

Minutes of the FGC Pest Management Technical Advisory Committee

Monday, 5 Dec 2005: 10:00 – 10:45 AM

Telephone conference

Present: Robb Bennett (Chair), BC MoF
Dave Kolotelo, BC MoF
Ward Strong, BC MoF
Jack Woods, SelectSeed
Tim Crowder, Timberwest Forest Company
Staffan Lindgren, UNBC

Regrets: Dan Gaudet, Vernon Seed Orchard Company
Peter de Groot, CFS Sault Ste Marie
Dave Reid, BC MoF
Tia Heeley, Vernon Seed Orchard Company
Roger Painter, BC MoF

Coast pest management
Nursery and seed pest management
Interior pest management
Forest Genetics Council
Coast industry orchards
University pest management research
Interior industry orchards
Canadian Forest Service
Ministry orchards
Interior industry orchards
FGC (guest)

ACTIONS:

Bennett	Research vs. operations caveat for Call for Proposals
Strong + TAC	Develop “in-house” research proposal
Reid & Crowder	Canvas coastal orchard managers for research proposal
input	
Strong & Bennett	Research lab logistics

ACTIONS (carried forward from Nov 28 meeting):

Bennett & Douglas	Pursue extension ideas.
All	Ideas for usage of unspent pest management allotment.
Bennett & Reid	New interior pest management biologist search.
Lindgren	Mountain pine beetle – new PGTIS project update

NEXT MEETING – late January 2006, after completion of Call for Proposals process

CONVENED at 10:00 AM.

AGENDA.

Agenda approved with one addition (research lab equipment purchases).

DRAFT 2006/07 PEST MANAGEMENT CALL FOR PROPOSALS (Bennett)

Initial draft of new Call for Proposals was prepared and circulated by Bennett on November 28. Strong made some suggestions for changes to “Table 1” by e-mail; no other suggestions brought forward. No comment yet received from Roger Painter regarding formatting or other editorial issues. Some confusion remains regarding differentiation between pest management research and operational activities. Transition from “research” to “operations” is continuous and there likely will always be some projects for which the distinction is not easily made. Regular or routine pest management activities in orchards (e.g. routine monitoring, control sprays) are operational, work with unregistered or new products is research, trials with registered products could be operational or research depending on purpose or usage. Bennett will draft additional short “research *versus* operational” explanatory section for inclusion in CFP. Bennett will post final version of CFP this week.

DRAFT “IN-HOUSE” RESEARCH PROPOSAL (Bennett with TAC input)

Strong circulated a brief outline of his proposal for projects for his first year as research scientist responsible for cone and seed pest research issues. TAC reached general agreement that outline was acceptable – pursue development of proposal with pesticides research as highest priority along with other sections dealing with technical help, *Leptoglossus* sound and pheromone studies, *Dioryctria* life cycle studies, and *Dioryctria* pheromone control methods. Reid and Crowder will canvas coastal orchard managers for ideas on coast-specific research needs. Pesticides trials on coast and interior must incorporate high priority hosts.

REPLACEMENT FOR TIB PEST MANAGEMENT BIOLOGIST (Bennett).

Search for a replacement for Strong as the Interior’s Pest Management Biologist has begun. Bennett has provided an initial revision of the current job description and has forwarded this to Reid. Input from Strong and also Kalamalka orchards manager Chris Walsh will be requested prior to sending completed draft to human resources personnel. Bennett is hoping to have posting ready or close to readiness prior to Christmas (but perhaps he is dreaming). TAC members agreed that this is a very important position and must be filled quickly but carefully. Bennett is seeking to have basic qualifications upgraded to MSc or MPM level to help ensure that applicants have good pest management skills.

“WISH LIST” FOR NEW RESEARCH LAB FACILITY (Bennett)

Strong is working with Research Branch staff to work out laboratory space needs and also to arrange initial equipment purchases with available funds allotted by FGC for establishment of the new research position. It is expected that initial purchases will be in the neighbourhood of \$30k. Coupled with salary costs associated with 3 month (Jan-Mar) hire, total 2005/06 expenditures will be well within the FGC allotment.

OTHER NEW BUSINESS

TAC members agreed that formatting and approach of recently revised Turgeon & de Groot eastern Canada seed orchard pest management publication provides a good model for extension publications. Current content of TIB cone and seed insect website parallels this model to some extent.

ADJOURN.

Meeting adjourned by consensus at 10:45 AM.

Minutes compiled by R. Bennett, 6 December 2005.