

**CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF FOOD AND AGRICULTURE (CDFA)
CA CITRUS ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING (CCAC)
Teleconference
Meeting Minutes
December 18, 2007**

Members

Robert LoBue
James Sherwood
Damon Corey
Brett Kirkpatrick
John Eliot

CDFA Representatives

Rick Jensen
Amadou Ba
Steve Patton
Susan Shelton

Interested Parties

Scotti Walker, Fresno County
Thomas Nyberg, Fresno County
Don Borges, Tulare County
Rafael Garcia, Tulare County
Myron Kimmel, Kern County
Nancy Holland, Kern County
Ron Bray, Riverside County
Mert Price, Santa Clara County
Angela Godwin, San Bernardino Co.
Earl McPhail, Ventura County
Kerry Dufrain, Ventura County

ITEM 1: ROLL CALL

Mr. Rick Jensen called the meeting to order at 11:02 a.m. Roll was called, a quorum was not established. Committee members called from the following locations:

James Sherwood – Fresno County Agricultural Commissioner’s Office
Damon Corey – Kern County Agricultural Commissioner’s Office
Robert LoBue – Tulare Agricultural Commissioner’s Office
John Eliot and Brett Kirkpatrick – Ventura Ag. Commissioner’s Office

Mr. Jensen introduced Mr. Amadou Ba to the committee. Mr. Ba is the new supervisor for the Standardization, Citrus, and Certified Farmers’ Market Programs. He comes from the Pierce’s Disease Program at CDFA, where he worked extensively with counties on work plans for glassy wing sharpshooter eradication projects.

ITEM 2: APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES

Action items held until next meeting.

ITEM 3: COUNTY INSPECTION REPORT

A copy of Citrus Contract and Expense Summary, and Maturity/Freeze Report are attached to these minutes and labeled as EXHIBIT A and B respectively.

As of November 2007, total county expenses for maturity and freeze approximate \$305,921. As in the past, the counties will be paid for this work, and all work to follow, after maturity season is over.

ITEM 4: CONTINUATION OF MATURITY TESTING

Except southern California, most counties are close to completing maturity testing. Those committee members present advised the counties to keep testing to a minimum.

ITEM 5: AUDIT COSTS

At the previous meeting, CCAC requested CDFA to submit a cost estimate for expenses related to the completion of an assessment audit. The committee was interested in determining how the industry assesses themselves, specifically what weight they use as a standard container.

Mr. Ba reported the CDFA audit office could provide this service. However, the audit office has no enforcement powers, so it would be a discretionary audit subject to participants willingness to provide needed documentation. An estimate of \$7,500 in costs would include pre- and post-labor, forty hours of audits, and travel. The committee decided not to go forward with the audit at this time.

ITEM 6: STANDARDIZED CONTAINERS

Mr. Kirkpatrick reported on the Standardization Advisory Committee he attended on November 15, 2007. He relayed CCAC's concerns regarding the meaning of "standard shipping container". Since standard containers are used for standardization and citrus assessments, CCAC is interested in setting one standard. CCAC believes the industry needs to set a clearly understood and defined packing size for assessment, especially as it relates to mandarin container size. Mr. Jim Simonian, chairman of the Standardization Advisory Committee, suggested CCAC provide a formal proposal for defined "standard" containers as they relate to citrus commodity assessments.

Mr. Kirkpatrick asked CDFA to determine if specific weight standardization could be set through regulation.

ITEM 7: OTHER BUSINESS

Mr. Ba informed the committee that a Notice of Decision Not to Proceed has been filed regarding the regulation to increase the citrus assessments. The CDFA Legal Office advised the program, based on Government Code 11340.9 (g), setting rates, prices,

and tariffs are not subject to Office of Administrative Law approval. Therefore, CDFA will submit the proposed regulation for review only. This is faster than the traditional regulation process. Based upon discussion with present committee members, it was decided to make the regulation effective February 1, 2008. The regulation will read:

1430.142. Citrus Assessment

An assessment of 11 mills (\$0.011) per carton for Navel oranges, 5 mills (\$0.005) per carton for lemons, and 6 mills (\$0.006) per carton for Valencia oranges and mandarin citrus shall be collected to perform the statutorily authorized activities set forth in Food and Agricultural Code Section 48002.

ITEM 8: NEXT MEETING

The next meeting will be a teleconference on February 26, 2008 at 11:00 a.m.

The committee requested CDFA provide handouts to the members, prior to the next meeting, regarding fiscal and other important issues. They also requested to receive an outline regarding the roles and responsibilities, and differences in the Citrus and Standardization programs and committees.

ITEM 9: ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 12:07 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by:

Amadou Ba, Supervisor
Standardization Program
Inspection and Compliance Branch

AB/ss

MATURITY/FREEZE REPORT
2007-2008 Fiscal Year
CITRUS INSPECTION MONTHLY ACTIVITY REPORT/INVOICE
November 2007

COUNTY	PREMISES INSPECTED	NO. LOTS		NO. CONTAINERS		NO. N/C			NO. MATURITY TESTS	NO. TEST BELOW S/A RATIO	NO. D.O.s ISSUED	INSP. HOURS	COUNTY COSTS		Percentage Used	INSPECTION PERIOD Maturity
		INSP.	REJ.	INSP.	REJ.	MATURITY S. S.	Color	FREEZE					BUDGETED	ACTUAL		
Previous Months Carryover	343	607	0	697,557	2,548	0	0	2	79	0	0	661		29,944		
FRESNO	710	992	0	1,158,443	0	0	0	0	992	12	6	880	\$159,748	\$40,027	25.1%	November 2007
Cummulative	1,053	1,599	0	1,856,000	2,548	0	0	2	1,071	12	6	1,541		\$69,971	43.8%	July thru November
Previous Months Carryover	233	429	3	877,332	3,225	3	0	0	205	3	6	755		\$28,957		
KERN	213	593	0	1,392,960	0	0	0	0	593	0	0	911	\$88,705	\$38,152	43.0%	November 2007
Cummulative	446	1,022	3	2,270,292	3,225	3	0	0	798	3	6	1,666		\$67,109	75.7%	July thru November
Previous Months Carryover	40	160	1	192,475	8,837	1		7	105	6	1	131				
RIVERSIDE	13	99	1	118,800	1,200	1	0	0	105	6	1	84	\$21,125	\$0	0.0%	November 2007
Cummulative	53	259	2	311,275	10,037	2	0	7	210	12	2	215		\$0	0.0%	July thru October
Previous Months Carryover	17	17		16,054	54			1				39		\$2,588		
SAN BERNARDINO	8	8	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	\$3,544	\$0	0.0%	Sep-07
Cummulative	25	25	0	16,054	54	0	0	1	0	0	0	39		\$2,588	73.0%	July thru September
Previous Months Carryover	5	32	0	29,700	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	5		\$410		
SANTA CLARA	15	66	0	60,000	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	36	\$6,887	\$2,911	42.3%	November 2007
Cummulative	20	98	0	89,700	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	41		\$3,321	48.2%	July thru November
Previous Months Carryover	761	595	6	673,547	2,063	5	0	1	611	25	6	1,734		\$84,778		
TULARE	701	1,141	1	759,185	28	1	0	0	1,142	1	1	1,378	\$187,253	\$67,091	35.8%	November 2007
Cummulative	1,462	1,736	7	1,432,732	2,091	6	0	1	1,753	26	7	3,112		\$151,869	81.1%	July thru November
Previous Months Carryover	21	31	0	6,406	0	0	0	0	4	0	0	26		\$1,829		
VENTURA	12	19	0	22,542	0	0	0	0	19	0	0	56	\$11,091	\$3,773	34.0%	November 2007
Cummulative	33	50	0	28,948	0	0	0	0	23	0	0	82		\$5,602	50.5%	July thru November
MONTHLY TOTAL	1,672	2,918	2	3,511,930	1,228	2	0	0	2,851	19	8	3,345	\$478,353	\$151,954	31.8%	
Cummulative Totals	3,092	4,789	12	6,005,001	17,955	11	0	11	3,855	53	21	6,696		\$300,460	62.8%	

Note: F-23 Product Dumped

L-8 Containers Under D.O. - 7,852

San Bernardino Co. data not available as of December 12, 2007

