

**Minutes of the FGC Pest Management Technical Advisory Committee Teleconference  
Monday, 21 February 2011: 10:00 am PST**

<b>Present:</b>	Jim Corrigan, Tim Crowder, Dan Gaudet, Staffan Lindgren, Michael Stoehr, Ward Strong, Chris Walsh,	BC MoFML - Pest management Timberwest Forest Company - Coastal industry orchards Vernon Seed Orchard Company - Interior industry orchards UNBC - University pest management research BC MoFML - Coastal tree breeding research BC MoFML - Pest management research BC MoFML - Interior Ministry orchards
<b>Regrets:</b>	Hilary Graham, Jean Turgeon, Jack Woods,	Pacific Regeneration Technologies - Interior industry orchards CFS Sault Ste Marie – Federal pest management research BC Forest Genetics Council / Select Seed interior orchards

**ACTION ITEMS**

<b>Corrigan</b>	Send approved Minutes from Jan. 10 & 17, 2011 meeting to Jack Woods for uploading to PMTAC webpages.
<b>Strong</b>	Determine status of 2010 funding support for Gries lab at SFU. Has funding been received at the University?
<b>Corrigan, Strong</b>	Circulate materials to the PMTAC on the role of <i>Leptoglossus occidentalis</i> in lodgepole pine seedset that are being prepared for discussions at the upcoming Pest Management Field Day.
<b>Corrigan</b>	Prepare and circulate a full report on the role of <i>Leptoglossus occidentalis</i> in lodgepole pine seedset in North Okanagan seed orchards.
<b>Strong</b>	Revise proposal & budget for the pesticide trials to reflect the addition of a trial on white pine. Circulate revised files to the PMTAC.
<b>Corrigan</b>	Circulate draft PMTAC Proposal for the FGC to Committee for comment by Feb. 23, 2011.
<b>All Members</b>	PMTAC members will have until Monday Feb. 28, 2011 at Noon to comment on the Draft submission of the PMTAC program to the FGC.

**IMPORTANT DATES**

PMTAC budget request & proposal package to FGC – **Tuesday, Mar. 1, 2011.**

**BUSINESS MEETING CALL TO ORDER** – 10:00 AM PST.

**OLD BUSINESS**

1. Draft Minutes from PMTAC meeting of Jan. 17, 2011 accepted without revision.

**Action Item:** Jim Corrigan will forward the Minutes files for Jan. 10 & 17 to Jack Woods, who will have them put up on the PMTAC webpages.

2a. **Formatting work on the PMTAC webpages** has been completed by Rich Rawling. Committee members are asked to review the revamped PMTAC webpages. Any comments about the pages should be directed to Jim Corrigan.

2b. Recent correspondence (Feb. 14) between Dr. Gerhard Gries and Jim Corrigan brought up the issue that **funding for the 2010 Contarinia grant** still may not have been received by Simon Fraser University. Ward Strong felt that

this situation needed to be resolved before the end of 2010-11 fiscal or the funds made available to support this work would be lost.

**Action Item:** Ward Strong will follow up with the BC Government and the University to determine the status of this transfer and to push, if necessary, for it to take place before the end of this fiscal cycle.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

### **3a. Review funding proposals submitted to the PMTAC for 2011-12 fiscal.**

Staffan Lindgren pointed out that it had been difficult to properly review materials that had been submitted to the Committee after the PMTAC deadline to receive proposals. This problem was acknowledged, but no suggestions were made about how to change the situation for the current round of evaluations. For future funding cycles, the Committee will strive to achieve better compliance with our submission deadlines.

#### **3a1. Operational Support for Ministry Biologist**

- a. 2010 Report – No questions
- b. 2011 Proposal – No questions

c. 2011 Budget – Another \$2,000.00 has been requested over previous years in order to support the Biologist's travel to Coastal seed orchard locations. This is a new responsibility stemming from Ministry reorganizations in 2010. Michael Stoehr asked about the nature of salary support included in this Proposal. Jim Corrigan stated that it was for Auxiliary assistance with conducting trials and improving the exemplar pest monitoring systems at Kalamalka and Bailey Road. Ward Strong commented that the government overhead figure of 5% was not calculated properly in the budget. Jim Corrigan will revise budget to correct this calculation error.

#### **3a2. Operational Support for Kalamalka Research Laboratory**

a. 2010 Report – Ward Strong summarized the principal activities carried out through the Cone & Seed Pest Research Laboratory in 2010. He stated that there were no plans to continue a multi-year trial on the effects of irrigation on MPB attack rates and/or mortality in a Kalamalka Research lodgepole pine plot in 2011. Most of the other projects currently running in this lab would be continued into the next fiscal year.

There was considerable discussion about several ongoing studies addressing seed set problems in lodgepole pine in the North Okanagan, including the impact of *Leptoglossus occidentalis* on this parameter. Staffan Lindgren suggested that it would be helpful if the Committee had access to a synthesis of what is known about the role of Leptos in lodgepole pine seed set. There was some discussion of awarding a contract to an impartial expert to conduct this review in the upcoming fiscal cycle. Jim Corrigan felt that it was too late in our budgeting process to try to award such a contract for 2011-12. As an alternative, he suggested that presentations currently being developed by Ward Strong and Jim Corrigan on this topic for the Pest Management Field Day (for early April, 2011) should be circulated to the Committee. Jim Corrigan informed the Committee that he had already conducted the review suggested by Staffan Lindgren. Jim Corrigan agreed to prepare a report on this review and circulate it to the PMTAC before the fall. After the Committee has reviewed these materials, it may choose to award a contract for a further synthetic review of Lepto/seedset issues in a future funding cycle.

**Action Item:** Ward Strong & Jim Corrigan to circulate materials to the PMTAC that they are preparing for discussions at the upcoming Pest Management Field Day on the role of *Leptoglossus occidentalis* in lodgepole pine seedset in North Okanagan seed orchards.

**Action Item:** Jim Corrigan to prepare and circulate a full report on the role of *Leptoglossus occidentalis* in lodgepole pine seedset in North Okanagan seed orchards.

b. 2011 Proposal – It is understood that this support is to cover operations in the laboratory, and that the Principal Investigator has not submitted an exact description of the projects to be undertaken in 2011-12. This being said, there was some discussion of the work being proposed for the research lab in the upcoming field season. It was unclear if and how bagging trials would be conducted in North Okanagan lodgepole pine seed orchards again in 2011. If such trials are done, Ward Strong expects to be involved with them. With respect to new initiatives, Ward is planning to investigate several methods to suppress the impact of pitch moths in young lodgepole pine seed orchards. As well, Ward may try to set up a trial for the pheromone-based monitoring of *Contarinia oregonensis* at a Coastal location in 2011.

c. 2011 Budget – Jim Corrigan pointed out that the increase in the amount requested in this proposal reflects the addition of a salary component for summer help for the laboratory. As PMTAC Chair, Jim had requested that this component be added to the budget. The Committee fully supports the inclusion of this expenditure in the laboratory operations budget for 2011-12.

### **3a3. Pesticide Trials**

a. 2010, 2011 Reports – The PMTAC discussed recommendations coming from a sub-Committee struck to review results from pesticide trials done in previous years and set direction for work to be done in 2011. The sub-Committee (Ward Strong, Mario Lanthier, Dan Gaudet & Jim Corrigan) felt that we should be moving beyond screening-style trials of numerous pesticide formulations against multiple pest species in favour of host/pest specific trials targeted against insects of high-priority concern to the seed orchard community. With this mandate, the PMTAC was advised to not support pesticide trials on spruce in 2011, as no pest species was identified as a top-priority problem on this host. Two trials were recommended by the sub-Committee, targeting: i) *Contarinia oregonensis* on Douglas-fir, and ii) *Dioryctria abietivorella* on Douglas-fir.

b. 2011 Proposal – The PMTAC agreed with the recommendation of the sub-Committee that no trials would be done on spruce in 2011, and supported the proposal to do the two trials recommended for Douglas-fir. Chris Walsh commented that *Dioryctria* is also a problem on white pine and asked whether work should be considered on this tree species in 2011. After discussion, it was agreed to add a small trial on white pine to the proposal. This trial will look at potential phytotoxic effects of candidate pesticides on white pine along with observing cones for external evidence of *Dioryctria* attack. Ward Strong will revise the pesticide trial proposal and budget to reflect the addition of this third component to the 2011 program. The Committee was assured by Ward that the sub-contract awarded to the pesticide applicator would cover all costs of pesticides and their application and that the sub-contract given to do the mid-season half-cut cone analyses was the most effective way to get this work done.

c. 2011 Budget – Ward Strong will discuss the budget for the trials with the pesticide applicator (CropHealth Advising & Research – Mario Lanthier).

**Action Item:** After consulting with the contractor, Ward Strong will revise proposal and budget files to reflect the addition of a trial on white pine and will circulate these files to the PMTAC.

### **3a4. Contarinia/Leptoglossus Visual Foraging Cues – Gries SFU Research Project**

a. 2010 Report – Concerns were expressed that 2010 work reported on honeybees was not particularly relevant to the needs of the seed orchard community. However, it was pointed out that most of the work done in 2010 really was ‘techniques development’ and that it may be too early to judge the value of work done on this project with respect to seed and cone pest management initiatives.

b. 2011 Proposal – Several Committee members expressed reservations about the applicability of this research to practical seed and cone pest management concerns. Michael Stoehr asked how this research would result in better trapping methodologies in field applications, which is a stated objective of the proposal. Specifically, Michael asked why there was a need to study responses to polarized light when the infra-red responses of at least one of the seed and cone pest species listed in the proposal already were understood. Ward Strong responded that previous trap designs had not been very successful as monitoring or control tools. He added that future traps would likely need to have multi-modal attractiveness across different sensory stimuli in order to use them in effective monitoring or control programs. Jim Corrigan asked if the manipulations needed to do these experiments (micro-surgery on adult eyes) could be done on the relatively small Contarinia adults. Ward reported that Dr. Gerhard Gries (PI for the project) had included Leptoglossus in this year’s proposal as he was not sure whether Contarinia would be good subjects for manipulation in the ocular experiments. Staffan Lindgren questioned how applicable visual acuity results obtained for Leptoglossus would be when considering Contarinia or another seed and cone pest species.

Ward pointed out that this proposal is not being used to support a graduate student. As such, it can be considered as a true one-year project, with no promise of continued funding being implied if funds are granted in 2011-12. Awarding the requested funding for the upcoming fiscal year will allow the project to progress beyond its ‘technique development’ phase, which should result in the production of experimental results. Such results should allow the PMTAC to evaluate this project in terms of its relevance to operational seed and cone pest management at the end of 2011-12 fiscal. On this basis, the PMTAC recommends that this proposal should be supported for the upcoming fiscal year.

c. 2011 Budget – No questions

### **3b. Planning for the PMTAC proposal submission to the FGC.**

Jim Corrigan will attempt to circulate a draft version of the PMTAC submission to the FGC by Wednesday Feb. 23, 2011. Committee members are encouraged to respond with any comments, questions or concerns, which will be circulated around the Committee through email correspondence. The deadline to receive any comments or concerns from Committee members is Monday Feb. 28, 2011 at Noon. Jim Corrigan will edit the draft proposal as needed and will submit it to the FGC on Tuesday Mar. 1, 2011.

**Action Item:** Jim Corrigan will attempt to circulate a draft version of the PMTAC submission to the FGC by Wednesday Feb. 23, 2011.

**Action Item:** PMTAC members will have until Monday Feb. 28, 2011 at Noon to return comments to Jim Corrigan on the Project and Budget submission from the PMTAC program to the FGC.

**ADJOURN.** Meeting adjourned at 11:45 am PST.

Minutes compiled by Jim Corrigan, 22 February 2011.