

Forest Health Cooperative FY2022 Advisory Meeting Minutes

The meeting was worth CFE credit for those who attended in person and signed the appropriate forms. Cat 1- CF 3, Cat 2 (AL RF Cat 3)- 2

Location: RSA Tower, 11 north water street, Mobile, AL 36633

Date: November 10- 11, 2021

Attendance:

In-Person:

Dr. Lori Eckhardt, Auburn University

Steve Lloyd, Scotch

Jenny LaBlanc, Weyerhaeuser

Alan Wilson, Rayonier

Hunter Moncrief, AFC

Randy Jarzyniecki, PineBelt Forestry

Zoom:

David Wilkinson, Hancock Natural Resource Group

Dr. Emily Carter, U.S. Forest Service

Dr. Mary-Anne Sword- Sayer, U.S. Forest Service

Commencement

Meeting was called to order November 10, 2021, at 10:15 a.m. by Dr. Eckhardt. A welcome address for the meeting was delivered by Kris Bradley and Dr. Daowei Zhang. Dr. Eckhardt delivered the introduction.

Presentations:

Jessica Baldwin- Forest Health Cooperative Diagnostics Laboratory Update and Sudden Oak Death Survey Update

Sylvester Menanyih- Emission of volatile organic compounds by ophiostomatoid fungi

Debit Datta- Isolation and identifying of fungi associated with loblolly pine needle damage and mortality in the southeastern USA

Debit Datta- Needle pathogen, *Lecanosticta acicola*, effects on *Pinus taeda* needle and shoot lengths

Debit Datta- *Lecanosticta acicola* impacts nutrient content and total in *Pinus taeda* needles

Debit Datta- Prediction of loblolly pine defoliation severity associated with changes in pathogen pressure in response to climate change in the southeastern United States

Business Meeting:

Anti- trust compliance reminder.

Chair for FY- 2022 is Jenny LeBlanc of Weyerhaeuser

Accomplishments

- Publications from research have been made, several in progress. Research has already been utilized. We have received calls from Mississippi about pine decline.
- 2 Master's theses and 1 PhD completed. Two master's theses are nearing completion, with publications expected.
- Websites have been moved to new servers.
- Advisory meeting (in-person), science meeting (virtual), and annual meeting (virtual) held.
- Research has been presented virtually and in-person.

Work Plan

- Several projects are in progress, and several have been submitted.
- 3 projects funded: Sudden Oak Death Detection Survey, Collaboration between SFWS and FABI, and Wood Chemistry and diseases.
- Maintenance of website, including addition of new publications for members.
- Continue to provide limited consulting to coop membership.
- Forest health short course in July 2023. Email for interest in the short course will be sent out January 2023.

Motion to approve work plan for FY-2022 was made by Alan, and Jenny provided a second. Motion carries.

Budget Review

- Depending on availability future funding, we may need to revise the approved budget.
- Dr. Eckhardt will work on creating a project fee for proposed work. The COOP will have another meeting after some options have been created to vote on revising the budget.

Motion to vote on normal operating budget without a research project was made by Alan, and Jenny provided a second. Motion carries.

Business Meeting Notes Miscellaneous

- Mas-Spec failure cause a delay in research.
- Education of extension agents of 'scorching' appearance have helped landowners recognize disease and send in samples for analysis.

- Most calls to sites have been on needle blight or pine decline, although we have received a call on pine sawfly and tip moth.
- Dr. Zhang Committed to helping the coop grow with new members and prior members.
- AFC new representative is Austin, who was unable to attend, so David was filling in for him today.
- Needle cast is becoming more of an issue. Should a website be created? This will be discussed again after February, dependent upon funding.

Meeting on November 10, 2021, was adjourned at 5:05 p.m.

Field Trip to Needle Blight Sights:

The field trip to needle blight sights was held November 11, 2021, from approximately 8 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. Needle blight sights were located on Stallworth property in Washington County, Alabama.