

Minutes of the FGC Pest Management Technical Advisory Committee

Monday, 30 January 2006: 8:30 ~ 11:00 AM

Telephone conference

Present: Robb Bennett (Chair), BC MoF	Coast pest management
Dave Kolotelo, BC MoF	Nursery and seed pest management
Ward Strong, BC MoF	MoF pest management research
Jack Woods, SelectSeed	Forest Genetics Council
Tim Crowder, Timberwest Forest Company	Coast industry orchards
Staffan Lindgren, UNBC	University pest management research
Dan Gaudet, Vernon Seed Orchard Company	Interior industry orchards
Peter de Groot, CFS Sault Ste Marie	Canadian Forest Service
Roger Painter, BC MoF	FGC (guest)
Regrets: Dave Reid, BC MoF	Ministry orchards
VACANT	Interior pest management

ACTIONS:

Bennett	Larch adelgid study – seed extractability issues – develop in-house project with Kolotelo & Chris Walsh.
Strong	Work with John McLean to develop adelgid proposal for future research funding consideration.
Bennett	Remind Patti Brown (pesticides trials proponent) of need for final report on 2005/06 trials.
Bennett	Request contamination control assurances from Mike Peterson (<i>Fusarium</i> proposal proponent).
Bennett	Request progress report on <i>Leptoglossus</i> work performed in 2005/06 by Gerhard Gries (SFU) lab with internal funding.
Strong	Present detailed project proposals to PM TAC as they are developed. TAC will approve funding for acceptable projects within constraints of budget allocation.
Woods/Painter	Discuss research lab establishment issues with Research and Tree Improvement Branch administration.

NEXT MEETING. TBA in February 2006, to finalize FGC budget request & review past action items

CALL TO ORDER at 8:30 AM.

AGENDA. Meeting format was informal with purpose of reviewing 2006/07 proposals, drafting of 2006/07 budget request, and discussion of any relevant topics. Progress on previous action items was not reviewed.

REVIEW 2006/07 PEST MANAGEMENT APPLICATIONS (Bennett)

Bennett provided a quick overview of financial aspects of applications received in answer to the 2006/07 Call for Proposals. Strong noted one math error – see table 1 for corrected financial summary. Initial total of approximately \$311 k needs to be reduced by \$50-60 k in order to be within range that will likely be accepted as a budget request by the FGC.

Table 1. Initial financial summary of 2006/07 Pest Management Subprogram budget, including salary costs associated with Strong's new research scientist position. Items 4-9 are basis of Strong's draft research program proposal.

Pest Management TAC				
Proposals - 2006/07 fiscal year				Subtotal 1-3
			30,76	
1	Larch adelgids	McLean UBC	5	
2	Fusarium	Peterson AFS	6,589	86,022
			48,66	
3	Pesticides	Brown CFP	8	
			11,00	
4	Tech support	Strong BCFS	0	Subtotal 4-9
5	Leptoglossus trapping	Strong BCFS	summer - 20,746	
			38,34	
		MSc - 17,600	6	139,346
			25,00	
6	Leptoglossus mk-rel-recap	Strong BCFS	0	
			10,00	
7	Leptoglossus bagging	Strong BCFS	0	
			25,00	
8	Dioryctria life cycle	Strong BCFS	0	
			30,00	
9	Dioryctria pheromones	Strong BCFS	0	
			Total	225,368
	Res. program salary costs (approx)			86,000
	Initial program total			311,368

Woods and Bennett reiterated the desire of the PM TAC to drop the Call for Proposals process in future years. Instead, progress on business plan research will be pursued through the new research program alone.

General dissatisfaction was expressed with the larch adelgid proposal – proponent (John McLean) does not appear to be sufficiently up to speed with the cone and seed adelgid management research priorities and needs. The adelgid proposal was dropped from consideration. **Bennett will work with Kolotelo and Chris Walsh to develop an in-house plan for dealing with larch seed extractability issues resulting from larch adelgid infestation. Strong will work with McLean to develop a more focussed proposal which, pending review by the PM TAC and availability of funds within the pest management research program, could possibly be funded later in 2006/07 fiscal year.**

Allotment for pesticides trials work was dropped to \$38 k. Project will likely come in under budget as it has in the current year. Concern was also expressed over the amount of money allocated to contractor fees. At this point, PM TAC members are doing a considerable amount of the organizational work that it was hoped the contractor would be doing. Bennett briefly reviewed current progress on seed extraction and data collection. **Bennett will remind proponent (Patti Brown) of the need for a final report on 2005/06 progress before funds will be disbursed for 2006/07 work.**

Fusarium proposal was accepted as presented with caveat that proponent (Mike Peterson) provide assurance that post sterilization contamination is not compromising results of the research.

Lindgren will send relevant comments to Bennett. Bennett will request clarification from Peterson.

General satisfaction was expressed with initial development of Strong's research program proposal. In this initial year of the new program, the individual project proposals are viewed as works-in-progress; project list will change during the year as opportunities develop or disappear.

Strong will develop (and present to PM TAC for discussion and approval) detailed proposals for all projects as logistics are worked out. Proposals must give clear indication of goals/direction/objectives and of responsibilities of collaborators. Strong must be closely involved with all student work – i.e. Strong must be active and directly involved in selection and supervision/co-supervision of students.

After some further discussion, a general outline for the draft 2006/07 budget request was agreed upon – see Table 2 below.

Table 2. Draft 2006/07 Pest Management Subprogram budget request.

Pest Management TAC				
Draft budget request - 2006/07 fiscal yr.				
			Subtotals	
Ongoing proposals				
1	<i>Fusarium</i>	Peterson AFS	6,589	44,589
2	Pesticides	Brown CFP	38,000	
MoF Research Program				
1	Tech support	Strong BCFS	11,000	126,000
2	<i>Leptoglossus</i> studies (trapping, mark/recapture, bagging)	Strong BCFS	60,000	
3	<i>Dioryctria</i> studies (life cycle, pheromones)	Strong BCFS	55,000	
TOTAL (proposals)				170,589
Research program salary costs (approx.)				86,000
TOTAL budget request (incl. salary costs)				256,589

RESEARCH PROGRAM INITIATION LOGISTICS

Some problems were noted with the timely establishment of the new cone and seed pest research lab at the Kalamalka Forestry Centre. Most of these are of an internal nature (assignment of space and equipment purchases/transfers/loans and need to be addressed within Research or Tree Improvement Branch as necessary. Regular communication with new supervisor and colleagues will help smooth the process. **Woods and Painter will discuss the issues informally with Research Branch and Tree Improvement Branch administrators.**

ADJOURN. Meeting adjourned at approximately 11:00 AM.

Minutes compiled by R. Bennett, 31 January 2005.