommendation emerged for a two mile isolation distance with a reference to Rapeseed control districts enforced by the Oregon Department of Agriculture and their potential impact on certified seed production.
6. Bill young motioned to move Specialty crops to own Advisory group. No Second.
7. Motion to accept changes and add standard for specialty crops, motion passed

Cereal Advisory Committee – Carl Haugerud

There were no Motions to recommend to the board.

The CAS advised that the OSCS cereals project to discontinue allowing the inspector to rogue the first Cereal Rye plant, and to reject a field subject to reinspection when cereal rye is found in or out of count.

Mint Advisory Committee – Randy Knight

No action items to discuss

Tree Seed Advisory Committee – Barry Schrumf

No action items to discuss

Foundation Seed Program Reports – Russ Karow

1. Cereals still working with Washington State as lead agency for the program funding through royalty dollars
2. Potatoes project has been losing money so made a change to only produce Foundation and Experimental lines.
3. Matt Herb asked who is the maintainer of the public varieties on the OECD list of cultivars. Bill Young said it should be the college with help from the commodity commissions for fees paid.

USDA-National Clonal Germplasm Repository-Barbara Reed

Jack Peters is no longer with the program, at this time there are 16 employees. Budget has been flat with a decline expected in 2008. There are many specialty crops retained with about 11,000 germplasm accessions. ¼ of which is stored as seed.

Oregon Department of Agriculture-Nancy Osterbauer

Reported on the Potato nematode survey. Where potato seed growers have to have their fields sampled for the Golden nematode. Fields producing potatoes in 2005 to 2007 and can go back as far as 2002 need to be sampled for Golden nematode.

Oregon Seed Trade Association-Matt Herb

Matt reported on the Glyceria (Mannagrass) issue shipping into Argentina. Allowed if described as *Glyceria declinata*. Adriel has been doing research on the ploidy levels to determine the different species. All Annual grasses are to be Certified Glyceria free by 2009 and all Perennial grasses Certified free by 2010. There has been good shipping into the EU due to the weak dollar and short of production. There has been an increase in Clover production and Wheat prices have been high which is all good for the Oregon grass farmer.

The Oregon seed council has hired Roger Beyer to replace Dave Nelson as acting executive Secretary.

Oregon Seed Services-Dan Curry

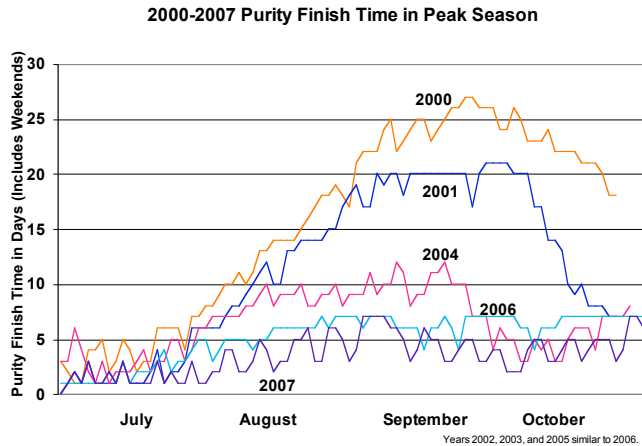
Seed Service

- **Seed Services**, including Seed Certification and the Seed Laboratory sponsored a dinner meeting where Perry Bohn, the US Designated Authority for OECD gave a presentation to Oregon grass seed industry representatives. This was hosted so that the Oregon Grass Seed Industry would be able to discuss international trade issues with the person in charge of the US OECD.
- **Staff from Seed Services, Seed Certification and the Seed Laboratory** are participating in a committee that will obtain research data concerning seed lot size for grass seed. This data will be sent to the ISTA Secretary General to determine if some Oregon warehouses can ship seed in lots up to 55,000 lbs.

Seed Laboratory

Highlights of accomplishments since the last board meeting:

- **Grass seed conditioners workshop-** Last year, the lab offered the Grass Seed Conditioners Workshop. This workshop was offered for the first time in Spanish on February 22-23 of 2007.
- **New Blowing procedure-**After many years of research, a proposal was submitted to the AOSA Rules committee so that a General Blower can be used to separate Tall fescue during purity separation and that breaking multiples into pieces by hand would no longer be necessary. This proposal was voted upon by AOSA and did not pass, but by only a very small margin. We are encouraged by fellow AOSA members that we should again make the proposal for AOSA members to vote on a new proposal in 2008.
- **Workshop for lab analysts-** The lab offered a Canadian Grader's Workshop on January 30-31. This workshop trained seed analysts to be able to grade seed going to Canada. Once an analyst is trained, passes the exams and has the lab accredited, the shipper won't have to pay for double testing when shipping seed to Canada.
- **Immediate planting for germination-** For a second year in a row, the lab established immediate planting for germination testing in the summer months. This added feature sped up the turn-around time for results to the customer.
- **Timely testing in the summer-** As the lab entered the last harvest season, the goal was to provide purity reports within a week from sample arrival. This goal was achieved (see graph below) and there was no need to outsource samples.



Projections for the following year:

- **ISTA Quality Management System-** The laboratory staff is implementing a quality management system. This system ensures that the focus of all operations will be on customer satisfaction and continuous improvement. The first step in this process is for the lab to become a member of the ISTA system of labs, which is an international organization of 170 laboratories.
- **Timeliness in purity reports-** Every season brings a different challenge, but the lab will keep making the effort (in terms of staff, equipment, procedures) to provide timely service (reporting purity within a week) in the summer.
- **New Blower and Multiples procedure-** After more research, two proposals were submitted to the AOSA Rules committee so that a General Blower can be used during purity separation and multiples won't have to be broken down by analyst by hand. These proposals, if enacted by AOSA, are thought to increase the efficiency of the lab while providing a more accurate assessment of the inert matter in Tall fescue samples.
- **Immediate planting for germination.** The lab will plan to use the immediate planting for germination in most grass seeds in the summer. If the budget situation allows, it may be extended until the end of December or beyond.

Seed Certification

Highlights of accomplishments since the last board meeting:

- **Dennis Lundeen** took over as Seed Certification Manager. Ron Cook retired after eighteen years as manager.
- **Total Certified acres-** In 2007, OSCS certified 251,814 acres. The 2007 acreage totals for Oregon are a 3.1% increase (7535 acres) in acreage
- **New planting applications** as of January 14th, 2008 are at 58,843 acres compared to 78,818 acres over the same period last year. This is a 25% decrease in acres of new plantings. Total certified acreage and number of fields signed up is published in early May when crop sign-ups are complete.
- **OECD program** at OSU was audited on January 31st by Perry Bohn, the Designated Authority for OECD. Dennis Lundeen and other Seed Certification

staff participated in the audit. The review went very well, with no major changes suggested.

- **The Oregon Certification Variety Review Committee (OCVR)** has published its guidelines that mirror the National Grass Variety Review Board (NGVRB) committee's guidelines on accepting a new variety into certification. The OCVR has also proposed some clarifications and changes to these guidelines for industry review. It is hoped that this process will streamline the current process of accepting new varieties into certification.

Projections for the following year:

- **Currently OCS is working on database and website revisions** that will allow for on-line application for initial plantings. This program is projected to be available in the Fall of 2008.
- **AOSCA Annual conference**-OSU Seed Certification will be hosting the AOSCA Annual Conference. It will be held in Portland, Oregon at the Doubletree Hotel from June 26 to July 1, 2009. The staff will be planning the program and an industry bus tour to enlighten other AOSCA members to Oregon seed production.

Old/Other Business

Randy Knight presented certificate of appreciation to Jim Steinke

Adjournment

Jim Steinke motioned to Adjourn seconded by Reed Barker.

