

Seed Advisory Board Meeting
University of California, Davis
Seed Biotechnology Center
1111 Plant Reproductive Biology Building
Davis, CA 95616

8:15 AM, Thursday Nov. 14, 2013

TABLE OF CONTENTS

1. Call to Order – Roll call	2
2. Acceptance of Minutes from previous Seed Advisory Board meetings	2
3. Seed Biotechnology Center Report	2
4. Overview of Seed Services responsibilities, considerations and staffing level	2
5. Recent Developments impacting the Seed Services Program	3
• County Survey/Strategic Planning Recommendations/Outcome	3
• Sampling and testing of seed lots for compliance to quarantine laws	7
6. Seed Services Finances	12
• Analysis of reported sales	12
• Funding seed pathogen testing.....	13
• Status of refund for FY2012 augmentation	14
7. Review – Comments about prior strategic planning meeting	18
7. Legislative Report	19
8. Nominating Committee Report	19
9. Closed Executive Session	20
10. Reconvene Executive Session	20
11. Public Comment	21
12. Other Items – Next Meeting Date	21
13. Adjournment	21
14. Attachments 1 through 9	21
1. Seed Services Program Status – Responsibilities, Finances and Staffing Levels	22
2. Possible Template for Newsletter – Seed Program Brief	24
3. Analysis of Possible Seed Laboratory Accreditations	26
4. Status Report on Recent CGMMV and BFB Detections.....	29
5. Seed Sampling Fee Schedule and Sample Invoice	31
6. Summary of YTD Collections with Reported Sales by Category	34
7. Pie Charts for Analysis of Assessment Collections	35
8. Excerpt of Minutes from Previous Board Meetings - about Lab Funding ...	36
9. Roster of Board Members and Terms of Office	38

1. Call to Order – Roll call

Chairman Falconer called the meeting to order at 8:15 am. The following members and guests were present:

Rick Falconer*	Michael Campbell*	Joshua Kress
Bob Prys*	Bill White*	Susan McCarthy
John McShane*	Betsy Peterson	Crystal D'Souza
Marc Meyer*	Deborah Meyer	Allen Van Deynze
Paul Frey*	Chris Zanobini	
Larry Hirahara*	John Heaton	

* Denotes a Seed Advisory Board Member.

2. Acceptance of Minutes from previous Seed Advisory Board meetings

Paul Frey motioned that the minutes of the July 1, 2013 teleconference meeting be accepted.

Marc Meyer seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Paul Frey motioned that the minutes of the October 9, 2013 strategic planning meeting be accepted. John McShane seconded the motion. Motion carried.

3. Seed Biotechnology Center Report

Dr. Allen Van Deynze provided attendees a copy of the SBC's 2012 Annual Report and hi-lited some of the more recent activities, including:

- Eggplant trait evaluation in collaboration with a group from Italy doing genomic mapping
- Drying beads for seed storage/maintenance in developing countries
- Seed Business 101 – an introduction to the seed business. SBC has offered this popular course ten times at various locations in the last two years.
- Program Management for Plant Breeders – taught mainly by Fred Bliss and Rale Gjuric
- Breeding with Genomics – offered every two years, typically in February
- Integrated Breeding Platform – a statistical program for Plant Breeding – a half day course
- The Plant Breeding Academy continues to grow and is at one hundred thirty three people including the Asian and African classes
- SBC is continuing its search for a Director of the Plant Breeding Center
- The campus hired Dr. Roger Beachy to manage the World Food Center

John McShane motioned to accept Dr. Van Deynze's report on activities at the UCD Seed Biotechnology Center. Larry Hirahara seconded the motion. Motion carried.

4. Overview of Seed Services responsibilities, considerations and staffing level

John Heaton provided a two page handout (attachment 1) of the activities, general finances and staffing utilized by the CDFA Seed Services Program. He explained that recently much of his time has been spent working with counties due to the high level

of turnover of county agricultural commissioners and staff. He also noted that he spent considerable time in recent years working with the Association of American Seed Control Officials (AASCO) to develop an Accredited Seed Sampler Trainer Program.

Another activity Heaton performs is legislative analysis of any bills involving seeds. During the last legislative session he spent a significant amount of time performing legislative analysis for a bill that allows production of industrial hemp in California. He explained that each time the bill was amended he was tasked with completing a new legislative analysis.

Heaton provided a detailed breakdown of costs for staffing the Seed Services Program. He explained that his initial analysis in early October indicated that the Seed Services Program will be over budget. However a more recent analysis he will present later in the meeting shows that expenditures in the current year are expected to be less than what the Board recommended and approved for FY2013 in May 2012.

To complete the overview of the Seed Services Program, Heaton reminded the Board that many of the employees in the Seed Services Program are approaching retirement age. He suggested the Board consider the cost of succession planning. He explained that succession planning was actually the impetus for the initial preparation of the handout; to give a successor an overview of the Program. He expressed the importance of personnel overlap and was grateful he had the benefit of learning from his predecessor because the job is so complex.

5. Recent Developments impacting the Seed Services Program

- **County Survey/Strategic Planning Recommendations/Outcome**

John Heaton reported that Board members and interested parties were provided copies of the county survey and raw answers prior to the strategic planning meeting in October. In addition, a summary of the survey results was presented at the strategic planning meeting. Since several members were not able to attend the strategic planning meeting he presented a few key results from the survey:

- County Commissioners were satisfied overall with the Seed Subvention Program and the way the Seed Services Program is interacting with counties.
- More training of county staff is needed.
- More timely execution of MOUs and subvention payment was requested.

Chris Zanobini commented that when he meets with the county commissioners, there is a different sentiment. Since agricultural commissioners are expected to be more responsible for their own budgets they have great concern that the level of funding for seed subvention has not changed for some time. This is especially a concern when you consider approving legislation that sets the level of funding through the year 2020.

Rick Falconer asked how the Board might dig deeper to get to the issues.

Mike Campbell suggested meeting with the county commissioners' organization.

Heaton informed the Board that he did meet with the commissioners the day before the October 9th strategic planning meeting. He presented the survey results and his interpretation to the county agricultural commissioners at their annual meeting in Sacramento. None of the commissioners took exception to the results or summary he presented. He noted however, that while eighty-five percent of the counties were satisfied with their seed subvention payment, he believes there is some confusion about what activities they are required to perform for seed law enforcement versus seed certification and seed field inspections to issue phytosanitary certificates. Heaton suggested the confusion surrounding these activities only reinforces the message from the survey that the Seed Services Program needs to do more outreach and training of county staff.

Since county staff no longer sample seed for seed law enforcement, the Board previously directed the Seed Services Program to stop training county staff in methods of seed sampling. Heaton believes however, that county employees still need training because they are still expected to collect services samples and respond when issues of seed health arise.

Chairman Falconer requested staff to place a discussion of funding for the agricultural commissioners on the agenda of the next meeting.

Heaton reported that the Seed Services Program received a request to summarize the recommendations and outcome of the strategic planning meeting. He noted the following recommendations:

- More outreach to stakeholders, mainly to the seed industry and farmers.
- More outreach and visibility to the public. Heaton suggested Farm Days in Monterey or perhaps a booth at the World Ag Show in Tulare.
- More meetings of the Board
- More publications/brochures or newsletters that report on the industry, the Board, Seed Services Program and the Seed Lab.

Heaton noted that many of these recommendations involve suspending certain activities of staff so they can travel and participate at various venues of the industry, farmers and public. All of these recommendations mean additional expenditures for the Seed Services Program.

Chris Zanobini suggested that perhaps the Seed Services Program could utilize technology such as video conference calls. Heaton agreed.

Chairman Falconer stated that he believes it is important to outreach at various industry meetings because even people in the industry don't really understand what the Seed Services Program does.

Deborah Meyer presented a template for a newsletter (attachment 2) that can accompany the renewal notice that is sent each year to firms authorized to sell seed in California. Key elements of the newsletter were:

- a list of Board Members appointed by the Secretary and the industry component they represent
- a list of staff in the Seed Services Program and at the CDFA Laboratory
- a section about the reported sales and collections for the past year
- information about the number of violations or perhaps summaries about seed complaints
- a section for program outreach and upcoming training
- announcements about any special activities or achievements of staff

Dr. Allen Van Deynze suggested circulating the newsletter beyond the industry and perhaps even to the legislature.

Deborah Meyer stated that another recommendation from the strategic planning meeting was to offer more training, including training Registered Seed Technologists (RSTs). She was hopeful that the lab staff can resume RST training previously halted due to a reduction in resources; mainly staff. She reported that she did offer a one day workshop on purity testing at the AOSA/SCT annual meeting and Dr. Riad Balbaaki conducted a half-day statistical workshop on the application of tolerances in seed testing. Although Deborah Meyer was not able to comply with a request from the International Seed Testing Association (ISTA) to present a workshop at their meeting in New Zealand, she did prepare materials and make arrangements for another person attending the meeting to present her information. She emphasized that the CDFA lab does a lot of cooperative work with other seed laboratories.

John Heaton commented that he believes training of staff from other labs and cooperative work with those labs are very important activities that benefit the California seed industry. Training and cooperation lead to fewer enforcement errors which cause unnecessary delays for seed shipments and additional costs to the industry and consumers. He added that training of seed samplers and seed lab staff is very important for consistencies of results.

- Another recommendation from the strategic planning meeting was for the CDFA seed lab to become accredited by one or more outside organizations.

Deborah Meyer provided a handout (attachment 3) that summarized some of the considerations and the estimated costs of becoming accredited by (ISTA), the USDA Accredited Seed Lab Program, or the USDA National Seed Health

Program. She noted that during the strategic planning meeting there was a suggestion for staff to survey the industry in order to determine the extent to which the California seed industry might use the lab if it were accredited. The concern was that the cost for accreditation might be greater than the fees that can be obtained for testing samples under the accredited protocols.

Member Paul Frey asked Deborah Meyer if she thought accreditation was practical.

She stated she believes it's a good exercise to have a third party reviewing procedures and protocols. She noted however, that the procedures and protocols for the USDA ASL Program are based on AOSA rules, which are already used by regulatory officials in the United States. Under the ISTA Program the procedures and protocols are based on ISTA rules which are slightly different. She added that both programs are recognized worldwide.

Member Larry Hirahara inquired if many labs have both accreditations. Deborah replied that most labs are either accredited by one or the other organization. She noted that the USDA Seed Laboratory has both accreditations.

Deborah Meyer added that critical information for the discussion about accreditation is to learn the kind of certificates the seed industry needs in order to comply with requirements of their customers.

Heaton noted that ISTA accreditation would cost about \$14,000 initially, and then would require an annual expenditure of about \$7,000. He suggested that a major consideration by the Board should be if the lab can recover those costs in fees for services.

After some brief discussion, the Board directed staff to conduct a survey in order to determine the extent that the industry might use the lab if the lab obtained accreditation and issued the various kinds of certificates.

- Another recommendation from the strategic planning meeting was for the Board to identify the goals and objectives of the Board.

Member Larry Hirahara noted that one of the objectives of the strategic planning meeting was to make recommendations to accomplish the mission of the Seed Services Program. He asked Heaton what he understood the mission to be.

Heaton replied the general mission of the Seed Services Program is to maintain an orderly market for seed sales in California.

Member Hirahara asked how funding the Seed Biotechnology Center (SBC) accomplished the mission.

Heaton replied that seed varieties developed through the utilization of various biotechnologies have been very controversial. His understanding of the Board's logic for recommending funding of the UCD SBC was to enable them to perform research and investigate some of the concerns about biotechnologies in seeds. In that regard, he believes funding the SBC helps to provide an orderly market for seeds.

Chairman Falconer explained that the Board would be voting on the recommendations later in the meeting. He asked Heaton to continue with other recent developments for the Seed Services Program.

- **Sampling and testing of seed lots for compliance to quarantine laws**

Heaton provided a brief update (attachment 4) about a first time find of a serious seed-borne or seed transmitted pest; the Cucumber Green Mottled Mosaic Virus (CGMMV). He explained that CDFA and the USDA, as well as the industry have responded well to the introduction of the CGMMV pest but efforts are still continuing. Simultaneous to the efforts against the CGMMV are efforts to contain and eradicate a discovery of bacterial fruit blotch (BFB), a pest found in the United States and previously not known to occur in California. Consequently CDFA is working closely with the seed industry to delineate, contain and eradicate the BFB.

There have been extensive efforts to trace backward and forward, the identity of any seed lots that may have been connected through risk pathways to the original detections of both pathogens. One constraint in the response has been a delay for resolving the status of some seed lots due to the cost of expanding testing efforts at CDFA for BFB. During one conference call there was a suggestion that the Seed Advisory Board might consider a recommendation to use reserve funds from the Seed Services Program to help pay for seed health diagnostic tests. The feeling was that since the BFB pathogen is such an urgent and important issue for the California seed industry, the Board might be willing to provide assistance to maintain an orderly market for seed of affected species. Heaton explained that the continued presence of these two pathogens will definitely affect the industry's ability to move seed and potentially cost the industry. In addition, the detection of these pathogens in a seed crop is of great concern to commercial growers that produce crops for export, regardless of the seed source for their commercial crop. He added that the Department has already spent a substantial amount of resources to respond to the current situation, both administratively as well as for the diagnosis and testing of plant and seed samples.

One observation Heaton made during the quarantine response is how unprepared county staff are to collect official seed samples for seed health testing. He once again noted that counties have not been involved in the collection of official seed samples for several years. That activity if performed by staff in the Seed Services Program. Many of the county inspectors have never been trained to sample seeds correctly, let alone to sample seeds using sterile technique. Consequently Heaton

was asked to assist counties with efforts of sterile seed sampling related to the quarantine response. Since the pests contaminating the seed lots can be transmitted via contact with mechanical devices, Heaton follow biosecurity guidelines and utilized extensive measures to ensure the sampling devices did not spread the pathogens from one seed lot to the next.

A brief slide show depicting the sterile technique for sampling seeds was presented to the Board. Heaton reported that it took two employees one entire day to collect samples from six seed lots. He knows of no other seed samplers properly trained and equipped to respond to a request for sterile seed sampling. He expects to continue assisting counties even though his effort is for quarantine law enforcement are not necessarily for the collection of official seed samples submitted to the seed lab. Heaton asked the Board if sterile seed sampling should be implemented as part of standard protocol or reserved for situations of concern about contamination by certain pathogens on certain crops.

Member John McShane noted the amount of equipment necessary to conduct the sterile seed sampling makes it impractical to fly to destinations. It may sometimes require driving long distances just to be able to respond to incidents in certain parts of the state.

Heaton responded that he intends to equip each district with a complete seed sampler cart for sterile seed sampling. He also believes counties need to be properly trained and equipped in order to make sure results of tests on seed samples are consistent. If counties are not properly equipped or properly trained, it is not realistic to expect results of samples to be representative of the true condition of the seed lot. For the above reasons, he thinks counties may need more funds for seed subvention.

John McShane commented that he believes sterile seed sampling should be a function of the Department.

Heaton acknowledged the point and commented the whole situation has led to more questions than answers, such as:

- What role should CDFA Seed Services and the CDFA Seed Lab play in these quarantine responses?
- Should CDFA seed samplers use sterile technique at all times to avoid contamination of successive seed lots?
- Should sterile seed sampling methods only need to be used when sampling vegetable seeds or perhaps only certain high risk species?
- Should counties use sterile technique when collecting service samples?
- Are we over-reacting or is sterile seed sampling the future?
- Do we need to be concerned of liability?

Chairman Falconer requested Betsy Peterson of the California Seed Association to report to the Board about the situation.

Betsy reported that the situation is still serious and that millions of dollars of seed are under hold orders pending testing. She noted the seed lots being held are not seed lots from the original infested fields, but seed lots connected through different risk pathways. Betsy believes the situation has demonstrated how important it is for industry and the regulators to work together and collaborate. She noted there is a lot of expertise in the industry that can be used to help the CDFA lab determine which kind of testing protocol should be used and which pathways present risks.

While it is important to do sterile seed sampling, Betsy felt it is very important for the Board to understand the value of the seed lots under hold orders. One seed lot alone was reported to be worth approximately six million dollars. The owner needs to know the status of that lot. She added it has been frustrating to not know which seed lots would be tested and what the results are from the tested lots. She emphasized that priority of testing should be given to seed lots connected by high risk pathways.

Betsy stated the USDA was more concerned with CGMMV than BFB because it is a federal actionable pest, while CDFA has jurisdiction on BFB since it is a serious pest to the California seed industry. The consideration for different jurisdictions compounded the situation and in the middle of the response, the federal government shut down. This caused even greater delays in tracing, sampling and even abatement. The delay in abatement for sources of BFB was a big source of frustration for the industry and really illustrates how important it is for everyone to work together.

Betsy reported that a panel discussion is planned with APHIS and CDFA during the ASTA meeting in January. The hope is to identify a protocol for situations like the CGMMV and BFB detections. More specifically the panel should make recommendations about the areas of risk, how the seed can be sampled, who should sample the seed, and where it should be tested. Betsy noted that seed inventories move very quickly in the seed industry and regulators and industry must work together to meet that reality. She added that companies who sell compromised seed will not stay in business very long.

Chairman Falconer acknowledged the high value of the seed already on hold but inquired if there was a way to convey the impact of these pests on this ideal area for cucurbit seed production.

Betsy explained that the immediate goal is to deal with the introduction of these pests and respond accordingly. She stated that after the results of the testing are provided, the parties involved will be in a better position to discuss what steps

need to be taken to prevent a similar situation from occurring in the future, and what the appropriate response is, including the abatement process.

Heaton emphasized that the extent of the response is critically important to trading partners. He feels confident that once they review the response they will be satisfied that the response was thorough and adequate to contain and eradicate the pathogens introduced. Regardless of their conclusion, however, he suspects our trading partners will be looking a lot closer at incoming products.

Chairman Falconer asked if dealing with a situation like CGMMV and BFB is in the realm of responsibility for the Seed Services Program and if there is anything the Board can do to help.

Member Larry Hirahara asked if all of the pathogen testing has to be completed by a third party government agency.

Chris Zanobini stated that testing for the pathogens was actually a big part of the discussion. He believes the testing could have been completed sooner if outside private labs were able to assist with the testing.

Heaton agreed that some companies have labs in house, or under contract, that could perform the tests. However they still want a degree of separation that government lab provide when situations like this occur. As an example, he noted many companies could get accreditation to collect their own seed samples but they prefer to have a government official collect the seed sample so there is no suspicion about the integrity of the sample. Heaton cited a recent request for the Seed Services Program to collect a seed sample for disease testing. The request was completely unrelated to the CGMMV and BFB response and involved a different kind of seed as well as different suspect pathogen. Since the company wanted a service sample, the Heaton informed the company that they would be charged for the requested services. He provided the Board with a fee schedule and sample invoice for the seed sampling requested (attachment 5). The redacted invoice showed an amount of \$761.45 for the sampling of three seed lots on one service visit.

Member Paul Frey asked if there is an alternative to the Seed Services Program being involved in seed sampling when there is a quarantine response.

Heaton explained that the Seed Services Program was not the primary team to respond to the present situation with CGMMV and BFB. It was only recently that counties asked for help with seed sampling and the Seed Services Program was contacted because of their expertise.

Paul Frey asked if other staff in the Pest Exclusion Branch could have performed the sampling.

Heaton replied that employees who are assigned to the Seed Services Program are the only ones trained and equipped to sample seeds. He explained that responding to the present situation is not part of the normal activities for the Seed Services Program but he believes the Program responded very well, especially since they only received a three day notice.

Paul Frey commented that he believes the sterile seed sampling to assist the counties is a great example of what the Seed Services Program should be doing to collaborate and assist the industry.

Heaton responded that he used the opportunity to train county inspectors in the methods and techniques of sterile seed sampling. He noted however, that they are not properly equipped to perform the task. This leads to the question of what role the Seed Services Program should play to train and equip the counties.

Heaton also explained that he felt a little uncomfortable using Program resources to respond to a quarantine situation when there has been so much emphasis on only using resources for official seed samples.

The Board agreed that the response by the Seed Services Program was an appropriate expenditure.

Betsy Peterson noted that if seed sampled and tested with RT PCR for BFB is positive, then CDFA is required to do a grow-out of thirty to forty thousand seeds. She stated that CDFA is not equipped to do such a grow-out. Consequently there was discussion of allowing a third party lab perform the grow-out and have CDFA visit the grow-out to make the diagnostic observations. With regards to seed sampling, she recommended seeking industry input at their December meeting to get input about the appropriate protocol and the best way to get sampling done. She emphasized that it is important to approach the situation from a good scientific foundation.

Chairman Falconer expressed that he is uncomfortable with the present situation because it seems like the Board may be asked to provide funds for another organization in the Department to respond to the situation.

Chris Zanobini stated that there was a discussion about providing funds to the CDFA Plant Pathology Lab because they were not sure they could process all of the samples. Later they realized they could. He suggested it might be appropriate to purchase some equipment or supplies the lab might need.

Chairman Falconer asked if there was some sort of fund for emergencies to provide resources that are needed for quick responses to urgent situations. He was hesitant to set a precedent that the industry would assess itself to provide funds for these kinds of tests from now on. He believes it is the responsibility of those Departments.

Betsy Peterson stated it is important that industry funds not be used for the testing because the credibility of results will be questioned by our trading partners. She believes that the testing needs to be paid for by a regulatory agency, either USDA or CDFA. She was optimistic that funds might be obtained from the Specialty Crops Block Grants.

6. Seed Services Finances

- **Analysis of reported sales**

John Heaton provided a handout (attachment 6) that reported the year-to-date collection of assessments on seed sold in California during FY2012, plus a small amount of collections from fees. The total collections were \$1,564,335, which represented sales of approximately \$610 million dollars and fees from five hundred and fifty nine companies authorized to sell seed in California. A table in the handout showed that vegetable seeds represented the highest reported value of seed sold.

Heaton noted that the number of firms authorized to sell seeds in California has increased by 34% since 2005, when he assumed his current position. He interpreted this to mean that in 2005 about one-third of the firms selling seed today, were not paying the required fees and assessments as required by law. He suggested that through the efforts of CDFA staff and county inspectors, a more equitable and orderly market for seed sales is being provided.

A brief analysis of expenditures in the prior year versus collections in the current year was also provided. Heaton reported that he believes the collections for the current year will be adequate to cover the expenditures expected during FY2013 without having to use funds from the reserve. He noted that his analysis however, only includes \$525,000 for the seed lab instead of \$650,000 as provided in FY2012.

Member Mike Campbell noted that the estimate for expenditures in FY2013 may be higher than actual because all of the prior year's expenditures were adjusted upward by three percent instead of just the personnel expenditure. Heaton agreed.

Chris Zanobini asked if there was a Departmental policy on the amount of reserve that should be maintained.

Heaton did not know of a specific policy. He stated that he initially heard from his predecessor that the reserve should be 25% but more recently he has heard it should be 50% of the Program's budget.

Susan McCarthy stated that she understood the reserve should be adequate to run a Program for six months or fifty percent if a decision is made to shut down a Program.

Heaton provided another handout with two pie charts (attachment 7) that presented an analysis of the assessment collections. The first pie chart grouped firms into eight ranges determined by the amount of assessment collections obtained on seed sales in FY2012. Heaton noted that two companies collected greater than \$100,000 and thirteen firms collected between \$25,000 and \$50,000. He also noted 278 firms, or sixty-five percent of the firms authorized to sell seeds in California, only collected an average of \$257 each. This amount of collection represents just over \$100,000 in reported seed sales by each of the firms. Stating the statistic another way, 65% of all firms that labeled and sold seeds in California during FY2012, reported total sales that averaged just over \$100,000.

The second pie chart depicted the assessment collections paid by categories as a percentage of total collections. Heaton noted that fifteen firms were responsible for collecting 49% of the assessments on the sale of seeds in FY2012. Another grouping revealed that just thirty four firms were responsible for 70% of the assessment collections. The 278 firms that collected an average of \$257 were only responsible for about 4% of assessment collections.

- **Funding seed pathogen testing**

Heaton reported that during a conference call about the CGMMV and BFB detections, there was a suggestion that the Seed Advisory Board might recommend use of some the reserve funds in the Seed Services Program to pay for testing seed lots for the presence of the BFB pathogen.

Betsy Peterson commented that while such a strategy was initially considered, more recent considerations indicate that trading partners would have some concerns about the results if industry was to fund the testing of these pathogens.

Chris Zanobini added that there has been some discussion of using emergency funds (E Funds) held by the Department, to pay for diagnostic testing. He noted that E Funds have been used by other industries when they have faced comparable circumstances and he believes the use of E Funds is appropriate for this critical seed issue.

John Heaton stated that he was not aware of the development to use E funds. He only placed the item on the agenda because he thought the industry wanted to seek a recommendation from the Board to consider the used of reserve funds in the Seed Services Program in order to address the present situation. He acknowledged the need to maintain the integrity of testing by not having industry directly fund such endeavors. He noted this has actually been one of his concerns when there have been suggestions to contract private seed labs to test official seed samples. Since there was no longer a need to worry about using funds from the reserve for disease testing, Heaton suggested the Board can dismiss the issue and move to the next agenda item.

- **Status of refund for FY2012 augmentation**

Heaton reported that member John McShane requested a discussion about possibly refunding the augmentation made in FY2012 be placed on the agenda.

Chris Zanobini asked if the present discussion was related to a refund of overpayment for the lab.

Heaton replied the item was on the agenda to follow-up the discussion that occurred during the July 1st meeting when an analysis of lab expenditures was presented and the suggestion was made that part of the augmentation for the lab in FY2012 should be refunded.

Zanobini recalled that the proposal was to seek a refund of \$165,000 because the analysis presented during the July 1st meeting indicated that only 72% of activities conducted in the lab were directly related to official seed samples and seed law enforcement.

John McShane reviewed sections of the minutes from the May 3, 2012 and July 1, 2013 Seed Advisory Board meetings (attachment 8). He noted that during the May 2012 meeting, the Board was informed that the Department estimated it would cost \$650,000 to maintain services at an acceptable level. They were also told that in the absence of additional money, certain services would cease, one scientist would be laid-off, and one technician would be relocated. The Board approved a motion to accept a subcommittee's recommendation to fund the lab at the \$500,000 level.

Larry Hirahara then motioned to augment funding to the lab by \$100,000 in FY2012. The Board was then informed that \$100,000 would be useful but it was still not adequate to avoid cutting one personal year and reassigning the supervisor to work part time in another lab. Larry accepted an amendment to his motion to increase the augmentation to \$150,000. The motion was seconded by Kelly Keithly and carried. Augmentation was for \$150,000 and brought the total recommended level of support for the lab to \$650,000.

There was brief discussion by the Board to clarify that augmentation was only for FY2012. In addition, several members requested CDFA staff to provide a breakdown of how well "fees-for-services" is working and if there are any additional opportunities to charge fees.

John McShane noted that the Board recommended \$650,000 for FY2012. He asked staff present if \$650,000 was the total expenditure of the lab for FY2012.

Chris Zanobini recalled that the analysis in July reported total costs for the lab to be \$673,000 in FY2012.

John McShane then summarized minutes excerpted from the July 1, 2013 Board meeting. He noted that it was reported by staff that an analysis of five year averages

for various activities performed by the seed lab showed roughly 72% of the lab's budget was directly related to seed law enforcement (39% for regulatory samples and 33% for quality assurance related to regulatory samples).

The minutes further report that for FY2013 staff estimate the budget for the lab to be \$728,501 and note that 72% of that is \$524,521. Since the Board already approved \$500,000 for FY2013, the Department sought a recommendation for an augmentation of \$24,521. The remaining \$203,980 for other activities was to be covered by the Department.

John McShane noted that if only 72% of the lab's budget is directly related to seed law enforcement and total expenditures in the prior year were roughly \$673,000 then the industry should have only been responsible for \$468,000 but provided \$650,000 in FY2012. Consequently during the July 1st Board meeting, Chris Zanobini suggested the industry should receive about \$165,000 back from the Department.

McShane related that when Dr. Leavitt joined the meeting he informed the Board that if they believe the industry was overcharged, the Board only needed to write a letter to him explaining the situation. Dr. Leavitt said the Department would evaluate the validity of the letter and determine if there was a mechanism to do what the Board requested.

Crystal D'Souza, CDFA Staff Counsel reported that she reviewed the minutes of prior meetings and observed that the motion to augment the lab was a general allocation and did not specify that it be used only for certain services. In addition, she conducted a review of the seed law to determine what services the lab can charge for and what recommendations the Board can make regarding funds spent for services. The money from the augmentation was spent for purposes of the seed law that benefit the seed industry and keep noxious weeds and their spread, out of the state. She did not know of any mechanism per se to refund those expenditures.

Member Mike Campbell asked if the Board was given an accurate assessment of what the financial responsibility of the Seed Advisory Board was.

Crystal D'Souza responded that she understood from the minutes that the discussion was based on activities of the seed lab. That discussion has to take into account how the code reads, which allows expenditures for purposes of the seed law. She added that the costs identified were for those purposes.

Susan McCarthy stated that her understanding was that the Board could be held responsible for 100% of the cost to run the seed lab, but has not been. The augmentation was to be a one-time augmentation because in May 2012 the PCIT funds were not yet realized by the Department. She noted that in FY2013 the lab will receive PCIT funds and the Director will determine how much will be used to supplement the seed lab's budget.

Chris Zanobini noted that since half of the seed lab's budget was previously covered by general funds, how is it possible to now say that the Seed Advisory Board is responsible for 100% of the lab's budget.

Crystal D'Souza noted that the Seed Law requires the Secretary to maintain a seed lab.

Zanobini responded that it does not require the lab be maintained at its current level.

Crystal D'Souza stated that the law requires the funds be used to maintain a lab with an ability to conduct those activities and testing that are consistent with purposes of the law.

Zanobini stated that he believes the Board was somewhat held hostage and backed into a situation that if they did not provide more funds the lab would go away. He suggested there needs to be some give and take but that it appears the Department is only looking at it one way. He added that he does not understand how one analysis arrives at the conclusion that 72% of the lab's activities support the Seed Services Program but now the Board is being told they are responsible for the entire amount.

Deborah Meyer explained that at the time that the 72% determination was made, staff members were still waiting for the legal interpretation that John Heaton had requested.

Chris Zanobini urged Deborah to review statements by the Director during the July meeting.

Deborah noted that the minutes reflect that Branch Chief Courtney Albrecht stated that we were waiting for the legal opinion.

Crystal D'Souza noted that the legal opinion had already been completed by the July meeting and that she offered to attend that meeting. She was told by Courtney Albrecht however, that the issue was not going to come up at the meeting. The fact that the issue did come up and misrepresentations were made was out of Crystal's control. She added that it should have been made clear that assessment funds are not limited to funding the Seed Services Program. She explained the funds can be used to further the purposes of the chapter including prevention of the spread of noxious weeds. She noted that many of the other kinds of samples tested by the lab are for that purpose.

Chris Zanobini emphasized that part of the general funds received by the Department should go toward funding the seed lab. He stated that he believes a large portion of the general funds previously provided to the lab might have been saved if there was good data about the activities in the lab.

John Heaton explained that when the Department was faced with large cuts in general funds, there was a consortium of business representatives who recommended no general funds be allocated to the seed laboratory. He added that for years the seed industry enjoyed the support of general funds for the lab. Under the recommendation of the consortium however, it was made clear that no general funds should be allocated to the seed lab and the lab would have to be funded entirely by the industry.

Chris Zanobini took exception to Heaton's characterization of the situation. He explained that there was no justification for maintaining general fund support of the seed lab because the consortium could not get good data and good information to justify it. Everything that was maintained through the general fund was justified. Those things that couldn't be justified were let go.

Susan McCarthy noted that since none of the staff present had the benefit of meeting with the consortium none of the staff could really dispute Chris' point. She added however, that there should be no dispute that when the Department was faced with very large budget cuts, the consortium was established to advise the Department about where the cuts should take place and one of their recommendations was to cut all of the general funds for the seed lab.

Heaton stated he does not know what considerations the consortium had before making their recommendations. It is clear however that certain activities performed by the lab are mandated by the law and he believes those activities provide benefit, although the benefit is not always clear or obvious to the industry. He noted this discussion has been going on for some time and he asked if there were any suggestions of how to get beyond this issue.

Mike Campbell commented that it appears there is a 28% gap.

Crystal D'Souza responded that the gap depends on how you view the activities performed by the lab; the Seed Services Program performs certain activities and provides official samples to the lab. Other Programs also request various tests from the lab for purposes of the chapter that benefit the industry.

Chris Zanobini commented that one could argue that those other activities also provide a benefit for the general population of California.

Crystal D'Souza stated that in terms of how one looks at expenditures of the funds, they are consistent within the purview of the seed law.

John McShane commented that he believes if the Board had more information, which he stated was probably not available at the time, the Board would have never approved the \$150,000 augmentation. He noted the Board members are stewards of industry funds and he thinks the Board misspent industry funds by approving the augmentation.

Heaton responded that he does not believe the Board acted irresponsibly or misspent the funds. He believes the funds were used for activities mandated by the law. He stated the Board was faced with a situation of layoffs for the lab and responded appropriately.

Paul Frey stated that after listening to the current discussion, he is still confused as to what the Board is and isn't financially responsible for. He wanted to know if the Board has to pay for 100% of the seed lab or just a portion.

Heaton clarified that the Board is responsible for making recommendations to the Secretary about how funds collected from assessments should be spent for enforcement of the seed law. He added that the Board is not responsible for paying any of the activities but is only advisory to the Secretary.

Mike Campbell asked what would happen if the Board recommended zero dollars for the lab.

Heaton responded that the recommendation would likely be overridden because the law requires the Secretary to maintain a seed lab that performs certain functions.

Chris Zanobini responded that perhaps the law should be changed to make clear exactly which functions the lab should perform and are paid by assessment collections.

Heaton cautioned that such a development might actually hinder the Board's ability to recommend other uses of the assessment funds, such as responding to the present situation of introduced pathogens found on seeds.

Paul Frey made a motion that the Seed Services Program obtain a written legal opinion on behalf of the Board. The opinion should state what activities the Board is responsible for and can be paid for with the assessment funds. Mike Campbell seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Paul Frey made another motion that after receipt of the legal opinion, a group of Board members meet with Secretary Ross to discuss the future use of PCIT funds for funding various activities in the seed lab. Larry Hirahara seconded the motion. Motion carried.

7. Review – Comments about prior strategic planning meeting

Chairman Falconer noted that since there was not a quorum of Board members at the strategic planning meeting in October, the recommendations from that meeting have not been acted upon by the Board. He presented the following recommendations to the Board for consideration.

- Consider a cost/benefit analysis for standard seed quality testing and laboratory accreditation.

- Modified to include a survey of the seed industry to determine interest in accreditation and possibility they would use such services.
- Develop SAB goals and objectives.
- Enhance communication and collaboration with county agriculture commissioners and local seed labelers.
- Develop flyers/brochures about seed services program to distribute with annual license renewals.
- Continue tracking lab activities and corresponding costs for Board consideration.
- Recommendation: Develop more training programs for industry and other interested parties.
 - RST training
 - Sampler training
 - Programs need to self-funded
 - Concern: new programs should not detract from the industry's current priorities

Member John McShane motioned to accept all of the recommendations, including the recommendation for staff to perform a survey as part of the cost/benefit analysis for lab accreditation.

Member Bill White seconded the motion. Motion carried.

7. Legislative Report

Chairman Falconer requested Chris Zanobini to provide a brief report on any legislation of interest to the Board.

Chris responded with a brief summary of various legislation and noted that he expects the most interesting and contentious legislation will be related to water issues.

8. Nominating Committee Report

Chairman Falconer referenced the roster (attachment 9) with term appointment dates for Board members. He noted the following members have terms set to expire March 31, 2014.

- Mike Campbell – Public Member
- John McShane – Agricultural Seed (Grass) Industry – Southern California
- Bill White - Vegetable Seed Industry - Southern California
- Rick Falconer - Vegetable Seed Industry – Central Valley
- George Hansen – Vegetable Seed Industry – Central Coastal

Chairman Falconer requested Marc Meyer, Chairman of the Nominating Committee, to provide an update on recommendations for appointment to the Board.

Marc Meyer informed the Board that Rick Falconer has communicated that since he has served several terms he believes it is time to step aside and let someone else have an opportunity to serve on the Board. The Nominating Committee identified Gregg Orsetti as a possible representative for vegetable seed labelers in the central valley and a possible replacement for Rick. The Nominating Committee further recommended that other Board members with terms set to expire, be reappointed by the Secretary.

Mike Campbell asked if any other individuals applied for appointment to the Board.

Heaton responded that after the May 2013 meeting, he followed the Board's directive and posted the announcement of upcoming Board vacancies. In addition, he included an announcement with the renewal notifications he sent in June. He stated the renewal notice was sent to all firms that are authorized to sell seeds in California. The Department received three replies to the announcement, including one from a Board member. Heaton scanned and emailed the replies to the Board Chairman along with six other names of individuals that Heaton thought might bring value to the Board and be willing to serve. The Chairman forwarded the email to the Nominating Committee.

Marc Meyer motioned that the Board approve the slate of candidate presented by the Nominating Committee and recommend the slate to the Secretary.

Paul Frey seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Chairman Falconer noted that since he will no longer be on the Board, it was necessary for the Vice Chairman, Paul Frey to assume duties as Chairman starting April 1, 2014. Since Paul was the Vice Chairman, the Board needs to identify a new Vice Chairman.

Larry Hirahara motioned that John McShane become the new Vice Chairman. Rick Falconer seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Heaton reminded the Board that their recommendations will be presented to the Secretary for consideration along with the other applicants.

9. Closed Executive Session

No requests

10. Reconvene Executive Session

Not necessary

11. Public Comment

Chairman Falconer asked if there were any additional comments from the public in attendance.

Public Member Larry Hirahara presented a letter that he intends to send to the Governor. The letter requests continued support of the State-wide Incentive Grant Program. He noted the Program was created through a collaboration of educators and the Agricultural Industry to emphasize areas of Ag Education needed by the Industry. Larry urged meeting attendees to consider co-signing his letter or sending similar letters to the Governor.

There were no other public comments.

12. Other Items – Next Meeting Date

Chairman Falconer noted that the spring meeting will be held in conjunction with the Seed Industry Conference. He set the meeting date for the next Board Meeting as May 7, 2014 at 8:30 am at the Stanislaus County Agricultural Center.

13. Adjournment

John McShane motioned for adjournment.

Bill White seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Chairman Falconer adjourned the meeting at 12:15 p.m.

14. Attachments 1 through 9

Respectfully Submitted

John Heaton
Senior Environmental Scientist
CDFA Seed Services Program

Approved by the California Seed Advisory Board on May 7, 2014

SEED SERVICES PROGRAM STATUS – revised October 3, 2013

RESPONSIBILITIES, FINANCIAL CONSIDERATIONS AND STAFFING LEVEL

Seed Services Program Responsibilities

Primary responsibility - maintain an orderly market for seed sales by ensuring that seed purchased by the consumer-farmer is properly identified and of the quality represented on the tag or label. California annually produces \$3.0 billion of seeds, most of which is exported.

Duties include:

- Organize activities of 11 member Seed Advisory Board
- Collect registration fees and assessments on approximately \$610 million dollars of seed sales.
- Maintain databases of registered firms for purposes of renewal and compliance monitoring
- Direct statewide seed sampling activities for compliance monitoring to CSL and FSA
- Submit regulatory samples to the CDFA Seed Lab for testing
- Analyze sample test results to determine compliance to the California Seed Law
- Administer a subvention program for seed law enforcement activities performed by counties
- Administer grants for seed research as directed by the seed law (UCD-SBC)
- Communicate labeling requirements to firms selling seed
- Administer mandatory investigations for seed complaints and a dispute resolution process
- Sample crops for disputes involving genetically engineered plants
- Manage collections from assessments to fund activities necessary to carry out the chapter
- Participate in various meetings held by industry, local and state government organizations
- Perform analysis of legislation proposed for issues involving seeds

Seed Services Finances per October 3, 2013:

For FY 2013 the Seed Advisory Board recommended a budget \$1,764,326 for the Seed Services Program. This amount included the following line items in the Seed Services Budget.

- UCD SBC funding \$200,000
- County Subvention \$120,000
- CDFA Seed Lab \$525,000

Funding of the seed lab is based on a formula in an MOU between the Seed Services Program and the Seed Lab. For FY2012 the Seed Services provided \$650,000 to support operations in the Seed Laboratory. This payment is part of the total expenditures for the Seed Services Program which are projected to be \$1,647,874 for FY2012.

As a point of reference from FY2012, the Seed Services Program collected \$1,492,000 on sales in FY2011. The collections in FY2012 were approximately \$156,000 less than reported expenditures. The Board previously expressed a desire to maintain the assessment rate at twenty-five cents per \$100 of sales even though collections would not cover the higher approved budget. They chose this path as a strategy to reduce the excess operating reserve in the Program.

Present Collections by the Seed Services Program

During the July 2013 renewal cycle, seed companies were expected to report sales of \$584 million, which would generate approximately \$1,460,000 in collections. Instead, reported sales were \$610 million and generated collections from fees and assessments totaling \$1,555,853 as of September 30, 2013. While this amount is more than expected, it is still considerably less than the budget recommended by the Seed Advisory Board for the Seed Services Program in FY2013; namely \$1,764,326. The difference is \$234,706 (calculation \$1,764,326 -\$1,529,620).

The current year collections however, should be compared to the most recent years' expenditures for the Seed Services Program. In FY2011 expenditures were \$1,445,136 including \$481,553 for the seed lab. In FY2012 expenditures were \$1,647,874 including \$650,000 for the lab.

The current collections to date in FY2013 are about **\$92,000 less** than current reports of total

expenditures in FY2012 (\$1,647,874 -\$1,555,853). This means if the Seed Services Program has expenditures comparable to the prior year, or to the level of the approved budget, the Program will once again need to use reserve to cover expenditures in FY2013; which is the Board's strategy to reduce the reserve.

<u>Current staffing for the Seed Services Program:</u>	<u>Monthly %Time</u>	<u>Salary</u>	<u>Benefits</u>	<u>Total</u>	
1 Sr. Environmental Scientist (HQ)	100%	\$6,274	\$3,194	\$9,468	
1 Environmental Scientist (SJ Valley/Central Coast)	100%	\$5,447	\$2,065	\$7,512	
1 Environmental Scientist (No. Cal)	50%	\$2,723	\$1,457	\$4,180	
1 Environmental Scientist (Sac Valley)	50%	\$2,723	\$1,457	\$4,180	
2 Environmental Scientists (So. Cal)	25% each	\$2,724	\$1,458	\$4,182	
1 Agricultural Technician (HQ)	40%	\$263	\$74	\$339	
1 Senior Agricultural Biological Technician (Lab)	100%	\$4,183	\$1,718	\$5,901	
1 Management Services Technician (Fresno)	7%	\$229	\$139	\$368	
Most recent monthly totals (includes furlough)	4.72 PY	\$24,566	\$11,562	\$36,130	\$433,560
End of furloughs (return 5%)		\$25,690	\$11,562	\$37,252	\$447,024
3% increase for staff at top of range		\$26,321	\$11,562	\$37,884	\$454,608

Operating Expenses and Equipment:

	FY2012 Proj.-2013	FY2013 Budget
General Expenses	\$8,155	\$10,000
Printing	\$650	\$500
Communications	\$5,574	\$4,800
Postage	\$1,518	\$1,750
Insurance-Vehicles	\$956	\$1,500
Travel In-State	\$13,679	\$10,000
Travel Out-of-State	\$1,074	\$1,200
Training	\$260	\$1,500
Facilities	\$27,390	\$38,000
Utilities	\$468	\$600
Cons & Prof	\$137	\$1,000
Division - Indirect	\$25,591	\$25,407
Dept. - Indirect - Exec/Admin	\$65,313	\$69,240
Plant IT	\$42,687	\$48,078
Centralized Services	\$1,135	\$1,500
Pro Rata	\$49,078	\$49,078
Equipment	\$11,698	\$27,000
Field Expenses/Agri Supplies	\$1,513	\$3,000
Vehicle Operations	\$10,853	\$10,000
Research Contracts UCD SBC	\$180,836	\$200,000
Other Misc. Charges (PY Adj)	-4,251	\$1,530
Subtotal Oper Exp/Equip	\$444,314	\$505,683
Ag Commissioners	\$120,000	\$120,000
Seed Laboratory (Gen Fund) Annual Agreement	\$650,000	\$525,000
TOTAL OPER EXP/EQUIP	\$1,214,314	\$1,150,683
TOTAL BUDGET w Personnel & Benefits	\$1,647,874	\$1,764,326

Note: For FY2013 the Board recommended \$1,739,472

Present MOU Situation:

An MOU is currently in place to provide funding up to a level recommended by the Seed Advisory Board. It states that payment from assessments collected by the Seed Services Program is not to exceed \$525,000 in FY2013.



SEED PROGRAM BRIEF

California Department of Food and Agriculture
 Plant Health and Pest Prevention Service
 Pest Exclusion Branch –Seed Program
 1220 N Street, Sacramento, CA 95814
 916 654-0435

Since 2005, the CDFA Seed Program has seen a 34% increase in the number of entities authorized to sell seed in California. The Seed Program is funded through license fees and assessments based on seed sales within the state. The current assessment rate, as recommended by the Seed Advisory Board, is \$0.25/\$100 in seed sales within California. The number of firms registered to sell seed in California in 2012 and the reported sales amounts are shown in Table 1.

Table 1. Reported Seed Sales for California in 2012

Location of Firm	Number of Firms	Ag Seed	Veg Seed	Lawn Seed	Total Reported Seed Sales
Out-of-State	176	\$114,355,840	\$123,319,444	\$39,801,884	\$277,477,367
In-State	251	\$125,793,941	\$193,456,404	\$15,371,274	\$332,114,355
Totals	427	\$240,149,780	\$316,775,848	\$55,173,158	\$609,591,722

Total assessments license fees, assessments and late payment penalties collected for Fiscal Year 2013 (year-to-date) are \$1,564,335.07. This total very nearly meets the projected program expenditures for FY2013 of \$1,572,310. Funding within the program includes: Seed Services \$727,310, Seed Lab \$525,000, County Subvention \$120,000 and Research Contracts UCD Seed Biotechnology Center \$200,000.

Numbers of Seed Law violations in 2012 –

Chart or table summarizing program data

Mislabeled purity information

Mislabeled germination information

Mislabeled noxious weed seed information

Other violations

Number of regulatory seed samples tested

Comments on most common types of violations, most problematic types of seed sampled and tested.

SEED PROGRAM STAFF

PEST EXCLUSION - SEED SERVICES

Duane Schnabel 916 262-1102
 Branch Chief
 John Heaton 916-403-6715
 Sr. Environmental Scientist
 Cathy Vue 916 403-6717
 Agricultural Technician

Redding District

Carl Pfeiffer 530 949-6934
 Environmental Scientist

Sacramento District

Chris Banzhof 916 996-9923
 Environmental Scientist
 Connie Weiner 916 262-2659
 Senior Ag Bio Tech

Fresno District

Marko Sladovich 559 294-6755
 Environmental Scientist

Riverside District

Ruben Arias 951 312-7892
 Environmental Scientist
 Leo Cortez 951 784-8906
 Environmental Scientist

PLANT PEST DIAGNOSTICS CENTER SEED SCIENCE LABORATORY

Susan McCarthy 916 262-1100
 Branch Chief
 Deborah Meyer 916 262-1137
 Program Supervisor
 Riad Baalbaki 916 262-3292
 Senior Seed Botanist
 Robert Price 916 262-1135
 Senior Seed Botanist
 Evelyn Ramos 916 262-1142
 Senior Ag Bio Tech

Program Outreach

The Seed Program hosted three international tour groups interested in the California seed regulatory program and laboratory testing for international shipment. Two of the groups, one in January and another in September, sponsored by the Sino-Canada Technology Exchange Centre were from the Bureau of Seed Management with the China Ministry of Agriculture, each consisting of 20 individuals from various aspects and levels of seed regulation and research throughout China. The third group, sponsored by the U.S. Department of State – International Visitor Leadership Program, consisted of five representatives of various tourism and trade organizations from Australia, India, Pakistan, Sri Lanka, and Tajikistan.

Training Workshops

During the Association of Official Seed Analysts (AOSA) and Society of Commercial Seed Technologists (SCST) Annual Meeting, Deborah Meyer conducted a one-day AOSA Rules for Testing Seeds Purity Testing Workshop including lectures and hands-on exercises on equipment calibration maintenance and monitoring; mixing and dividing working samples; pure seed unit definitions; pure seed and weed seeds versus inert matter. Dr. Riad Baalbaki also co-taught a half-day Statistics Workshop on variability in seed testing and how to reduce it and application of seed testing tolerances.

UP-COMING TRAINING WORKSHOPS

Seed Samplers Training
Southern Region - Spring 2014;
Northern Region – Summer 2014.

Seed Identification Workshop
Spring 2014.

**Seed Germination and Vigor
Workshop** Summer 2014.

Slide presentations on various topics of purity testing under the International Seed Testing Association (ISTA) Rules for Seed Testing prepared by Ms. Meyer were presented by Ms. Jane Taylor (National Institute of Agricultural Botany – UK) at two ISTA Purity Workshop; one in at the ISTA Seed Congress in Antalya, Turkey and the other atASUREQuality Palmerston North Seeds Laboratory, New Zealand.

Special Accomplishments

In April, Dr. Robert Price successfully completed the AOSA examination for Certified Seed Analysts – Purity Testing.

At the AOSA/SCST Annual Meeting, Ms. Meyer received the AOSA Merit Award in recognition for exemplary leadership, dedication, and outstanding work ethic for the advancement of the AOSA.

In July, John Heaton completed service as President of the Association of American Seed Control Officials. During his time in office the AASCO worked to resolve.....



California Seed Advisory Board

The California Seed Advisory Board consists of 11 members appointed by the Secretary of Agriculture, seven of whom are registered labelers, two are individuals who receive or possess seed for sale in this state, and two that are members of the public. Board appoints are for a three year term. The following individuals are currently serving on the Seed Advisory Board:

Mike Campbell	916 744-1540	John McShane	213 626-9668
Rick Falconer (Chairman)	831 455-3000	Marc Meyer	831 754-3813
Paul Frey	530 666-3331	Bob Prys	559 923-1800
George Hansen	831 758-9869	Bill White	805 983-4923
Larry Hirahara	831-757-7976	Janice Woodhouse	530 667-2031
Kelly Keithly	760 356-5533		

The Board is advisory to the Secretary and may make recommendations on all matters pertaining to seed law and regulations, enforcement, seed laboratory diagnostics, and annual budgets required to accomplish the mission of the Seed Program. The Board is advisory as to the scope of the program funded by industry and recommended dollar volume assessments, which combined with registration fees to sell seed in this state, provide adequate funds to support the program. The Board is required to meet at least once per year, but usually meets more often. For further information regarding the Seed Program and Board activities contact John Heaton (Seed Program Manager) at 916 654-0435 or John.heaton@cdfa.ca.gov.

Seed Laboratory Accreditation Programs

Prepared by Deborah Meyer, CDFA Seed Lab, 11/13/2013

The two major seed laboratory accreditation programs recognized in international seed trade for standard seed quality testing include the US Accredited Seed Laboratory (US ASL) Program and the International Seed Testing Association (ISTA) Laboratory Accreditation. In the table below is a comparison of these two programs. An additional laboratory accreditation program for seed health testing for phytosanitary certification within the United States is described in a separate table beginning on page 3.

Program Name	US Accredited Seed Laboratory Program (US ASL)	ISTA Accredited Seed Laboratory
Who administers the accreditation system?	USDA, Agricultural Marketing Service, Livestock and Seed Program, Audit, Review and Compliance Branch (USDA, AMS, LS, ARC)	International Seed Testing Association Secretariat, Accreditation and Technical Department, Bassersdorf, Switzerland
Authority.	Quality Systems Verification Programs (QSVP) under the Agricultural Marketing Act of 1946, as amended; the CFR 7, Part 54; and as detailed within the USA ASL Program.	The Articles of the International Seed Testing Association (ISTA) as amended since the ISTA Constitution adoption in 1924, Articles 4(i) and (15)(c)(15).
Who developed the program?	A task force of representatives from AOSA, SCST, AASCO, AOSCA, ASTA and USDA-AMS.	ISTA Secretariat and membership.
Objectives of the program includes:	<p>To provide an alternative program to current accreditations for U.S. Laboratories (e.g., ISO, ISTA, CFIA).</p> <p>To increase the number of U.S. accredited seed laboratories, thereby enhancing seed movement both domestically and globally, through the verification process.</p> <p>Adherence to the program requirements and quality standards of the USDA Process Verified Program will further enhance the quality and consistency of seed testing in the U.S.</p>	<p>The aim of ISTA Accreditation is to verify if a seed testing laboratory is technically competent to perform seed testing procedures in accordance with the ISTA Rules. Accredited labs must demonstrate that they have an operational quality management system that meets the requirements of the ISTA Laboratory Accreditation Standard.</p> <p>Within ISTA all member laboratories are required to participate in the accreditation program if the laboratory is to issue ISTA Seed Analysis Certificates (orange or blue certificates).</p>
Program benefit.	<p>Standardization of testing protocols and global recognition of laboratory test results.</p> <p>Elimination of costly delays in global seed market caused by secondary testing.</p>	<p>Standardization of testing protocols and global recognition of laboratory test results.</p> <p>Elimination of costly delays in global seed market caused by secondary testing.</p> <p>Ability to issue ISTA international seed lot certificates.</p>
Scope of accreditation.	Germination testing, purity analyses and noxious weed seed examinations in accordance with the AOSA Rules for Testing Seeds within the following crop groups: grasses (36 genera); grains and cereals (13 genera); legumes (28 genera); vegetables, flower and herbs (77 genera); trees and shrubs (28 genera).	Accreditation may be sought for any methods described in the current version of the ISTA Rules and the species to which they apply.

Who can become accredited?	<p>Industry, independent, and government laboratories.</p> <p>Participation is voluntary.</p> <p>Government laboratory must be a member in good standing with AOSA and employ at least one AOSA Certified Seed Analyst with certification in both purity and germination testing or a SCST Registered Seed Technologist (RST) in good standing with SCST.</p> <p>Industry and independent laboratories must employ an RST in good standing with SCST.</p>	<p>Industry, independent, and government laboratories.</p> <p>Participation is voluntary.</p> <p>Applicant laboratory must be a member in good standing with ISTA and have successfully participated in the ISTA Laboratory Proficiency Program</p>
Cost of accreditation.	<p>\$108 per hour + travel expenses for auditor</p> <p>Estimated cost for a lab with 20 or fewer employees such as CDFA Seed Lab = \$5,000.</p> <p>Renewal required every 3 years.</p> <p>Additional fees: AOSA Laboratory annual membership fee = \$600 per laboratory.</p> <p>SCST RST annual membership fee = \$275 per person.</p>	<p>Audit fees approximately \$14,000</p> <p>Renewal required every 3 years.</p> <p>Annual ISTA accredited lab membership fee = \$7026/yr</p>
Hidden cost.	<p>Development and continuous improvement of the laboratory quality assurance system and manual.</p>	<p>Development and continuous improvement of the laboratory quality assurance system and manual.</p>
Numbers of US labs with accreditation	<p>15 US ASL; 2 government (USDA Federal Seed Lab, Washington State Seed Lab), 2 AOSCA (Indiana CIA, Michigan CIA), and 11 company or independent seed labs.</p>	<p>8 ISTA labs: 3 government (USDA Federal Seed Lab, National Tree Seed Lab, Oregon State University Seed Lab), 3 independent labs, and 2 company labs.</p>
Further information.	<p>www.ams.usda.gov/lsg/arc/asl.htm</p>	<p>http://www.seedtest.org/en/home.html</p>

How does the USA ASL differ from ISTA laboratory accreditation?

In recent years, seed laboratory certificates with results based on the AOSA Rules for Testing Seeds have been accepted in international trade (OECD Seed Schemes) and have been recognized as equivalent to the certificates issued based in the ISTA Rules for Seed Testing. The USA ASL Program was developed so that the United States could demonstrate equivalence in laboratory accreditation while maintaining control over the process within the United States.

As of June 10, 2005, the Canadian Food Inspection Agency recognizes equivalence of the CFIA laboratory accreditation program (which is different again from the ISTA accreditation program) and the US ASL for international shipments of pedigree seed across the US/Canadian border. Further information on this recognition is available at www.ams.usda.gov/news/134-05.htm.

Program Name	National Seed Health System (NSHS)
Who administers the accreditation system?	USDA-APHIS
Authority.	Establishment and operation of the seed health accreditation program are described in the CFR 7, parts 300 and 353.
Who developed the program?	Established in cooperation with USDA-APHIS, NPB, AASCO, AOSCA, and ASTA. The Seed Technical Working Group (STWG) is comprised of members from each organization and is charged with development of the system and on-going system upgrades.
Objectives of the program includes:	To develop standardized seed health laboratory test and phytosanitary inspection procedures. To develop a process to accredit private entities to carry out the above mentioned activities To leverage this initiative as well as other international initiatives to promote international phytosanitary reform and foster fair equitable trade.
Program benefit.	Standardization of testing protocols and global recognition of phytosanitary certificates. Elimination of costly delays in global seed market caused by secondary testing.
Scope of accreditation.	Option 1 - Laboratory accreditation: Microbial Culture, Serology, ELISA, PCR, visual exam, greenhouse grow-out, seed wash, etc., in accordance with NSHS protocols on 17 crop groups for detection of 80+ disease organisms (fungi, bacteria, viruses, etc.). Option 2 - Phytosanitary inspection accreditation in accordance with NSHS fundamental standards for field inspection and recognition of disease symptomatology in each crop. Option 3 - Seed sampling for seed health testing. Option 4 - Visual inspection of seed for phytosanitary certification.
Who can become accredited?	The accreditation system was designed for industry and independent laboratories conducting seed health testing and industry and independent entities conducting field inspection for plant pathogens. There has been a push to require government entities to participate.
Cost of accreditation.	Schedule of initial fees: \$1000 non-refundable application fee Based on a sliding scale accounting for the number of seed health tests, number of crops for Phytosanitary Inspection, and number of sites to be accredited within the organization. Minimum fees of \$3000 are applied for each scope area, but are reduced to \$2000 for entities that apply for both Options 1 and 2. Flat fee of \$1000 are applied for Options 3 and 4. Additional costs are covered by the entity for auditor fees and travel expenses (Note: Auditor expenses----typically \$300 to \$700, depending on distance, method of travel (air fare) time necessary for audit, each time an audit is done.) Additional fees to maintain accreditation: An annual fee of 16.5% of the initial fees will be applied to cover annual reports and proficiency tests for accredited entities that are required every 2 years to maintain accreditation. USDA-APHIS requires accreditation certificates be renewed every three years. Accredited entities must complete a new application and submit a \$1000 non-refundable processing fee. Re-accreditation requires a renewal audit.
Hidden cost.	Development of the quality assurance system and manual for each Option scope.
Further information.	www.seedhealth.org

Key to acronyms:

AASCO - Association of American Seed Control Officials
AOSCA - Association of Official Seed Certifying Agencies
CFIA – Canadian Food Inspection Agency
ISTA – International Seed Testing Association
OECD – Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development

AOSA - Association of Official Seed Analysts
ASTA - American Seed Trade Association
CFR – Code of Federal Regulations
NPB - National Plant Board
SCST - Society of Commercial Seed Technologists

Status Report on recent Cucumber Green Mottle Mosaic Virus (CGMMV) and Bacterial Fruit Blotch (BFB) Detections in California

CGMMV is contagious and is transmitted by contact. Infected plant sap contains the virus and it can spread through foliage contact when plants are handled during cultivation, through human contact and clothing, or through grafting when infected rootstocks are used (in watermelon or cucumber cultivation). It can spread from infected plant debris in soil to uninfected plants via roots. Also it can spread through untreated irrigation water. It is also spread through contaminated seed. In fact, the primary means of long-distance spread is through contaminated seed. The virus is transmitted as an external contaminant of seeds but in some cases it may also be present within the seed. The virus is not known to be transmitted through vectors.

BFB has become a major concern of watermelon seed suppliers and watermelon growers. Losses from infection can range from minimal in some fields to complete losses in other fields. In 1994, the United States reportedly had confirmed cases of Bacterial Fruit Blotch in at least eleven states. The bacteria may be seed borne, but infection may also occur from many types of secondary sources before or after planting.

- To date, three California sites (1 in Yolo Co and 2 in Sutter Co) have been identified with CGMMV and/or BFB detections:

Two sites that produced seed in 2012 or plants in 2013 were found to be infected with both the CGMMV and the BFB.

One site that produced seed in 2012 was infested with only the BFB.

- Approved abatement measures have been implemented in the 2013 site found to have infected plant material.
- The two sites that produced infected seed in 2012 are now planted with non-hosts and 2013 volunteer plants have been tested with negative results for both the CGMMV and BFB.
- Treatments for infected seed are being reviewed; however, at this time there is no approved quarantined treatment for either the CGMMV or the BFB available.
- The following pathways have been identified as possible risk links for infection of the CGMMV and/or BFB:
 - source seed
 - shared irrigation
 - proximity to a positive find (pollen transmission)
 - mechanical transmission (equipment and workers)
 - seed processing steps (washing and milling)
- With input from CDFA specialists, USDA, California County inspectors and industry representatives, approximately 120 trace forward seed lots were identified for risk of being potentially infected with CGMMV and/or BFB.

- To date, 33 trace forward and trace back seed lots have been identified for sampling and testing for CGMMV
- To date, 27 trace forward and trace back seed lots have been identified to sample and test for BFB.
- Foreign source seed has been identified from Chile and Romania. To date, direct links to the CGMMV/BFB detections have not been confirmed from these sources; however, these links are still under investigation.
- Information about trace back origins and trace forward destinations for seed lots not in California but identified in the risk analysis, has been provided to the USDA for follow-up.
- USDA is in the process of notifying trading partners

Cucumber green mottle mosaic virus and Seed Sampling

Biosecurity Recommendation - Sanitation of sampling probe used for collecting seed.

- Protective clothing (Tyvek or disposable full length aprons), boots, and gloves must be worn when collecting seed samples and changed between seed lots.
- A seed sampling probe must be disinfected in between samples (not subsamples from the same seed bin/lot) with 10% bleach (sodium hypochlorite) solution. This is best accomplished by dipping the tube in a container filled with the bleach solution.
- *Construction of dipping container:* A dipping container is easily constructed using PVC pipe with an inner diameter wide enough to accommodate both inner and outer sleeves of a seed sampling probe when separated and placed together vertically within the PVC tube. Also, the latter must be tall enough to cover the entire vertical length of the sampling probe.
- Fill at least, half of the dipping container with a 10% bleach solution + 4-5 drops of dish washing soap (surfactant).
- After collecting seed and emptying a sampling probe, disinfect the sampling probe between samples by separating the inner and outer sleeves and dipping both in the bleach solution for 2 min to 5 min.
- Rinse the inner and outer sleeves of the sampling probe in clean tap water by dipping them in a separate PVC pipe filled with water.
- Dry both sleeves of the probe thoroughly using compressed air for rapid drying. Replace inner sleeve within outer sleeve.
- Use clean bleach + surfactant solution when the latter is visibly dirty and cloudy.
- An extra dipping container(s) may facilitate the efficient and timely handling of a large number of seed samples.

Justification: The virus is very contagious and easily transmitted when infested plant sap adheres (even microscopically) to clothing, equipment and personnel.

Brief PowerPoint on Sterile Seed Sampling.



Seed Sampling Fee Schedule

Fees Effective December 6, 2004

Updated July 1, 2011

The Secretary of Food and Agriculture, pursuant to Section 5852 of the Food and Agricultural Code, establishes the following schedule of charges for the requested service of non-regulatory seed sampling.

- (a) The hourly charge for requested diagnostics or scientific consultations which require travel is \$60 per hour portal to portal, plus any car mileage at \$0.35 per mile, air fare, meals and lodging pursuant to the State's per diem travel rules.
- (b) The client requesting seed sampling services is responsible for the cost of all shipping materials and postal fees associated with submission of seed samples to designated seed testing laboratories. The department shall not be responsible for shipping costs or samples that are inadequate, lost, not delivered, damaged during transport, decayed or otherwise unfit or unusable for the requested service or for the costs of shipping samples requested by the shipper to be returned.
- (c) The client may establish an account with the department from which fees for services rendered by the department may be debited or the service charges shall be payable after the service has been provided and billed by the department.
- (d) All fees will be invoiced to the client's address unless other instructions are provided.
- (e) Payments not received within 30 calendar days of the date of billing shall be considered late. Payments post-marked on the 30th calendar day shall be considered to be on time. Once late, a late charge of 10% of the total amount billed or amount unpaid shall be assessed and added to the bill.
- (f) The department may refuse services for any client who has not paid a previously submitted bill or when there is a lack of qualified staff to provide requested service.
- (g) All fees will be invoiced to the client's address unless other instructions are provided.
- (h) The attached Seed Sample Service Request Instruction Sheet must be completed.



Seed Sampling Request

Method of sampling requested (select only one)?

- AOSA/AASCO – standard method used by U.S. Regulatory Officials for U.S. seed law enforcement.
- USDA SAC – method used for submission to the Federal Seed Lab to obtain USDA Seed Analysis Certificate.
- USDA ISTA – method used for submission to the Federal Seed Lab to obtain ISTA Certificate from the USDA. Lots will be sealed after sampling.

REQUIRED INFORMATION

1. Name and address of requestor:

2. Kind of seed to be sampled:
3. Variety:
4. Lot number:
5. Quantity of Seed Lot _____ Lbs or Kgs .
6. Number of Containers: _____ 7. Avg. weight per container _____ (include units)
7. Size of shipment (may be smaller than #5):
8. Seed treatment substances:
9. Special instructions:
10. Please indicate or provide the address of the seed laboratory the sample should be submitted to.

- Seed Sample Submission Reviewer
USDA, AMS, LPS, SRTD
801 Summit Crossing Place, Suite C
Gastonia, NC 28054-2193
- Other

Signature of requestor and date: _____



Seeds Services

1220 N Street, Room 344
Sacramento, CA 95814
Office: 916-654-0435
Fax: 916-651-1207

**RETURN THIS BILLING
WITH REMITTANCE**

Invoice

Date	Invoice #
Oct. 3, 2013	2013-0101

Bill To

Mail check and copy of invoice to
CDFA CASHIER - 90059 P.O. Box 942872 Sacramento, CA 94271-2872

Pursuant to Section 5852 of the Food and Agricultural Code, the following charges for the requested service of non-regulatory seed sampling are now due.

Terms: Payment in Full

MAKE CHECK PAYABLE TO: CDFA CASHIER - 90059

Quantity	Description	Rate	Amount
1	Seed Sampling of 3 Lots - Sterile technique Sampler = Leo Cortez Date Sampled = 9/30/2013		
	Total Miles = 247 miles	0.35 /mile	\$ 86.45
	Sampling, Doc Prep & Shipping Time = 5.5 hrs	\$60/hr	\$ 330.00
	Driving Time = 5.75 hrs	\$60/hr	\$ 345.00

Payments are due within 30 days of the invoice date, if not paid by the due date a late fee of 10% will be charged to the unpaid amount due. Questions may be referred to John Heaton at 916-654-0435.

Total Due \$ 761.45

Report of Collections

Detail for : 2013

Attachment 6.

90059 - SEED SERVICES

Date Prepared: 11/6/2013

Collections have been deposited as follows:

	COLLECTION AMOUNT	REFUND AMOUNT	TOTAL ACCRETIONS	125700-97 LICENSE	121200-96 ASSESSMENT	125900 LATE LIC. PENALTY	125900 LATE ASSESSMENT PENALTY	125600-46 MISC. FEES	100255 SUSPENSE BALANCE
YTD TOTALS	\$1,564,335.07	\$0.00	\$1,564,335.07	\$22,360.00	1,532,256.02	\$632.00	\$8,175.60	\$911.45	\$0.00

Number of Licenses Issued 559

FY2005 there were 416 Authorizations and 553 Firms Listed
 FY 2013 there are 559 Authorizations and 802 Firms Listed

34% increase

45% increase

Reported Value of seed sold in previous FY (2012)

Location of Firm	# of Firms	2012 Reported Ag Seed Sales	2012 Reported Veg Seed Sales	2012 Reported Lawn Seed Sales	2012 Total Reported Seed Sales
OS	176	\$ 114,355,840	\$ 123,319,444	\$ 39,801,884	\$ 277,477,367
CA	251	\$ 125,793,941	\$ 193,456,404	\$ 15,371,274	\$ 332,114,355
Total	427	\$ 240,149,780	\$ 316,775,848	\$ 55,173,158	\$ 609,591,722

Compare Collections to 13/14 Approved Budget = \$ 1,739,326

YTD TOTALS \$1,564,335

\$174,991

Short

Perhaps more appropriate to compare to PY expenditures

FY2012 Expenditures via MARS = \$1,647,874

versus YTD Collections FY2013 = \$1,564,335

\$ 83,539 short of PY

However, if we increase the PY expenditures by 3% = \$1,697,310 expected in FY2013

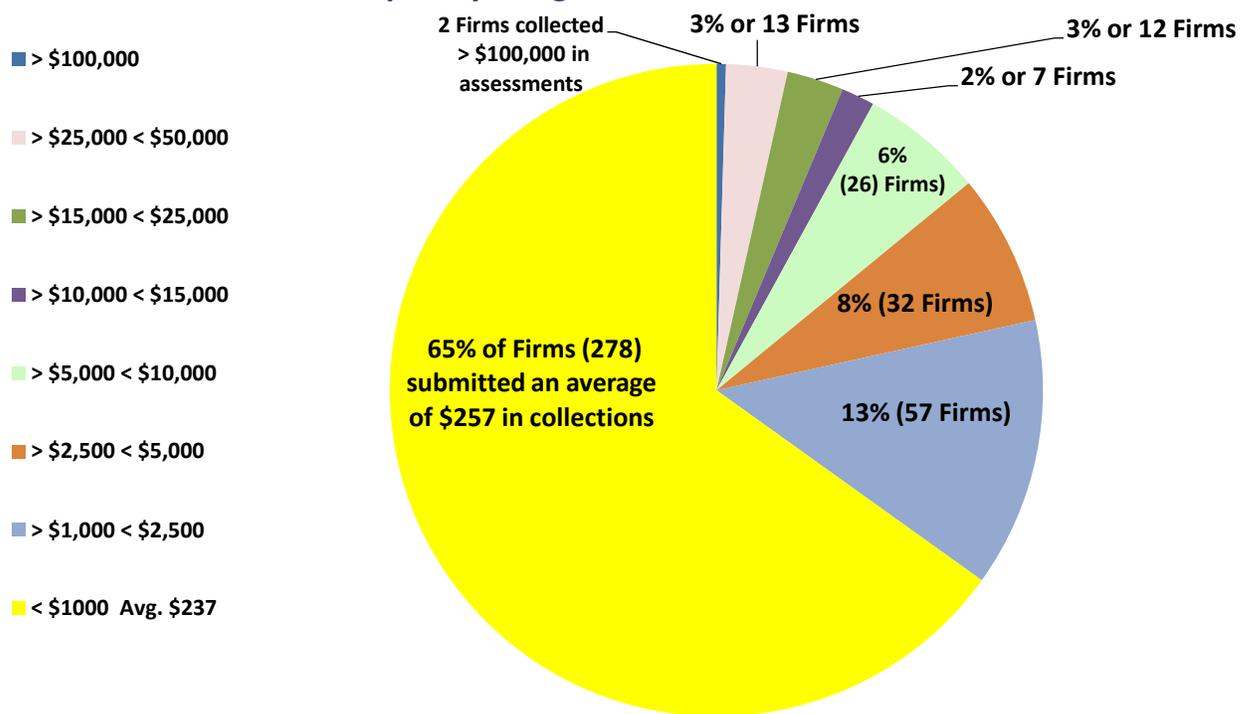
Remember though that the PY had \$650k funding for the lab. Now it is only \$525k for FY2013

So reduce our estimate of CY expenditures by \$125k = \$1,572,310

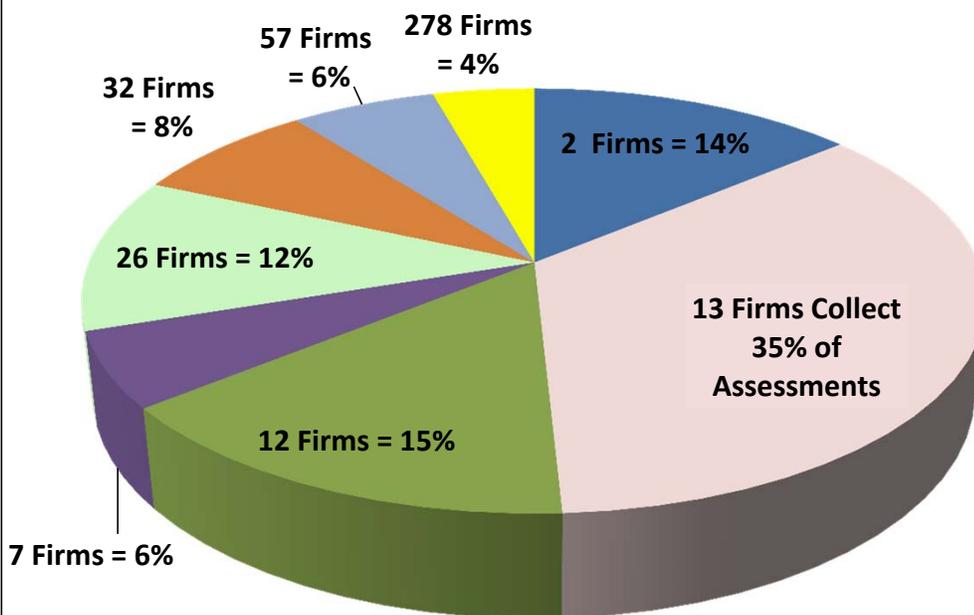
Minus CY collections - \$1,564,335

Shortage = \$7,975

Number of Firms that Submitted Assessments from CA Seed Sales in 2012 - Grouped by Ranges of Amounts Collected



Percentages of Assessment Collections on Seed Sales in FY2012 Submitted by Firms in FY2013



15 Firms collected 49% of the assessments on seed sales in CA.

34 Firms collected 70% of the assessments on seed sales in CA.

393 Firms were collected the remaining 30% of the assessments on seed sales.

**PER REQUEST OF BOARD MEMBER JOHN McSHANE - INCLUDED AS HANDOUT FOR NOV. 14, 2013
MEETING OF THE CALIFORNIA SEED ADVISORY BOARD**

Selected Minutes from SAB Board Meeting, May 3, 2012

Amendment to Seed Lab Funding for FY2012 (p 11)

Vice Chairman Falconer asked if anyone wished to discuss the recommendation from the Subcommittee to increase the funding for the Seed Lab in FY2012-13 from \$488,564 to \$500,000.

Kelly Keithly motioned that the Board accept the recommendation. John McShane seconded the motion.

Under discussion of the motion, Duane Schnabel noted that due to the \$200,000 reduction in general funds to the lab for FY2011, the Department reduced two positions and eliminated some services. On July 1, 2012, there will be another \$200,000 cut of general funds to the seed lab. This will translate into layoffs for the lab of 2.6 Personal Years and a split duty assignment for the lab supervisor. These cuts will leave the lab with one scientist, one technician and a one-third supervisor.

The Department has estimated that it would cost \$650,000 to maintain services at an acceptable level. In the absence of the additional money, one scientist will be laid off, the technician will likely be relocated and the services will cease.

...Duane Schnabel stated that Department has looked at fees and is only asking for an additional \$150,000 to offset a loss of \$200,000 because they are hoping to collect fees for certain services.

...Vice Chairman Falconer called the motion on the floor to accept the recommendation of the subcommittee to fund the Seed Lab in FY2012-13 at the \$500,000. Motion carried.

Augmentation of Seed Lab Funding for FY2012

Larry Hirahara motioned the Board recommend augmentation of funding to the lab in the amount of \$100,000.

Duane Schnabel recognized that \$100,000 goes a long way but there will still be a need to make reductions at the level of augmentation being recommended. He believed it would be necessary to cut one personal year and split the supervisor's assignment between the seed lab and two other labs, thereby saving expenses on personal services.

...Several members suggested that Larry Hirahara's motion should be amended so that augmentation of the lab's budget is provided at the \$150,000 level. Dennis Choate formally amended the recommendation and Larry Hirahara accepted the amendment.

Kelly Keithly provided a second to the motion to provide a one year augmentation of \$150,000 to the previously approved level of \$500,000 to support the seed lab in FY2012.

Vice Chairman Falconer called the motion. Motion carried.

There was a brief discussion to clarify that the augmentation was just for FY2012-13. Several members requested that next year CDFA staff provide a breakdown of how well "fees-forservices"

**PER REQUEST OF BOARD MEMBER JOHN McSHANE - INCLUDED AS HANDOUT FOR NOV. 14, 2013
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is working, and if there are any additional opportunities to charge fees.

Selected Minutes from SAB Board Meeting, July 1, 2013

4. Seed Laboratory Level of Funding (p. 3)

Susan McCarthy verified that all Board members and interested parties received handouts via email prior to the meeting.

- Seed Laboratory Workload Analysis (attachment 1)

Susan noted the workload analysis was compiled from a previous analysis that Deborah Meyer performed in 2011 on five year averages. She directed the Board's attention to the pie chart that showed the percentages attributed to various activities performed in the lab. The largest percentages were for regulatory samples (39%) and quality assurance, lab maintenance and supervision (41%). Since 20% of the activities are not directly related to seed law enforcement, Susan partitioned out 20% of all quality assurance and calculated that seed law enforcement activities account for roughly 72% of the lab's budget. This was determined through the following calculation $[39\% + (41\%)(100\% - 20\%)]$.

- Seed Laboratory – Plant Diagnostic Center – Budget July 1, 2013 – June 30, 2014 (attachment 2)

Susan noted that the handout is the first time the Board has seen a budget for the lab. She explained the budget represents how costs for the lab are reported by the Department. She noted the total budget is \$728,501 and 72% of that amount, or \$524,521, is the amount directly related to seed law enforcement. Since the Board already approved \$500,000 to fund the lab during the meeting in May 2012, the Department is seeking an augmentation of \$24,521. The remaining \$203,980 for other activities will be covered by the Department.

...John McShane observed the analysis shows only 72% of the lab's total budget is directly related to seed law enforcement, but the Board provided \$650,000 in the prior year. He noted that the \$650,000 amount is greater than 72% of the lab's total projected expenditures in FY2012. He inquired if it is possible for the Board to receive some of that money back.

Chris Zanobini calculated that if the total budget for the seed lab was roughly \$673,000 and the industry is only responsible for 72% of the total budget, then the allocation from seed industry assessments for the lab in FY 2012 should have only been about \$485,000 instead of the \$650,000. He suggested the industry should receive back about \$165,000.

[Dr. Robert Leavitt, Plant Division Director joined the meeting at this point]

Dr. Leavitt informed the Board that if they believe they were overcharged, they only need to write a letter to him explaining the situation. The Department will evaluate the validity of the letter and determine if there is a mechanism to do what the Board is requesting.



California Department of Food and Agriculture
 Plant Health and Pest Prevention Services
 Pest Exclusion Branch
 Nursery, Seed and Cotton Program
 (916) 654-0435 FAX (916) 651-1207

11/13

SEED ADVISORY BOARD

INDUSTRY - Field Seed

		Term of Office
(1)	Janice Woodhouse 22012 Stateline Road Tulelake, CA 96134 (530) 667-2031 FAX (530) 667-2034	April 1, 2012- March 31, 2015
(2)	Marc Meyer 590 Brunken Avenue, Suite F Salinas, CA 93901 (831) 754-3813 FAX (831) 754-3816	April 1, 2013- March 31, 2016
(3)	Paul Frey 38001 County Road 27 Woodland, CA 95695 (530) 666-3331 FAX (530) 666-5317	April 1, 2013- March 31, 2016
(4)	John McShane 1415 E. 6th Street Los Angeles, CA 90021 (213) 626-9668 FAX (312) 626-4920	April 1, 2011 - <u>March 31, 2014</u>

INDUSTRY - Vegetable Seed

(5)	Bob Prys 22673 S. Elm Ave Riverdale, CA 93656 (559) 923-1800 FAX (559) 923-1802	April 1, 2012 - March 31, 2015
(6)	Rick Falconer 19040 Portola Dr. Salinas CA 93908 (831) 455-3000 FAX (831) 445-3003	April 1, 2011 - <u>March 31, 2014</u>
(7)	Kelly Keithly P.O. Box 177 Holtville, CA 92250-1156 (760) 356-5533 FAX (760) 356-2409	April 1, 2013 - March 31, 2016
(8)	William White P.O. Box 6108 Oxnard, CA 93031 (805) 983-4923 FAX (805)983-1282	April 1, 2013 - <u>March 31, 2014</u>
(9)	George Hansen P.O. Box 294 Salinas, CA 93902-0294 (831) 758-9869 FAX (831) 757-4550	April 1, 2011 - <u>March 31, 2014</u>

PUBLIC

(10)	Larry Hirahara 749 College Drive Salinas, CA 93901 (831)-757-7976 FAX (831) 775-0805	April 1, 2012 – March 31, 2015
(11)	Michael Campbell P.O. Box 7 Clarksburg, CA 95612 (916) 744-1540	April 1, 2011 - <u>March 31, 2014</u>