

California Department of Food and Agriculture

California Broomrape Board

Meeting minutes

Fresno, California, September 25, 2024

Committee Members Present:

Toshi Aoki
Derek Azevedo
Daniel Bays
Rick Blankenship
Frank Coelho Jr.*

Ron Dalforno
David Kiehn*
Michael Newton
Gene Miyao

Scott Schmidt
Scott Spitzer*
Tony Turkovich*
David Viguie

*Participated via Zoom

Committee Members absent:

none

CDFA staff:

Nick Condos
Michelle Dennis

Victoria Hornbaker
Kendra Tapia

Guests:

Neil McRoberts*
Brad Hanson*
Zach Bagley*

Mike Montna*
Melissa Cregan*
Jimmy Hook*

Justin Bream
Humberto Izquierdo*

*Ex Officio members

Opening Comments

Ron Dalforno called the Broomrape Board (Board) meeting to order at 10:00 a.m. Roll was called and there was a quorum for the meeting.

Bagley-Keene Act

The meeting was held in compliance with the Bagley-Keene Act.

Approval of Minutes

The minutes from the August 1, 2024 meeting were reviewed.

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Motion: David Vigue recommended approving the minutes of the August 1, 2024 meeting. Rick Blankenship seconded the motion, and it was approved unanimously by members present. David Kiehn, Tony Turkovich, and Gene Miyao were absent.

Strategic Plan Update

An overview of the strategic planning process was presented by Teresa Stiles of Nuffer, Smith, Tucker. The process included interviews with board members and Ad hoc members. Additionally, the strategic planning subcommittee held a meeting on September 12, 2024 and the draft strategic plan was developed. The draft plan was discussed, changes and clarifications incorporated. A Broomrape regulatory options matrix was discussed and a working group was convened to provide further details to the board at the next meeting regarding: interdistrict movement requirements, hold orders, compliance agreements, and a grant program for growers financially impacted by broomrape restrictions.

Motion: Michael Newton recommended to adopt the strategic plan. Daniel Bays seconded the motion, and it was approved unanimously.

Online Survey

The results of the online survey were reviewed. A total of 61 responses were received. The survey was emailed to approximately 400 email accounts. Survey respondents reported having seen broomrape growing in the counties of Yolo, Solano, San Benito, Colusa, and San Joaquin. Since the survey had not yet been emailed to pest control advisors, it was decided that email reminders about the survey would be sent to growers and processors in order to boost the response rate.

Annual Assessment Rate Regulation

The board was provided an update on the potential to utilize a File and Print option for the rule making. The pros and cons were discussed in relation to the regular rule making process. The need to create messaging and conduct outreach meetings for the growers and processors for the rate regulation and strategic plan was emphasized. Further discussion will occur at the next meeting

Motion: Rick Blankenship recommended to support the File and Print option. Daniel Bays seconded the motion, and it was approved unanimously.

Next Meeting

The next meeting was set for the end of October 2024
Ron Dalforno adjourned the meeting at 1:00 p.m.