



**CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF FOOD AND AGRICULTURE (CDFA)
CALIFORNIA CITRUS ADVISORY COMMITTEE (CCAC)
April 3, 2012 Meeting Minutes
4437 South Laspina Street, Tulare, CA 93274**

MEMBERS PRESENT

Brett Kirkpatrick, Chairman
Gus Gunderson, Vice Chair
Etienne Rabe
James Sherwood
Franco Bernardi
Keeley Bramer
Mark Golden
John Gless
Ron Matik
Seth Wollenman
John Eliot, Jr.

INTERESTED PARTIES

Gavin Iacono, Tulare County
Jennifer Stilwill, Kern County
Ron Bray, Riverside County
Scott Cornett, Tulare County
Adam Wosoba, USDA NASS
Kelly Krug, USDA NASS
Bob Blakely, CA Citrus Mutual

CDFA

Steve Patton
Susan Shelton
Andrew Valero
Sarah Cardoni

MEMBERS ABSENT

David Hines

ITEM 1: INTRODUCTIONS

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

ITEM 2: APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES

MOTION: Mr. Gus Gunderson and Dr. Etienne Rabe seconded to approve the November 15, 2011, December 14, 2011, January 26, 2012, January 31, 2012, and February 17, 2012 Meeting Minutes, as submitted. The motion passed unanimously.

ITEM 3: COMMITTEE VACANCIES AND TERMS REPORT

Ms. Sarah Cardoni provided the Committee Vacancies and Terms Report. Currently, there are no vacancies on the committee. Members whose terms will expire on September 30, 2012, and are eligible for reappointment are: Mr. Franco Bernardi; Mr. John Gless; Mr. Seth Wollenman; and Mr. Gunderson. Mr. Kirkpatrick and Mr. Ron Matik will term out on September 30, 2012.

ITEM 4: AG STATISTICS

Mr. Adam Wosoba provided the Ag Statistics Update. The 2011/12 California Valencia Orange Objective Measurement Report was released March 9, 2012, and turned out very similar to last year's report. The forecasted utilized production is 28,000,000

cartons. There are 40,000 bearing acres with the average of 124 trees per acre. The average set per tree is 611 and as of March 1, the average diameter is 2.583 inches.

ITEM 5: BUDGET APPROVAL

Mr. Steve Patton discussed the Fiscal Year (FY) 2012/13 Proposed Budget. One correction to the proposed budget is the county maturity contracts line item should be \$560,840. Discussion ensued regarding county contracts.

MOTION: Mr. Mark Golden moved to recommend the CDFA Secretary approve the FY 2012/13 Proposed Budget, as corrected. Mr. Bernardi seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

ITEM 6: EXPENSE/FREEZE INSPECTION UPDATE

The Committee discussed the 2011/12 Citrus Contract and Expense Summary. Counties explained their 2011/12 contract amounts and the maturity and freeze work being conducted. All counties had recent amendments to their contract in February 2012 for either additional maturity inspections or freeze inspections or both.

The 2012 Freeze Inspection Summary was discussed and counties provided explanations of lot inspections and rejections per variety. The difference in the number of lots per variety that were inspected for freeze per county was questioned. Factors such as the different number of packinghouses per county, the different types of fruit being packed, and inspection staff schedules could all account for the differences.

ITEM 7: COUNTY GRANT 2012/13 PROPOSALS

Mr. Patton provided an overview of the County Grant 2012/13 Proposals. Ms. Jennifer Stilwill stated that Kern County 2012/13 grant is lower than last year because of the decrease in inspection staff. Mr. Patton stated that the lack of county resources have become an issue for many programs such as the Citrus, Standardization, and Certified Farmers' Market Programs. Although funds are available for specific tasks such as citrus inspections, counties might not have the staff available to conduct the work.

ITEM 8: REGULATION UPDATE

Mr. Patton provided the Regulation Update. He stated that California Standard, which is a maturity standard exclusively for navels, became effective April 1, 2012.

ITEM 9: SCORING FREEZE DAMAGE IN MANDARINS

Dr. Rabe discussed a possible regulation change to score freeze damage in mandarins, more specifically in the W. Murcotts variety. He stated that the current cut conducted by county inspection staff could be letting dry fruit into the marketplace. For example, a piece of fruit could have 70% scorable damage on the D side, yet sides A, B, and C have no damage. In this case, the fruit would pass the freeze inspection even though it is not of good quality. Discussion ensued regarding scoring freeze damage in W. Murcotts and the necessary steps it would take in order to make a regulation change.

ITEM 10: NEW BUSINESS

Mr. Andrew Valero provided the Committee with the CDFA Citrus Freeze Inspection Valencia Orange February/March 2012 and the Orange Freeze Survey Inspections March 2012 informational reports.

Mr. Patton stated that the CDFA has begun a freeze damage survey and based on that survey will possibly declare a date A and date B later this month.

ITEM 11: PUBLIC COMMENTS

There were no public comments.

ITEM 12: NEXT MEETING/AGENDA ITEMS

The next meeting will be held in October 2012. Agenda items will include welcoming new committee members and the election of a chairperson.

ITEM 13: ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 11:45 a.m. by Mr. Kirkpatrick, Chairperson.

Respectfully submitted by:



Steve Patton, Chief
Inspection and Compliance Branch
Inspection Services