

**California Department of Food and Agriculture  
2011 Specialty Crop Technical Review Committee  
Sacramento, CA  
June 16, 2011**

**Public Meeting Summary**

**Committee Members Present**

Joel Kimmelshue  
Nancy Beaumont  
Sheila Bliss Duffy  
Bertha Hurd  
Maryanne Lucas

**CDFFA Staff**

Kathy Alameda	Crystal Myers
Robin España	Carrie Graham
James Spencer	Faye Ison
Jacqueline Castro	Carrie James
Monica Aguirre	Samprit Shergill

**Introductions and Opening Remarks**

Nate Dechortez, California Department of Food and Agriculture (CDFFA), Deputy Secretary of Administration and Finance welcomed all those in attendance.

Joel Kimmelshue presented himself as the Chair of the 2011 Specialty Crop Block Grant Program (SCBGP) Technical Review Committee. Mr. Kimmelshue briefly described the SCBGP review process indicating that in Phase I CDFFA received nearly 300 concept proposals totaling \$89 million and in Phase II received 131 grant proposals totaling \$64 million. CDFFA has a total of \$17 million available to be awarded under the 2011 SCBGP. He described the process for the public meeting and stated that a representative from each of the subcommittees would present their recommendations to CDFFA.

**Specialty Crop Block Grant Subcommittees Reports**

Each subcommittee presented a brief summary of their group members commented on the review process and submitted the following Subcommittee Grant Proposal recommendations to the Technical Review Committee Chair.

- Plant Health & Pest Challenges – Nancy Beaumont stated that there were over 40 concept proposals and 23 were reviewed and submitted to CDFFA.
- Environmental Concerns and Conservation – Joel Kimmelshue stated that there were approximately 50 concept proposals and 21 were reviewed and submitted to CDFFA.
- Agriculture Education & Outreach – Maryanne Lucas stated that there were nearly 50 concept proposals and 18 were reviewed and submitted to CDFFA.
- International Trade & Market Enhancement – Sheila Bliss Duffy stated that there were over 70 concept proposals and 30 proposals were reviewed and submitted to CDFFA.
- Food Security and Healthy Eating – Bertha Hurd stated that there were approximately 54 concept proposals and 29 were reviewed and submitted to CDFFA.

**Public Comment**

The meeting was opened for public comments. No comments were voiced.

**Final Motion**

Joel Kimmelshue submitted the SCBGP Technical Review Committee recommendations to CDFFA.

**Closing**

Mr. Dechortez closed the meeting by thanking all the reviewers for their dedication, hard work, time commitment, and expertise.