

California Citrus Nursery Board

Registration and Certification Protocol Committee

Minutes of Meeting Visalia, California December 11, 2014

A meeting of the California Citrus Nursery Board's Registration and Certification Protocol Committee was called to order by Committee Chairman Bob Zuckerman at 1:00 p.m. on Thursday, December 11, 2014. Roll was taken showing a quorum not present with the following in attendance:

Members

Don Dillon Bob Zuckerman

Staff

John Gilstrap, Manager JD Allen, Assistant Manager

Nursery Representatives

Jose Lima, Paramount Citrus
Julia Johnston, Willits and Newcomb
Leonard Massey, B&Z Nursery
Jackie Maxwell, Willits & Newcomb
Gary Moles. Willits & Newcomb
Tom Mulholland, Mulholland Nursery
Aimee Smith, Brokaw Nursery
Roger Smith, Tree Source

Inspection and Movement

Zuckerman explained that the last meeting of the Committee which included representatives from CDFA and USDA did not result in the desired clarification of the rules and clear guidelines regarding shipment. He said he has seen situations where shipments have been allowed and then suddenly identical shipments are restricted. It was suggested that turnover at USDA has added to problems with communication, consistency and efficiency. Dillon mentioned that USDA inspectors spend 6 hours on the road round trip from Sacramento, leaving only 2 hours of their 8 hour day for inspection in Watsonville, and wondered if CDFA could handle those duties. R. Smith said CDFA could inspect intrastate movement and USDA had to inspect interstate movement and that was unlikely Massey mentioned the Science Advisory Panel (SAP) has weekly phone to change. meetings with USDA/CDFA and maybe it would be possible to have some nursery people on the call to represent the industry view. Mulholland said all the inspection was not necessary since all the trees are coming from protected environments which have been inspected and Smith commented that the people running the inspection program are required to follow the regulations and it was not likely that USDA would be motivated to change the regulations.

There was a lengthy discussion of this topic with a general consensus that regulations might change if and when HLB is found in California, so the industry needed to be proactive to make sure the rules were in place before it happens so we don't end up with rules and regulations that are reactionary and not well thought out. Smith warned that the Committee should not spend too much time on things on which they have no ability to change but, instead should concentrate on the fundamental flaws.

Seed Heat Treatment

Zuckerman asked if the group had any interest in possibly funding of a study involving heat treatment of seeds? It was mentioned that the Citrus Research Board may be funding such a project and possibly the Citrus Nursery Board might be needed as a co-sponsor.

HLB Quarantine Issues

After a brief discussion Zuckerman decided to move on and continue this topic when we have representation of the SAP. It was suggested to have the meeting in March in the Visalia area in conjunction with the Citrus Showcase.

Other

Zuckerman reminded the group that Josh Kress and Victoria Hornbaker were the "point persons" at CDFA regarding implementation of SAP recommendations.

Zuckerman said Kim Wilnius of C&M Nursery had asked him to bring up the issue of timing of systemic and foliar treatments. Wilnius wants "day of" shipment treatments to be allowed, instead of the "10 day prior" rule which currently exists.

Tom Delfino was unable to attend but, he sent a note expressing his thoughts that the group should maintain contact and credibility with the people who can affect change by considering the goals and objectives of the regulators, then make suggestions framed against those goals and objectives.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 2:32 p.m.

I, John Gilstrap, Manager of the California Citrus Nursery Board, do hereby certify that to the best of my knowledge, the foregoing is a true and correct copy of the minutes of a meeting of the Citrus Nursery Board's Registration and Protocol Committee held on December 11, 2014 in Visalia, CA.

John Gilstrap, Manager