

Forest Health Cooperative FY2023 Advisory Meeting Minutes

Location: 602 Duncan Drive, Ste 3301, Auburn University, AL 36849-5418

Date: July 26- 27, 2023

Attendance:

In-Person:

Dr. Lori Eckhardt, Auburn University

Rusty Booker, Scotch Land Management

Ryan Nadel, Weyerhaeuser

Jenny LaBlanc, Weyerhaeuser

Alan Wilson, Rayonier

Randy Jarzyniecki, Pine Belt Forestry

Austin Reese, AFC

Zoom:

David Wilkinson, Manulife

Commencement

Meeting was called to order July 27, 2023 by Dr. Eckhardt at 12:37 p.m.

Presentations:

Jaesoon Hwang- Brown Spot Needle Blight on Loblolly Pine: What USDA FS Has Seen So Far

Joseph Z. Fan, Lori Eckhardt, Lana Narine- Environmental factors that drive the emergence and severity of infection from *Lecanosticta acicula* across Alabama

Rabiu Olatinwo- Environmental triggers and seasonal changes in the mycobiome of symptomatic and asymptomatic loblolly pine needles

John J. Riggins- BSNB in Mississippi

Janna Willoughby- Genetic diversity of *Lecanosticta acicola*, pathogen origins, and invasion history

Debit Datta & Lori Eckhardt,- Identification and Distribution of Fungal Pathogens associated with Loblolly Pine Defoliation and Mortality in the SE US

Business Meeting:

Anti- trust compliance reminder.

Chair for FY- 2023 is Manulife

Accomplishments

- The Forest Health Cooperative website completely moved and up to date, including the most recent research reports.
- Brown Spot Needle Blight website is currently in development.
- Completion of lab diagnostics and field visits have been completed. Most calls are about pine decline and Brown Spot Needle Blight.
- Advisory meeting (in-person), ten presentations, published articles (listed in book)
- Received large forest service grant at end of FY22 for BSNB.
- 4 projects funded: Sudden Oak Death Detection Survey, Collaboration between SFWS and FABI, Wood Chemistry and diseases, and Mitigating Needle Blight (USFS).
- Several projects are in progress, and several have been submitted.

Work Plan

- Maintenance of website, including addition of new publications for members.
- Continue to provide limited consulting to coop membership.
- Continue to work on funded projects.
- Continue to work on manuscripts.
- Hiring graduate students and student workers for Mitigating Needle Blight (USFS).
- Newsletter for spring 2023.
- Forest health short course slated for Fall 2023.
- Efforts to acquire new co-op members.

Motion to approve work plan for FY-2023 passed unanimously.

Budget Review

- Dues were not raised.
- Federal grant removed a lot from our budget, but coop will contribute some money to the project to make it a collaborative project.

Motion to approve budget FY-2023 passed unanimously.

Business Meeting Notes Miscellaneous

- A counter on website to see how many times our website has been accessed in addition of key words to the websites to improve traffic.
- BSNB website goes live when? Two weeks.
- Consideration of doing the forest health short course online on current pathogens rather than the full course.
- Membership directory on our webpage can be used to add other people within your company to our updates.
- Emails to be sent out in January for the best topics to have in the short course.
- Check with Tyler Cloud for potential coop members from Louisiana.
- We were underbudget this year!

- Price of BSNB sampling is?

Meeting on July 27, 2023, was adjourned at 1:36 p.m.