



**CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF FOOD AND AGRICULTURE (CDFA)
CALIFORNIA CITRUS ADVISORY COMMITTEE (CCAC)
November 18, 2014 Meeting Minutes
Teleconference**

MEMBERS PRESENT

Keeley Bramer
Seth Wollenman
David Hines
Scott Woods
Michael Stark
John S. Gless
Gus Gunderson
Mark Golden

INTERESTED PARTIES

Manual Villicana, Kern County
Gavin Iacono, Tulare County
Fred Rinder, Fresno County
Scotti Walker, Fresno County
Jose Arriaga, San Diego County
Ron Bray, Riverside County
Korinne Bell, Ventura County
Steve Schweizer, Kings County

CDFA

Steve Patton
Stacey Hughes
Laurel Rudolph
Karrie Batchelor

MEMBERS ABSENT

Curtis Holmes
Al Bates

ITEM 1: ROLL CALL

The Committee was called to order at 10:00 a.m. by Mr. Gus Gunderson. Roll was called, a quorum was established.

ITEM 2: PUBLIC COMMENT

There were no public comments

ITEM 3: MATURITY INSPECTION AND EXPENSE UPDATE FROM COUNTIES

Mr. Gunderson asked the counties to give a report on their testing:

Tulare County reported that orange maturity testing was going well. None of the tests performed so far in November ran lower than 100 on the California Standard Scale. They estimated to spend about \$10,000 more in November than what they expended in October.

Fresno County reported that orange maturity tests are running high, and of the 220 tests run for November, 23% percent of the tests were 110 or under and 40% percent were over 130. They stated their estimated expenses for the month of November will be about \$32,000.

Riverside County reported less than \$3,000 for October expenses, and estimated approximately \$3,600 for November expenses. All oranges currently being tested for maturity are from the Central Valley. Their expenses also include performing maturity tests at a packing house in San Bernardino County. All of the maturity tests performed have been well above the California Standard Scale.

Ventura County reported that all oranges they've received to date have been from Kern County. They had performed fourteen maturity tests that were all well above the California Standard Scale. They will not have any local fruit until January.

Kern County reported that they inspected 462 lots and most of the maturity tests performed have all been over 100 on the California Standard Scale.

San Diego County reported that they had no rejections. They spent \$2,200 for October and are estimating their expenses to double in November. All of the fruit they are testing is from the Central Valley.

Kings County reported they performed 10 maturity tests with no rejections and spent less than \$10,000.

Mark Golden asked if there were any rejections for November, none of the participating counties reported any rejections.

Mr. Steve Patton inquired about the discrepancies on the monthly activity and expense summary. He asked why Kern County showed 462 lots inspected but only 160 maturity tests. Mr. Manual Villicana, Deputy Commissioner with Kern County stated that he would look into the noted discrepancy. Mr. Patton also pointed out some inconsistencies between Fresno and Tulare counties numbers, related to hours reported verses the number of maturity tests performed. Discussion ensued regarding the differences reported. He also asked both Tulare and Fresno counties if their estimated additional costs for November (\$10,000 above October for Tulare) were through the whole month or current expenditures. Both Counties reported that their estimate was through the whole month of November.

ITEM 4: CONTINUATION OF MATURITY TESTING

Mr. Gunderson led the discussion regarding the continuation of orange maturity testing. He stated that given that there have been no rejections at this point and that tests are running very high, the maturity testing this season should end earlier than last year. The counties agreed and recommended that the tests be scaled back and to use their best judgment on testing. Mr. Patton pointed out that the southern counties like Riverside and Ventura do not get local fruit till January and that they should be allowed to test when their harvest begins.

Ms. Stacey Hughes suggested that all Central Valley counties should decide on a date to stop testing Central Valley oranges for maturity. The Counties all gave their input and

all agreed that November 29, 2014 was the best day to stop maturity testing. A motion was made.

MOTION: Mr. Mark Golden moved that effective November 29, 2014; all of the citrus counties will reduce their inspections for maturity testing and switch to an as needed basis only. It was also stated that the Southern Counties be allowed to test local fruit when their harvest season begins. Mr. Scott Woods seconded the motion. A roll call vote was called and the motion passed unanimously.

ITEM 5: UPDATE FROM REGULATORY SUB COMMITTEE

Mr. Golden stated that there are no updates to report. The language relating to the definition of the re-conditioning of lots that have failed because of freeze damage was given to California Citrus Mutual for further discussion.

ITEM 6: NEW BUSINESS- DISCUSSION ONLY

There was no new business

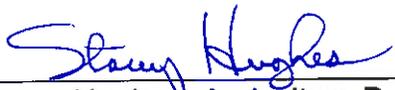
ITEM 7: NEXT MEETING

The next meeting will be held on March 17, 2015 in Tulare County at 10:00a.m

ITEM 8: ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Gus Gunderson motioned to adjourn; Mr. Mark Golden second the motion. The meeting was adjourned at 10:38am

Respectfully submitted by:



Stacey Hughes, Agriculture Program Supervisor II
Inspection and Compliance Branch
Inspection Services