

MINUTES

Oregon Mint Rootstock Certification Advisory Committee Meeting

Thursday, January 9, 2020
Salishan Lodge, Gleneden Beach

Voting members present: Scott Setniker, Lowell Patterson, Jeff Cloud, Daniel Keudell, Greg Bingaman,

Non-voting members present: Andrew Altishin, Jeremiah Dung, Terry Burr- Secretary.

Members absent: Brett Rudd, Dan Curry, Thomas Chastain, Darrin Walenta.

Guests Present: John Cheatham, Tim Butler, Kyle Bingaman.

1. The Oregon Mint Rootstock Certification Advisory Committee breakfast Meeting was called to order at approximately 7:10 AM by Daniel Keudell, prior to the Oregon Essential Oil Growers League Annual Meeting.
2. The members and guests introduced themselves.
3. The minutes of the 2019 meeting was motioned to accept as written, by Lowell and seconded by Scott.
4. The Chair called for additions to the agenda and none were received.

5. Old Business:

No old business was brought forward.

6. New Business:

Any changes in the mint industry that might effect the mint certification program, please bring forward to this meeting. It has been very quiet the last couple years. General observations, the roots being delivered to growers seem to be very high quality root stock.

7. Reports

a) Mint Rootstock Certification:

- The 2019 Directory of Oregon Certified Mint Rootstock was distributed. It shows that Sierra Cascade was the only grower. They have certified fields in the field class B program. They had 152 acres of Black Mitcham and 47 acres of M83-7 Peppermint, and one acre of Scotch Spearmint. OSCS inspected the fields in mid July which worked out well for adequate inspection; some of the new fields were on the small side in size.
- One plant was tested for Verticillium and came back negative.

b) **OSU Crop & Soil Science Department Report**, Andrew Altishin

OSU Update
7 January 2020

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

Crop and Soil Science

Personnel

South Willamette Valley Crops Extension Professor of Practice – Will Jessie has resigned his position effective December 20 and has relocated to Indiana.

Dr. Jennifer Parke has retired from the department as Professor of Soil Biology effective December 31. She will continue for the rest of this year in a post-retirement appointment finishing research projects and other activities.

Department Head – Corvallis. The search process is continuing for the next CSS department head. Dr. Tom Chastain is continuing to serve as the Interim Department Head until a new one is identified.

College of Agricultural Sciences

Dr. Dan Edge has retired as Associate Dean. Jack Breen has been hired as the Chief of Operations for the college. The search for a new Executive Associate Dean is nearing completion.

Oregon State University

Dr. F. King Alexander has been named as the next President of OSU, replacing long-time President Dr. Ed Ray. Dr. Alexander was most recently the President and Chancellor of Louisiana State University. He will start his tenure as OSU's President on July 1.

c) **Seed Services Report**, Andrew Altishin
Seed Services

- Two years ago the Tall Fescue Commission had requested some breeder K31 seed from Kentucky Foundation Seed (KFS). KFS sent 2 lbs. of endophyte K31 and 14 lbs. of endophyte-free K31 seed and it is being stored at the Hyslop cold room. It is possible that Certified K31 will be produced using these seed lots.
- The Ryegrass Commission asked a group of local folks to see if they can develop a small amount of breeder Gulf seed. The first year of a two-year project has finished. We hope to have a small amount of Gulf breeder seed by the fall of 2020.

- BDI research is continuing. BDI is a PCR test that may determine annual contamination within perennial ryegrass. An ISTA sub-committee is working on this method, trying to see if it will work on a majority of perennial ryegrass varieties.
- We are working with OSU Computer Science and Engineering students to develop a classification machine that uses computer vision of seed to try to classify seed into two fractions. This system, if perfected, may be able to help seed analysts during the busy harvest season get through more samples/hour.

d) **Seed Certification report**, Andrew Altishin.

2019 Year in Review

Total Acres Certified of all Crops – 229,626

Total Acres of Grass Crops Certified – 192,751

Total Acres of Small Grains Certified – 24,130

Total Acres of Legumes Certified – 5,813

Total Acres of Misc. Other Crops Certified – 4,076

Total Acres of Potatoes Certified – 2,683

Total Acres of Mint Certified - 200

Total Acres of PVG Certified – 173

New Hires

- Jodi Keeling, Process Review Manager
- Mason McKinney, Office Specialist
- Emily Guzman, Seed Certification Aide (Sampler, Linn Co.)
- Amanda Alps, Seed Certification Aide (Sampler, Jefferson Co.)
- Open position, Seed Certification Aide (Sampler, Union Co.)

OSCS Staffing

- 4 Administrative staff
- 2 Information Technology Staff
- 7 Seed Certification Specialists
- 8 Part-time/seasonal Seed Certification Specialists
- 9 Seed Certification Samplers
- 1 Manager and Seed Certification Specialist

Programs Administered

- Oregon Certified Seed
 - o Part of the Association of Official Seed Certifying Agencies (AOSCA)
- OECD Certified Seed
 - o Administered in Oregon for USDA - AMS

- e) The hemp Certification program is in it's infancy stage and growing rapidly. There is much to work out before full production is implemented.

Is the hazelnut crop still increasing? There is still a push for increasing acres with new varieties being developed. It has been good for the grass seed industry to have alternate crops to produce.

8. Greg Bingaman was nominated to serve as Vice-Chair for the next year, as Jeff Cloud moves from Vice-Chair to Chair. Daniel moved and Lowell Patterson second.
9. Daniel Keudell was selected to serve another 3-year term as a valley grower.
10. Erin McGreer was selected by the Essential Oil league to serve a three year term.
11. Scott Setniker agreed to serve as this committee's representative at the 2020 Certification Board meeting in February.
12. Tim Butler wanted to thank the Mint advisory board for their time and effort to attend this meeting. He wanted them to know the essential oils league and the mint industry appreciate this group. John Cheatham wanted to thank Seed Certification for the effort they do to walk all the Mint root stock fields and ensuring the quality of their mint roots.
13. Daniel Keudell adjourned the meeting at approximately 8:15 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 (seedcert.oregonstate.edu/) under the respective Mint or Advisory Committee headings.

1/30/20