

MINUTES

Oregon Mint Rootstock Certification Advisory Committee Meeting

Thursday, January 8, 2015
Salishan Lodge, Gleneden Beach

Voting members present: Scott Setniker, Mark Hagman, Greg Bingaman, Austin Bingaman, Lowell Patterson, Jim Cloud, Daniel Keudell

Non-voting members present: Dan Curry, Dennis Lundeen, Darrin Walenta, Jeremiah Dung.

Members absent: Jay Noller

Guests Present: John Cheatham, Kale Bingaman, Terry Burr, Recorder

1. The Oregon Mint Rootstock Certification Advisory Committee Meeting, called to order at approximately 7:30 AM by Scott Setniker for a breakfast meeting prior to the Oregon Essential Oil Growers League Annual Meeting.
2. The members and guests introduced themselves.
3. The Chair called for additions to the agenda, and none were received.
4. The minutes of the 2014 meeting were approved as written by Jim and second by Lowell.
5. Old Business
 - a) Review “Land Requirements” specifically crop history and cultural practices. Discussed land requirements following virus free strawberries put into place two years ago, no *Verticillium* was observed in the 2013 or 2014 fields under this new requirement. It was moved to add the following phrase to section VII. General Land Requirements: paragraph A. of the 2015 mint certification standards, to read as follows; “Excepted from this requirement are fields that have been proper tarp-fumigated, immediately prior to being planted with tissue cultured strawberry plants, and then followed directly with a certified class of mint rootstock. This exception only applies to mint rootstock certified under *Program B*, the Field Class Program (section XI. B.1. in these standards).
Then under Section X. Specific Requirements For *Program A* Paragraph B Land requirements 1. Farm History, To strike out the phrase; “In addition, for the 2013 and 2014 crop years, there is a Crop History exception for fields that have been properly tarp-fumigated, immediately prior to being planted with tissue-cultured strawberry plants, and then followed directly with a certified class of mint rootstock. This exception only applies to mint rootstock certified with under *Program B*, the Field Class Program (section XI in these standards)”. And then to add “ See program B, the field class Program (Section XI. B. 1. In these standards)”
Passed unanimously.
6. New Business
 - a) Terry made an observation; he noticed there was no cut off date for late fee sign-ups. In order to plan inspection times and organize a crew to travel, he needed to have a cut off date where no more applications will be accepted unless approved by OSCS. There are some exceptions; as in late plantings, where the crop isn’t planted until late and would require a late inspection.

It was moved that,

A. Under Section XII Field Inspection Paragraph D to read “Late fee applications submitted after July 31st must be approved by OSCS”

B. Under Section XV. Basis for Refusal to Approve or Inspect, Paragraph B3 add the words “Crop is overgrown” If the canopy is too tall, Verticillium plants are hidden and difficult to see.

The motion passed unanimously.

7. Reports

a) Mint Rootstock Certification

Terry Burr reported that one grower in Klamath County had a field of Scotch Spearmint at 1.5 ac and a half acre of Black Mitcham for field class 1. The same grower had a 12 ac field of M83-7 and a 16 acre field of Black Mitcham that passed Field class 2 and a 30 acre field of Black Mitcham that met the requirements for Field class 3. Acreage of certified mint was down from 94 acres in 2013 to 60 ac in 2014.

b) OSU Crop & Soil Science Department Report

Dan Curry reported for Jay Noller.

Dan Curry reported on Seed Services

Last year the OSU Certification acres were at a seven-year high of 251,093 acres.

Turn-around-time

The OSU seed lab had a very busy harvest season again this year. The turnaround time for the lab averaged four days through most of the harvest season. It peaked at six days for only a day or two in September.

Research

Seed Services is collaborating with a computer scientist to explore using computers to identify seeds during the purity testing process. The seed lab is working with a genetic testing lab in Wisconsin to determine if a PCR test can determine the percent of annual ryegrass within perennial ryegrass. Seed Certification is a cooperator in a grant application that would research long term rotation of crops in an organic cropping system.

Certification is connecting with a new OSU group called Autonomous Systems Research Group. This group will organize and expand its work and collaboration with unmanned aerial vehicles, or UAVs, as well as marine and terrestrial technologies, sensing and imaging systems. We will see if any of the new technologies can be useful in the Certification program.

c) Seed Certification Report

Dennis lundeen reported:

2014 summary of Seed Certification

Staffing, we have 4 administrative staff that help with the office work. There are two people that handle information Technology, one systems manager and one that writes software for the database. There are eight seed certification specialist that do the majority of the field inspections in their assigned areas and crops they are responsible for. We have 10 part time certification staff that help out during the summer, helping with inspections during the busy

time. Seed certification has four full time and four part-time samplers that go around and sample lots to be tested in the seed lab.

The types of seed crops certified by acreage are 82% grass crops, which consist of 47.5% Tall fescue, 28.5% Perennial ryegrass, and 7% annual ryegrass. Cereals are at 10% which consist of 85% wheat, 7% Barley, and 2.5% Triticale. Then 6% are clovers. The other crops being certified are; Corn, Potatoes, Mint rootstock, and other Misc. Crops.

8. Scott Setniker was nominated to serve as Vice-Chair for the next year, and Austin Bingaman moves from Vice-Chair to Chair.
9. Scott Setniker, Jim Cloud, and Lowell Patterson agreed to serve another three-year term. Mark Hagman motioned to nominate Scott, Jim, and Lowell. Greg Bingaman second, motion passed.
10. Scott Setniker agreed to serve as this committee's representative at the 2015 Certification Board meeting in February.
11. Scott Setniker adjourned the meeting at approximately 8:25 a.m.

Minutes submitted by:

Terry Burr

Secretary

Oregon Mint Rootstock Certification Advisory Committee

The current *Oregon Peppermint and Spearmint Rootstock Certification Standards*, the current *Directory of Oregon Certified Mint Rootstock*, and minutes of recent Oregon Mint Rootstock Certification Advisory Committee meetings are available at the OSU Seed Certification website (<http://seedcert.oregonstate.edu/>) under the respective Mint or Advisory Committee headings.