



**CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF FOOD AND AGRICULTURE (CDFA)
AVOCADO INSPECTION COMMITTEE (AIC)
December 3, 2015 Meeting Minutes
Teleconference**

MEMBERS PRESENT

Peter Changala, Grower –Chair
Gus Gunderson, Grower
Marc Fallini, Handler Member
Will Carleton, Grower
Ohannes Karaoghlanian, Grower Alternate

CDFA REPRESENTATIVES

Kathie Yniguez
Stacey Hughes
Marcee Yount
Laurel Rudolph

MEMBERS ABSENT

Jim Donovan, Handler
Dana Thomas, Handler Member

INTERESTED PARTIES

Mike Brown- Calavo Growers

ITEM 1: ROLL CALL/INTRODUCTIONS

The Committee was called to order at 10:05 a.m. by Mr. Peter Changala, Vice-Chairperson. Roll was called, a quorum was established, and introductions were made.

ITEM 2: PUBLIC COMMENTS

There were no Public Comments

ITEM 3: UPDATE FROM REGULATORY SUBCOMMITTEE

a. Use of Experimental Container permits for RPC's

Ms. Stacey Hughes discussed the new experimental permits. These permits will allow avocados to be packed in rows and layers in the reusable plastic containers. The experimental permit lasts for a total of three years, with two renewals available within the three years. Each permit covers 10% of the prior year's container shipments, or 10,000 containers, if there were no prior year shipments. Once the permit is issued, containers under the permit must be marked as "experimental container permit" followed by the permit number.

b. Continuation of Regulatory Review

The Committee discussed what was needed in order to make the necessary regulation changes to allow the least amount of impact to the industry. The experimental container permit process will provide insight as to what the industry needs in order to make the changes. With much discussion and research still needed to be done, Mr. Peter

Changala asked for a motion to allow the subcommittee to continue working on the proposed regulation changes.

Motion: Mr. Gus Gunderson moved to have the Subcommittee continue to work on the container regulation changes and to continue the work with the California Department of Food and Agriculture and California Avocado Development Organization. Mr. Marc Fallini seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously with no abstentions.

ITEM 4: NEW BUSINESS

There was no new business


ITEM 5: NEXT MEETING/AGENDA ITEMS

The next meeting will be March 22, 2016, in Irvine, CA

ITEM 6: ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 10:40 a.m. by Mr. Peter Changala

Respectfully submitted by:


Kathie Yniguez, F&VQC Supervisor II
Avocado Inspection Program
Inspection and Compliance Branch
Inspection Services