

**CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF FOOD AND AGRICULTURE (CDFA)  
STANDARDIZATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING  
TELECONFERENCE  
Meeting Minutes  
January 18, 2007**

**Members Attending**

Kerry Whitson  
Mike Gardoni  
Dennis Johnston  
Pete Dinkler  
Gilbert Coelho  
Mark Perez, Jr.  
Eric Lauritzen, Alternate

**CDFA Representatives**

Nate Dechoretz  
Rick Jensen  
Gary Manning  
Steve Patton  
Susan Shelton

**Interested Parties**

Gary Van Sickle, CTFA  
Kamaljit Bagri, Stanislaus County  
Ronald Pummer, San Mateo County

**ITEM 1: ROLL CALL**

As neither the Chairman nor Vice-chairman was present, Mr. Kevin Masuhara called the meeting to order at 10:05 a.m. Mr. Masuhara called roll and a quorum was established.

**ITEM 2: APPROVAL OF MARCH 15, 2006 MEETING MINUTES**

**MOTION:** Mr. Dennis Johnston moved to accept the March 15, 2006 minutes as submitted. Mr. Mark Perez, Jr. seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

**ITEM 3: REGULATION UPDATE**

A. CIVIL PENALTY MATRIX

After changes suggested by CDFA's Legal Office the regulation regarding Standardization's civil penalty matrix was published with the Office of Administrative Law (OAL) on November 24, 2006. The 45-Day comment period ended January 8, 2007 without opposition. After CDFA's Executive Office signs the final package it will be submitted to OAL for adoption.

B. PEENTO PEACH AND NECTARINE NOMENCLATURE

The regulation to include Peento peach and nectarine nomenclature was published with the Office of Administrative Law (OAL) on November 24, 2006. The 45-Day comment period ended January 8, 2007 without opposition. The final package is in the process of being compiled.

**ITEM 4: COUNTY CONTRACT UPDATE – NEW PROPOSALS FOR FY 2007-08**

At the March 2007 Standardization Advisory Committee Meeting all county contracts will be submitted for approval. Stanislaus and Alameda counties, who previously did not have contracts with the Standardization Program, will submit proposals.

A. STANISLAUS

Stanislaus County will submit a proposal for approximately \$20,000. The contract will be for citrus, apricot, and watermelon inspections.

B. ALAMEDA

Alameda County will be requesting a contract for wholesale produce market inspections in Oakland. They estimate about eight hours of inspection hours are needed per week.

**ITEM 5: STATE AND COUNTY ENFORCEMENT RESULTS**

As a result of a Memorandum of Understanding between the Standardization Program and the Fresh Tomato Exchange, CDFA has been completing tomato inspections and training for the last six months. The program will bill the Fresh Tomato Exchange approximately \$20,000.

**ITEM 6: BUDGET STATUS REPORT**

- A. FISCAL YEAR 2005-06 ACTUAL EXPENDITURES
- B. CURRENT REVENUE AND FUND BALANCE

Each committee member received a copy of Standardization Program Revenue and Expenditures, July – November Comparison. Revenue for that period in 2005 was \$560,795; expenditures were \$769,916. 2006 revenue for the same timeframe is \$769,916; expenditures are \$537,962.

Due to the standardization mil assessment returning to \$.003 on July 1, 2006, revenues have almost doubled. Actual expenditures for July – November 2006 will increase once all county contract invoices have been submitted. However, expenditures are still expected to be somewhat less than last year.

Currently the standardization fund balance is approximately \$714,000. The fund balance in 2005 at this time was \$1,000,000.

**ITEM 7: OTHER BUSINESS**

Mr. Masuhara reported the California Citrus Advisory Committee (CCAC) has requested CDFA evaluate the definition of “standard containers”. As assessments are based upon the number of containers, many members of CCAC stated a methodology on container count must be developed. Mr. Masuhara told CCAC he would take the issue to the Standardization Advisory Committee for further input. Mr. Dennis Johnston stated his recollection is calculations are based upon each commodity’s standard container. All committee members agreed.

An update regarding the recent freeze effecting California citrus was given. Though it is too early for inspection results, freeze damage is expected to be widespread. Mr. Gary Manning has been brought back to help advise and train CDFA, industry, and county agricultural inspectors on citrus freeze damage procedures. CCAC will be meeting later this month to discuss an emergency freeze program.

**ITEM 8: NEXT MEETING**

The next meeting is scheduled for March 22, 2007 at Harris Ranch.

**ITEM 9: ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting adjourned at 10:40 a.m.

Respectfully submitted by:

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Kevin Masuhara, Program Supervisor  
Standardization Program  
Inspection and Compliance Branch

KM/ss