

CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF FOOD AND AGRICULTURE (CDFA)
AVOCADO INSPECTION COMMITTEE (AIC)
Meeting Minutes
January 9, 2008
Irvine, CA

MEMBERS PRESENT

Rob Wedin, Chairman
Ross Wileman
Reuben Hofshi
Bob Bednar, Partial
Mark Wollam
Phil Gilligan
Ohannes Karaoghlanian, Alternate Grower
Chris Varvel, Alternate Handler

AVOCADO INSPECTION PROGRAM

Donella Boreham (CDFA)

INTERESTED PARTIES

Dr. Mary Lu Arpaia
Charles Froehlich

ITEM 1: ROLL CALL

Mr. Rob Wedin called the meeting to order at 1:00 p.m. with a quorum present.

ITEM 2: APPROVAL AUGUST 15, 2007 MEETING MINUTES

MOTION: Mr. Mark Wollam moved to approve the minutes as submitted. Mr. Ross Wileman seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

A copy of the August 15, 2007 Meeting Minutes are attached as EXHIBIT A.

ITEM 3: LAMB HASS (ADD LARGER SIZES TO RELEASE DATES)

Mr. Charles Froehlich sent a letter on behalf of the Lamb Hass Association to Mr. Wedin requesting the Avocado Inspection Committee (AIC) add release dates for size 32 and size 36.

Dr. Mary Lu Arpaia discussed the "Summary of Lamb Hass Results" which lists the release dates for size 32 and size 36.

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MOTION: Mr. Wileman moved to add size 32 (05/08) and size 36 (5/22) to the Date/Size maturity releases for Lamb Hass, based on a hedonic score of 6.0 and 22.8% dry weight. Mr. Wollam seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

ITEM 4: WINDFALL MOTION/LETTER FOLLOW UP

Mr. Wedin summarized that a petition was presented to the AIC at the December 13, 2007 meeting. At that time, the committee agreed on the need for research and to

request the California Avocado Commission (CAC) to fund the study. It was decided that the AIC needed to return to the CAC Board with a recommendation to complete a third party risk assessment.

MOTION: Mr. Essick moved to request the CAC to fund a third party risk assessment. The assessment should include a determination of the safety of avocados from tree to table with special attention to windfall fruit and fruit on the ground.

The AIC did not receive a response, prompting Mr. Wedin to send a letter to Mr. Mark Affleck dated September 28, 2007. A response was not received as of January 9, 2008.

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ITEM 5: APPROVE REVISED AIC PROCEDURES

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Ms. Donella Boreham reviewed the revised AIC procedures provided during the August 15, 2007 meeting. The revision includes new language to cover nominations for AIC membership, eligibility of appointment, the application, and terms of members.

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MOTION: Mr. Wileman moved to approve the revised AIC procedures. Mr. Phil Gilligan seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

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ITEM 6: INSPECTION UPDATE

Ms. Boreham reported the maturity testing results from Mexico and Chile for the months of September, October, and November. Spot checks were conducted at cold storage facilities, terminal markets, packing houses, distributors, and brokers. California maturity season will conclude on January 16, 2008. The majority of the fruit coming into the packing houses are being sized picked, resulting in minimal testing.

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Ms. Boreham reviewed the weight requirements and size/count requirements for packed avocados.

ITEM 7: OTHER BUSINESS

Mr. Wedin set the next meeting for March 12, 2008.

ITEM 8: ADJOURNMENT

MOTION: Mr. Wileman moved to adjourn. Mr. Wollam seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Wedin adjourned the meeting at 3:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Donella Boreham, Program Supervisor
Avocado Inspection Program
Inspection and Compliance
Inspection Services