

**Minutes of the 2008 Meeting**  
Grass and Legume Advisory Committee  
Certification, Foundation Seed and Plant Materials Board

Wednesday, December 10, 2008 Salem Conference Center Salem, Oregon

Members present: Rodney Hightower, Brian Parker, Wade Biegler, Ken Strahan, Dan Nelson, Colin Scott, Les Gilmore, Mick McGregor, Ron Pence, Mark Mellbye, Tom Silberstein, Reed Barker, Bill Young, Dennis Lundeen, Jim Hendrickson, Randy Knight

Guests present: Frank Prantl (Pennington Seed); Dan Hemshorn (Pickseed-Seed Research); Randy Waldie (American Grass Seed Producers); Oscar Gutbrod (Oregon State University); Rachel Hankins (Oregon Seed Certification Service); Terry Burr (OSCS); Iraj Motazedian (OSCS); Barry Schrumph (OSCS); Jeff McMorran (OSCS); Sandy Smith (OSCS)

Call to Order and Introductions: Chairman McGregor called the meeting to order at 12:45 PM. Those in attendance introduced themselves and stated their respective affiliations.

Item 1: Approval of the Minutes from the 2007 Annual Meeting.

**Motion passed** to accept the 2007 Minutes as published.

Item 2 Amend the certification standards for Chicory (*Cichorium intybus*).

**Motion passed** to amend the standards to include two inspections, seedling and crop.

Item 3: Amend the certification standards for Sunflower (*Helianthus annuus L.*)

Randy Knight stated that the amended standards are intended to address open pollinated sunflowers as opposed to the hybrid Sunflower standards that were established in 2007. The **motion passed** to accept these standards to accommodate any future applications for open pollinated varieties of sunflower.

Item 4: Amend Annual, Intermediate and Perennial ryegrass standards to include isolation from Festulolium.

Jeff McMorran pointed out to the Committee that the standards for Festulolium require isolation from Annual, Intermediate and Perennial ryegrasses of the same ploidy level but the same requirement is not stated in the standards for Annual, Intermediate and Perennial ryegrasses. Reed Barker said that Festulolium is usually but not always a tetraploid. The **motion passed** to address the need for isolation from Festulolium in the footnotes of the standards for annual, intermediate and perennial ryegrass by adding the wording "and Festulolium of the same ploidy level".

Jeff continued the discussion expressing difficulty in making a visual distinction between a Festulolium variety and Annual ryegrass during a field inspection. Sherry Hanning from the OSU Seed Lab has said that morphological separation of the seeds is not possible. Tests that were discussed included grow-out, fluorescence and ploidy. Brian Parker suggested requiring something more than a five-year history be required following a tetraploid annual ryegrass. Brian pointed out that more testing is needed to confirm that Festulolium will not fluoresce. Reed Barker said a PCR test may be developed in the near future that would assist in this type of case. Tom Silberstein suggested a Pre-plant or Modified Land History inspection for Festulolium. Oscar Gutbrod said he observed variability that was difficult to explain in the field inspection this year and that a Flow Cytometry test might be a useful test to consider. Reed thought each field of Festulolium should be evaluated case by case using ploidy information. Mick McGregor suggested addressing the problem through the variety description and emphasized the need to offer the grower something definitive to clarify any problem perceived from a visual field inspection. Oscar thought a Flow Cytometry test should be a requirement with each Festulolium variety submitted for Certification. A **motion passed** for OSCS to require the results of a Flow Cytometry test with each Festulolium variety description to differentiate between diploid, tetraploid and hexaploid species.

Sandy Smith pointed out a phrase in the Field History portion of the Festulolium standards that was not applicable to the subject. A **motion passed** to remove "unless of the same variety, class and certified" from the Field History section of the Festulolium standards.

**Minutes of the 2008 Meeting**  
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Item 5: Amend the isolation standards between Velvet Bentgrass and Creeping Bentgrass and between Velvet Bentgrass and Colonial Bentgrass.

Dan Hemshorn presented a case for reviewing the isolation requirements for Velvet Bentgrass from creeping and colonial bentgrasses. Rodney Hightower said as part of an appeals committee it was decided that a mechanical break was sufficient in that particular case. Dennis Lundeen referenced wording in an article provided to the Committee that biologically it is possible for Velvet Bentgrass to hybridize with Creeping Bentgrass. Dennis also stated that OSCS does not allow for any timing differentials in pollination to be applied to isolation decisions. Dan Hemshorn suggested that the Committee consider changing the isolation requirements in the five acres or less category. A **motion passed** to make a change in the footnotes area of the standards for Velvet, Creeping and Colonial Bentgrasses. The wording for the Velvet Bentgrass standards would read "except 165 feet from fields of Colonial and Creeping bentgrass of the certified class and five acres or less in size". The wording for the Colonial and Creeping Bentgrass standards would read "except 165 feet from fields of Velvet Bentgrass of the certified class and five acres or less in size.

Item 6: Recognize the Willamette Valley Seed Association and consider isolation distances of vegetable crops.

Brian Parker suggested reviewing OSCS isolation standards for vegetable crops in an effort to have uniform standards between OSCS and vegetable seed producing groups that may not use OSCS in their production scheme. It was noted that current OSCS standards for Kale and Turnip may not appropriately address bee flight distances when setting isolation requirements. Mick McGregor asked the Committee if they would consider adding a Committee member from the vegetable seed-producing group. A general consensus agreed to that idea.

Item 7: Discuss the possible use of a ploidy test to be added as a tool when reviewing applicable Modified Land History applications.

Jeff McMorran shared with the Committee a current real field situation that involves growing a tetraploid annual ryegrass one year after a crop of diploid perennial ryegrass. OSCS has agreed to accept an MLH application on the field with a requirement of a ploidy test (2X the normal amount of seed) after harvest to confirm the absence of any diploid ryegrass. This crop year would be a one-time use of the ploidy test in this type of scenario, depending on this Committee's recommendation. Jeff added that there was no intent to apply this protocol on seed stock fields. Randy Waldie and Mark Mellbye felt that the ploidy test would be a useful tool. The Committee recommended that OSCS continue using the ploidy test on a case by case basis as a tool to help verify the effectiveness of specific cultural practices.

Item 8: Amend the germination standards for Seashore Paspalum and consider rewording the language in the "Planting Stock" section of the standards.

Colin Scott explained the difficulties trying to meet the current 75% germination minimum and suggested that 60% would be more appropriate for this crop. A **motion passed** to change the minimum germination standards for Seashore Paspalum from 75% to 60% in all three certification seed classes.

A discussion continued regarding the correct language to use in the "Planting Stock" section of the standards. Sandy Smith commented that the language in the standards needs to accommodate all applicants and that it might be more appropriate to put specifics regarding the production scheme in the variety description and keep the standards more generic. Mick McGregor suggested considering the same approach for standards as was used for Pencross bentgrass. Colin was willing to listen to a proposal on how best to handle this subject from OSCS. The consensus from OSCS was to address the specifics of maintaining a variety regarding planting stock used and acceptable generations in the variety description. A **motion passed** to postpone a decision on the acceptable language to use in the Planting Stock section of Seashore Paspalum standards until acceptable language could be identified.

**Minutes of the 2008 Meeting**  
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Item 9: Amend white clover standards for purity and inert from 99% and 1% to 98% and 2% respectively for the certified class.

Dan Nelson brought this item before the committee in response to a grower request. Dan's understanding was that the change in purity would better reflect industry standards. A **motion passed** to change the purity and inert standards for the certified class of white clover to 98% and 2% respectively.

Item 10: Isolation distances for Sunflower

Barry Schrupf asked for clarification on the isolation requirement between generations of the same variety. Barry pointed out in most other crops that isolation distance is 25% of the distance listed between varieties, not just a mechanical separation as currently stated in Sunflower standards. Iraj Motazedian suggested getting input from a Sunflower Breeder since some crops show very little genetic depreciation from one generation to the next. Randy agreed to investigate the subject further and report back to the Committee if a Sunflower Breeder recommends a change in the isolation standards.

Item 11: Closure to item 10 in the 2007 GLAC meeting regarding a draft proposal for reviewing new varieties submitted to the Oregon Certification Variety Review (OCVR) Committee.

Reed Barker asked Colin Scott, chair of a subcommittee requested at the 2007 GLAC meeting, if his committee had been successful in developing a proposal for reviewing varieties submitted to the OCVR Committee. Colin stated that the effort was complete in his mind with the exception of some minor issues that will be discussed at an AOSCA meeting in 2009. Dennis Lundeen agreed with Colin and added that the variety review protocol in Oregon would mirror the application used by the AOSCA National Grass Variety Review Board.

Item 12: Other business

No other items were mentioned for consideration.

Item 13: Elect 2009 vice-chairman from Oregon Seed Trade Association representatives.

Les Gilmore was unanimously elected incoming vice-chairman of the committee.

Item 14: Wade Biegler agreed to a one year term extension in order to serve as the 2009 chairman.

Item 15: Select date and time for the next annual meeting.

By consensus, the next annual meeting of the committee will be scheduled for the Wednesday following the Oregon Seed Growers League annual meeting.

Item 12: Reports

- OSU College of Agriculture / Crop and Soil Science Department Report

Dr. Russ Karow, Department Head, submitted a report concerning departmental activities for distribution to the committee.

- Oregon Seed Services Report,  
including Foundation Seed Program, OSU Seed Laboratory and Oregon Seed Certification Service

Dennis Lundeen, provided an update on Seed Services activities including the upcoming celebration of the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Seed Lab in April of 2009 and the Lab is preparing for ISTA certification and audit in March. Dennis said the activity report shows 2008 certified acres were down 3.3%. Ryegrass

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acres were down and tall fescue acres were up. Seed Certification can now accept on-line seedling applications and by this coming Spring the plan is for crop sign-ups to be accommodated on-line as well. The OECD lot size experiment is continuing to move forward. One warehouse in Oregon is partially eligible and two additional warehouses have expressed interest. Approval will allow these warehouses to ship 55,000-pound OECD seed lots.

- Oregon Department of Agriculture Report

Ron Pence provided an update on Commodity Inspection activities noting a need for a 5% budget reduction in the remainder of this biennium, followed by a 20% general fund reduction in 2009-2111. Ron said the "slow pay / no pay" law was being reviewed per request from grower and seed dealer groups. He pointed out that *Orobanche* or broomrape was found in a red clover field in western Oregon this year. Seed Certification discovered it during a routine inspection for crop certification. Ron said the ODA determined *Orobanche* was not currently listed on the Oregon regulatory noxious weed list. This was an oversight and is in the process of being addressed in administrative rule. Multiple seed tests were run on the production from this field and no *Orobanche* was found in the seed. Ron asked if there were examples of crops that are rejected for certification in the field due to the presence of prohibited noxious weeds. Dennis said finding jointed goatgrass during a field inspection of small grains results in the field being ineligible for certification however that scenario does not currently apply when *Orobanche* is found in red clover. Ron said the Oregon Clover Commission has been informed of the *Orobanche* finding.

The meeting adjourned at 2:50 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Randy Knight, Secretary  
January 5, 2009

Enclosures

List of Committee members, page 5

Motions for consideration by the Certification Board, page 6

cc: Bill Boggess, Interim Dean, College of Agricultural Sciences, OSU  
Jan Auyong, Assistant Director, Agricultural Experiment Station, OSU  
William S. Braunworth, Program Leader, Extension Agriculture, OSU  
David Goracke, President, Oregon Seed Growers League  
Jon Odenthal, President, Oregon Seed Trade Association  
Guests in attendance

**Minutes of the 2008 Meeting**  
Grass and Legume Advisory Committee  
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**Committee Members**

Name	Affiliation	Term
Mick McGregor <i>Chair</i>	Oregon Seed Trade Association	2009
Wade Biegler <i>Vice-chair</i>	Oregon Seed Growers League	2009
Rodney Hightower	Oregon Seed Growers League	2009
Dallas Goracke	Oregon Seed Growers League	2010
Collin Crocker	Oregon Seed Growers League	2008
Brian Parker	Oregon Seed Growers League	2009
Roger Ruckert	Oregon Seed Growers League	2011
Ken Strahan	Oregon Seed Trade Association	2008
Dan Nelson	Oregon Seed Trade Association	2008
Brad Jeffreys	Oregon Seed Trade Association	2009
Les Gilmore	Oregon Seed Trade Association	2010
Jim Hendrickson	Oregon Seed Trade Association	2010
Colin Scott	Turfgrass Breeders Association	2008
Bill Young	OSU Extension Specialist Seed Production	Permanent
Tom Silberstein	OSU Extension Agent Marion County	Permanent
Mark Mellbye	OSU Extension Agent Linn County	Permanent
Reed Barker	OSU Grass Genomics	Permanent
Russ Karow	OSU, Crop and Soil Science Department Head	Ex-officio
Dan Curry	OSU, Crop and Soil Science Seed Services Director	Ex-officio
Dennis Lundeen	OSU Extension Specialist Seed Certification, Manager	Ex-officio
Adriel Garay	OSU Seed Laboratory Manager	Ex-officio
Ron Pence	Oregon Department of Agriculture, Commodity Inspection Division Assistant Administrator	Ex-officio
Randy Knight <i>Committee Secretary</i>	OSU Extension Specialist Seed Certification	Ex-officio

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**Motions recommended for approval by the Certification Board at its next annual meeting**  
February 10, 2009

1. Amend the certification standards for Chicory (*Cichorium intybus*)
2. Amend the certification standards for Sunflower (*Helianthus annuus L.*)
3. Amend Annual, Intermediate and Perennial ryegrass certification standards to include isolation from Festulolium.
4. Request OSCS to require the results of a Flow Cytometry test with each Festulolium variety description in order to differentiate between diploid, tetraploid and hexaploid species.
5. Amend the Festulolium standards of the phrase “unless of the same variety, class and certified” in the Field History section.
6. Amend the isolation standards between Velvet Bentgrass and Creeping and Colonial Bentgrasses.
7. Amend the germination for Seashore Paspalum from 75% to 60%.
8. Amend the Planting Stock section of Seashore Paspalum standards to better accommodate all varieties. **Pending the Grass & Legume Advisory Committee passing this amendment by email communication prior to the Board meeting on February 10, 2009.**
9. Amend White Clover purity and inert standards from 99% and 1% to 98% and 2% respectively, to better reflect accepted industry standards.