

AUBURN UNIVERSITY
SOUTHERN FOREST NURSERY MANAGEMENT COOPERATIVE

FY06 ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING

November 2 and 3, 2005

MINUTES

- 1) The meeting was opened at 3:00pm on Wednesday, November 2, 2005 by the Director, Scott Enebak. Dean Richard Brinker, of the School of Forestry and Wildlife Sciences, also welcomed everyone and gave his remarks.
- 2) Scott Enebak reminds everyone present that all business must be conducted according to the guidelines of anti-trust legislation.
- 3) Those in attendance of the FY06 Advisory Committee Meeting were as follows:

Ralph Bower - Weyerhaeuser
Sam Campbell – Joshua Timberlands
Steve Cantrell – South Carolina Forestry Commission
John Conn – Tennessee Division of Forestry
Barbara Crane – USFS
Bruce Donnellan - Woodlands Specialists, Inc.
Paul Ensminger – Woodlands Specialists, Inc.
Craig Frazier – Alabama Forestry Commission
George Hernandez – USFS
Charles Matherne – Louisiana Dept. of Agriculture and Forestry (via conference call)
Dean McCraw – Rayonier
Allan Murray – Arkansas Forestry Commission (via conference call)
Mark Parrott - International Paper
Greg Pate – NC Division of Forest Resources
Russ Pohl – Georgia Forestry Commission
Doug Sharp – Plum Creek Timber Company
Doug Shelburne – Smurfit-Stone Container Corporation
Harry Vanderveer – Texas Forest Service
Philip Wilson – Mississippi Forestry Commission
Elizabeth Bowersock – AU SFWS
Director, Scott Enebak – AU SFWS
Tommy Hill – AU SFWS
Ana Paula – AU SFWS
Ken Mc Nabb – AU SFWS

Humberto Santos – AU SFWS
David South – AU SFWS

- 4) An update on the search for a Research Fellow is given and a discussion of alternative options to fill the position is held. Due to some unforeseen circumstances, the original candidate selected to fill the position was deemed unsatisfactory and the Coop was therefore unable to fill the position at the current time.
- 5) An agenda for the FY06 Advisory Committee Meeting is attached. The following presentations were made on Wednesday afternoon or Thursday morning as noted:
 - a. 3:20pm - Wednesday, November 2, 2005: Ken Mc Nabb, of the AU SFWS, discusses the results of the production survey that was conducted for the 2004-2005 planting season. The data were presented in a *draft* copy of Technical Note 05-02. A final version of TN05-02 will be printed and provided to all members by the calendar-year end.
 - b. 3:40pm - Wednesday, November 2, 2005: David South, of the AU SFWS, gives a presentation regarding pesticide re-registration issues and herbicide trials.
 - c. 4:00-5:30pm - Wednesday, November 2, 2005: A small tour was given for the new School of Forestry and Wildlife Building, but the focus was on Nursery Coop facilities both within the new building and on Campus. New Cooperative Laboratory and storage space was shown in addition to the walk-in cooler and long-term Coop History. On campus, the Trophotron was visited and David South pointed out his MSMA study. Advisory Members were also shown the Nursery Cooperative's laboratory, head-house and greenhouse space at the Pesticide Research Facility.
 - d. 6:00-7:30pm - Wednesday, November 2, 2005: A BBQ and social was held in the Pavilion at the new building.
 - e. 8:00am - Thursday, November 3, 2005: Scott Enebak presents the Accomplishments of the Nursery Coop for FY05. It is noted that, due to the death of Bill Carey, many projects were not able to be completed. These projects will be included in the FY06 Work Plan. The FY05 Accomplishments are included in the participants' meeting folders, as well as in the FY05 Annual Report.
 - f. 9:00am - Thursday, November 3, 2005: Tomm Johnson, of the Alabama Dept. of Agriculture, speaks with the group and reviews the wording of the "Proposed Rule Regarding the Use of Soil Fumigants (Including but not Limited to Methyl Bromide) as a Precondition to the Intrastate Movement of Forest Nursery Seedlings in Alabama."

Several changes were made and the proposal will be presented at a meeting of the Alabama State Plant Board on Tuesday, November 8, 2005. Tom Johnson will provide a final copy of the proposal to Scott Enebak, who will then forward it to all Advisory Members.

- g. 10:10am - Thursday, November 3, 2005: Scott Enebak, of the AU SFWS, discusses QPS and gives an update on MBr. The 2005 application (for 2007 CUE) was submitted in August. The final ruling will be made in November.
- h. 10:25am - Thursday, November 3, 2005: David South, of the AU SFWS, presents the topic "Genetics and Survival."

- 6) The FY06 Business Meeting of the Auburn University Southern Forest Nursery Management Cooperative was called to order at 11:01am on Thursday, November 3, 2005, by Barbara Crane of the USDA Forest Service. All members listed on pages 1 and 2 of the Minutes are present, excluding Craig Frazier of the Alabama Forestry Commission. All members concur unanimously to start the meeting.

Note that, due to hurricanes Katrina and Rita, the Louisiana representative was unable to physically attend the meeting. Therefore, the USDA representative was the next representative to fill the first seat on the Executive Committee.

- a. The Executive Committee Service Rotation list is discussed and revisions are made and approved. North Carolina will now replace Mississippi (starting in 2006) and Texas will replace Georgia (starting in 2008).

Barbara Crane calls for a motion to approve the Executive Committee Service Rotation list as revised.

Motion to Approve: Ralph Bower
2nd: Barbara Crane and Russ Pohl
All members unanimously agree - the *ayes* have it.

- b. The FY05 budget was reviewed and the FY06 budget was presented.

Barbara Crane calls for a motion to approve the FY06 budget as presented.

Motion to Approve: Ralph Bower and Charles Matherne
2nd: Dean McCraw
All members unanimously agree - the *ayes* have it.

- c. The 3-year and 5-year budget plans are presented. There is a discussion on the concern of having such a large carryover. Also, the question of being able to earn interest on the carryover is asked. This is a subject that

was brought up at the FY05 meeting, but no progress was made throughout the year. It will be readdressed and resolved as soon as possible.

Barbara Crane calls for a motion to approve the 3- and 5-years budgets as presented and discussed.

Motion to Approve: Charles Matherne
2nd: (by several members)
All members unanimously agree - the *ayes* have it.

- d. MBr substitution studies are proposed. Both studies were to have been completed during FY05, but the Coop was unable to do so.

1. Basamid - this project should be completed to the point of discussion at the Contact Meeting in the summer of 2006.

Motion to Approve: Barbara Crane
2nd: John Conn
All members unanimously approve - the *ayes* have it.

2. Incubation - logistics still need to be determined, but the project will take place.

Motion to Approve: Barbara Crane
2nd: Ralph Bower
All members unanimously approve - the *ayes* have it.

3. Scott Enebak proposes another fumigation/rotation study. Dean McCraw responds by offering some data he already has and continuing the study that is being done at his nursery. It will be a 3-year study, with other chemicals yet to be decided. There is discussion of methods, and the study is approved.

Barbara Crane calls for a motion to approve the fumigation study as discussed.

Motion to Approve: Greg Pate
2nd: John Conn
All members unanimously approve - the *ayes* have it.

- e. Several proposals for herbicide trials are presented and discussed. These include the testing of tolerance of MSMA on conifer seedlings, a top-pruning/MSMA study, and two directed-spray trials with Manage[®] and Ally[®].

Barbara Crane calls for a motion to approve all herbicide trials as presented and discussed.

Motion to Approve: Paul Ensminger

2nd: Doug Shelburne

All members unanimously approve - the *ayes* have it.

- f. A proposed research study of Fusiform Rust chemicals is presented and discussed. This project was to have been completed in FY05, but the Coop was unable to do so.

Barbara Crane call for a motion to approve the study as presented and discussed.

Motion to Approve: Steve Cantrell

2nd: Ralph Bower

All members unanimously approve - the *ayes* have it.

- g. Research proposal: testing of fungicide treatments for Phytophthora. This project was to be completed in FY05, but the Coop was unable to do so.

Greg Pate discusses the importance of this study due to flood waters. He notes that it is an industry-wide problem.

Barbara Crane calls for a motion to approve the study as presented and discussed.

Motion to Approve: Dean McCraw

2nd: Paul Ensminger

All members unanimously approve - the *ayes* have it.

- h. Research proposal: examine and test alternatives to Thiram as a bird repellent on seeds. A discussion is held as to what chemicals and stock type will be tested. (Anthraquinone, Agrilock? All pine seeds? Hardwoods?) It is agreed that nursery managers will research their particular needs in this area and let Scott Enebak or David South know as soon as possible so the logistics of the project may be worked out.

Barbara Crane calls for a motion to approve the project as presented and discussed.

Motion to Approve: Paul Ensminger

2nd: Greg Pate

All members unanimously agree - the *ayes* have it.

- i. A fertilizer trial is being conducted for Helena Chemical Corp. Although the project does not use Coop funds (Helena Chemical pays for it), it does use Coop time and labor.

Barbara Crane calls for a motion to approve the continuation of the fertilizer trials for Helena Chemical.

Motion to Approve: Dean McCraw

2nd: Ralph Bower (& others)

All members unanimously approve - the *ayes* have it.

- j. Seedling quality studies are being conducted by David South and Tommy Hill. These studies are in continuation with/of the silviculture/seedling size studies. The data will be used for RCDlob.

Barbara Crane calls for a motion to approve the seedling quality studies to continue as presented and discussed.

Motion to approve: Dean McCraw

2nd: Ralph Bower

All members unanimously approve - the *ayes* have it.

- k. MBr - CUE and QPS regulations are discussed. The Coop staff will continue to work with the appropriate persons/agencies to get qualifications for QPS fumigation.

Scott Enebak says he will try to investigate why the cost keeps going up and how that affects CUE and vice versa. He will also provide a "point by point" list of how to contact the proper representatives in each state to get the legislation moving.

Doug Sharp makes his statement that each state NEEDS to strengthen its regulatory language. The wording should be taken from examples of Mississippi and Alabama and tailored to fit each state.

It is also suggested that each state represented in the Coop choose one representative to take charge of the situation and start working on the regulatory language. Possibly a committee consisting of each state representative could be formed so as to help each other through the process.

- l. Other projects were discussed as follows:
- David South will present a paper in January 2006 in Virginia. The topic will be the effect of genotype on seedling survival after outplanting.

- The crop profile will be finalized and possibly be added to the Coop website.
- Re-registration efforts will continue.
- The FY06 Contact Meeting will be held in Tyler, Texas on July 10, in conjunction with the SNMC. FY07 will be held at Jekyll Island, GA.
- Research reports will continue to be published as completion of each study is reached.
- Newsletters will continue to be published twice a year.
- The production survey will be done again for FY06. It was deemed to be very important and needs to be done on a yearly basis. It does not take a lot of money, but takes time.

Barbara Crane calls for a motion to approve the production survey as an annual undertaking as discussed.

Motion to Approve: Philip Wilson

2nd: Mark Parrott

All members unanimously approve - the *ayes* have it.

- The FY07 Advisory Meeting will be held during the first week of November, 2006. It is agreed that two half days are preferred, and that those two half days be Wednesday and Thursday.
- Coop membership. The coop will continue to try and recruit new members and maintain those that already are members. It is discussed whether or not Florida would want to rejoin, but it is considered that the state probably does not have enough production to make the membership necessary for them.
- Pesticide label restrictions, 24C labels for Coop members will continue to be sought after.
- The Coop directory is always in a state of change. Please keep your information updated!
- Coop staff are encouraged to publish findings and make presentations as so invited.

- m. Short Course - It is discussed whether or not another Short Course should be offered. There were a few people unable to attend the 2005 Short Course due to hurricanes, and several other members expressed that they are expecting to hire several new employees in the next year.

It is considered as to maybe having a specialized topic for the next Short Course, possibly irrigation or fertilization.

Scott Enebak decided he would e-mail all advisory members and request a response so that he can get a good idea of how many people want the Short Course and what specialty they want the course related to.

- n. It is discussed as to whether or not the Coop should hire and support a PhD student to assist in a study. The cost is estimated to be about \$21-24K per year, for 3 years.

Barbara Crane calls for a motion to approve the decision to hire a graduate student.

Motion to Approve: Harry Vanderveer

MOTION WITHDRAWN

The members agree that the Executive Committee should come up with a project/problem for the student to work on and then everyone will vote via email. It would be uneconomical to hire a PhD student if there is not a specific problem to be solved.

Barbara Crane calls for a motion to approve the decision to hire a graduate student, contingent upon the agreement of a project or problem in which the student will be involved.

Motion to Approve: Paul Ensminger
2nd: Harry Vanderveer and Ralph Bower
All members unanimously approve - the *ayes* have it.

- o. The wording of the EPA proposal for MBr is questioned. The exclusivity of the Coop is not mentioned. It is discussed whether or not it is an oversight or if the exclusivity is really needed. Perhaps double coverage would be beneficial, perhaps not.

Scott Enebak says he will investigate to find out whether or not the wording is an oversight.

- p. Barbara Crane calls for a motion to approve the FY06 Work Plan as presented, discussed, and revised.

Motion to Approve: Ralph Bower
2nd: Paul Ensminger
All members unanimously approve - the *ayes* have it.

- 7) Barbara Crane calls for a motion to adjourn the FY06 Business Meeting of the Auburn University Southern Forest Nursery Management Cooperative.

Motion to Adjourn: Dean McCraw

2nd: Ralph Bower

All members unanimously approve - the *ayes* have it.

- 8) The FY06 Business Meeting of the Auburn University Southern Forest Nursery Management Cooperative is adjourned as of 12:52pm, Thursday, November 3, 2005.