



OSCS Corn Sub-Committee to the Cereals Advisory Committee

November 23, 2022

Meeting Minutes

In Attendance:

Josh Hunziker, Bayer

Cristina Gallaga, Syngenta

Andrew Altishin, OSCS

Terry Burr, OSCS

Tami Brown, OSCS

Craig Agidius (Secretary), OSCS

The meeting was called to order at 10:00 AM via Zoom.

Tasks

1) Approve the 2021 Corn Subcommittee minutes

Craig reviewed the committee minutes from the previous year. Minutes from the 2021 meeting, as provided via email, were approved.

2) Approve the 2022 meeting agenda

No additions or amendments were made.

3) Review 2021 CAC meeting minutes

Craig briefly reviewed the CAC minutes from the previous year. No items from the 2021 meeting pertained to corn.

4) Certification News Appendix 1

Andy provided a brief overview of the certified acres (various crops) for the 2022 season showing a trend of decreased acres in comparison to the previous year. The 2022 certified acres can be viewed on the OSCS website <https://seedcert.oregonstate.edu/committees-and-publications>. He also provided an update regarding internal changes for OSCS staff. Jeff McMorran will be retiring and going to a half-time appointment. Tami Brown will be taking over the Potato Program with Jeff retiring. Jennifer Vahl is the sampler for Linn, Lane, and Benton Co but has also been sampling Yamhill and Polk since the sampler for those counties has retired. Andy also mentioned that we are in the process of trying to hire for the Yamhill, Polk, Washington Co Sampler Position.

5) Review of 2022 Corn Certification Activities Appendix 2

Craig provided an overview of total acres for 2022 certified corn: number of contractors, number of 2022 certified fields, number of fields that were foundation class, and number of fields that were certified class.

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He reviewed hiring/training staff for temp corn inspectors. Craig also shared that he was only able to secure two temp inspectors for Milton-Freewater and no inspectors for the Hermiston area. He noted that the Field Inspections and Seed Movement categories have not changed in the last few years. He briefly described how the field inspection process works and the OSCS protocol.

6) Discussion of 2022 inspection season, concerns, and comments

No concerns or comments regarding the 2021 inspection season.

7) Call for other business

No calls for other business.

8) Nominate a committee member to attend the 2022 CAC meeting

Syngenta representative, *Cristina Gallaga* volunteered to attend the 2022 CAC meeting. Cristina agreed to attend the meeting on December 12th, 2022 to represent this subcommittee.

This meeting adjourned at 10:20 AM



Andrew Altishin

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2022 Year in Review

Appendix 1

Total Acres Certified of all Crops – 215,444 (-6%)

Total Acres of Grass Crops Certified – 178,311 (-6.3%)

Total Acres of Small Grains Certified – 21,269 (-5.8%)

Total Acres of Legumes Certified – 6,429 (-19.9%)

Total Acres of Misc. Other Crops Certified – 10,716 (10.9%)

Total Acres of Potatoes Certified – 3,082 (<1%)

Total Acres of PVG Certified – 107 (161%)

Total Hemp Fields Inspected – 0 (-100%)

Total Acres of Corn – 2,825 (13%)

Updates

- Jeff Mc Morran retiring
- Tami Brown shifted responsibilities to take over the potato program
- Jennifer Vahl – Linn, Lane and Benton sampler
- Karen Courtney – Union sampler
- Paula Mills retired in June
- Open Position
 - o Yamhill, Polk, Washington Co. sampler

OSCS Staffing

- 3 Administrative staff
- 2 Information Technology Staff
- 6 Seed Certification Specialists
- 6 Part-time/seasonal Seed Certification Specialists
- 8 Seed Certification Samplers
- 1 Manager and Seed Certification Specialist
- Various part-time student employees



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Corn Program Overview

Appendix 2

Program Year: 2022

- 2,825 Total Acres (11.5% increase from 2021)
- 3 Growers
- 280 Oregon Fields (8% increase from 2021)
- 255 Foundation Class
- 25 Certified Class

Hiring/Training of Staff

- Average field assignments range 50-60 fields/inspector for the season
- 4 inspectors – 2 in Milton-Freewater, 2 in Hermiston/Boardman
- Hire local employees – knowledge of area
- Must use own vehicles
- Training workshop/meeting mid-June
 - In-field training continues when season begins July 1
 - Training continues as needed through the summer

Field Inspections

- Each field is inspected at least 4 times
- One isolation inspection prior to pollination (locate field, purity of plant type, contamination checks), and a minimum of 3 inspections during pollination
- Acreage determines number of counts per inspection (1 count = 50 plants; 50 m/f if Hybrid)
- Counts performed at three increments of silk presence during pollination (5-15%, 16-65%, >66%)
- Intensive timing; time between inspections can greatly vary due to variety, weather/field conditions, and inputs but averages one inspection every 2-3 days.
- Field information is available online to ensure all fields are signed up and confirm they have been inspected

Seed Movement

- Ear inspections are required for Foundation corn single crosses and inbred lines (inspect corn ears for off-colored or different textured kernels)
- Starts end-August going through end-October – 6 days a week
- Transfers Pending Final Certification are required to maintain certification; use eCertification site to print transfers