

MINUTES

Oregon Mint Rootstock Certification Advisory Committee Meeting

Thursday, January 14, 2016
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: Jay Noller, Dennis Lundeen, Darrin Walenta, Jeremiah Dung.

Members absent: Dan Curry.

Guests Present: John Cheatham; Kale Bingaman; Tim Butler; Terry Burr, recorder.

1. The Oregon Mint Rootstock Certification Advisory Committee Meeting was called to order at approximately 7:00 AM by Austin Bingaman for breakfast, 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 2015 meeting were approved as written by Jim and seconded by Greg.

5. Old Business:

- a) No Old Business items to discuss.
- b) Discussed land requirements following virus free strawberries put into place three years ago; no Verticillium was observed in the 2013, 2014, or 2015 fields under this new requirement. John Cheatham added that Sierra Cascade wants to continue that practice and they have had good reception of their root-stock; very vigorous, clean, almost no dirt could be found. Greg Bingaman agreed, he said it was some of the cleanest rootstock he has ever purchased.

6. New Business:

- a) New Business – none.

7. Reports

a) Mint Rootstock Certification:

- A list of the 2015 Directory of Oregon Certified Mint Rootstock was distributed. It shows that Sierra Cascade was the only grower and that they had three fields of Black Mitcham and one field of M83-7 Peppermint that was certified in the Field Class B program.
- There was a field of Spearmint that was too tall to inspect adequately, so the grower took the crop off and inspectors went back in 3 weeks to complete the inspection. It worked very well and we all felt comfortable with the process. Unfortunately, that field had Raspberries in it and had to be rejected due to field history.
- The 2015 Certification Activity Report was given for Total acres certified, we were down a couple thousand acres from 2014. This information can be found on line on our web page.

b) OSU Crop & Soil Science Department Report, Jay Noller.

A CSS Update was distributed:

OSU had a few faculty decide to retire and now the university is looking to fill those positions, mostly in Extension. A cropping system agronomist will be hired and will focus on precision ag. This will help supply up to date technology to the industry and growers.

There will be a new essential oils lab based out of Pendleton; once that gets up and running it will be beneficial to the industry.

Right now there are around 100 students majoring in crop science and the agronomy class selection has doubled in the last 5 years.

Tim Butler asked, "Which agriculture college has the most students?" Jay answered with the College of Animal Sciences. OSU has a very big Veterinary program; Although that program is very hard to get into there is still high interest in the animal sciences. Microbiology and Fish and Wildlife departments also have high interest.

c) Seed Certification Report, Dennis Lundeen.

OSCS hired Tami Brown from Nexgen Research in May and she has hit the ground running. She will be helping with the seed stock program and also will be in charge of organizing Jefferson Co. inspections.

The IT personnel have created a web mapping program that has been put on the seedling sign up site. You can now use this mapping system to mark where your field is located. They have also developed an application to inform the client when they have a new test report or field inspection. This is an Apple-based APP that can be downloaded onto your iPhone or iPad.

We have looked into using UAV's or Drones to help us with crop inspections. OSU college of Forestry has an Aerial information system lab that we have been collaborating with to see if it would be applicable. There are many regulations that must be followed, but we have tried it out on several crops including mint. Maybe they will help to identify hot spots in the field.

The new planting report is out and available on our web site under new plantings report.

8. Greg Bingaman was nominated to serve as Vice-Chair for the next year, as Scott Setniker moves from Vice-Chair to Chair. Mark Hagman motioned to nominate Greg Bingaman, Scott seconded, motion passed.
9. Greg Bingaman and Austin Bingaman volunteered to serve another 3 year term.
10. Scott Setniker agreed to serve as this committee's representative at the 2016 Certification Board meeting in February.
11. Austin Bingaman adjourned the meeting at approximately 7:45 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.

1/20/16