



Small Grains/Rice Committee Meeting

Agenda & Meeting Report

Virtual

Tuesday, June 1, 2021

10:00 AM, Central Time

Chair Heather Unverzagt Vice Chair Lauren Port

- 1) Call to Order – meeting called to order by Chair Heather Unverzagt at 10:01AM, Central Time.
- 2) Introductions / roll call – new Agency Directors, Meredith Martinez (Arkansas) and Laura Pottorff (Colorado) were acknowledged. Roll call was conducted by Peggy Gromoll.
- 3) Review AOSCA anti-trust compliance policy – reviewed.
- 4) Review & adopt agenda – motion made and passed to adopt the agenda as distributed.
- 5) Approve minutes from 2020 meeting – 21_AM_SG_02
Motion made and passed to accept the minutes of the previous meeting of June 9, 2020 as distributed.
- 6) Standards Change Proposal – CMS Hybrid Wheat Standards (Sebesta)
21_AM_SG-SC_03
Cytoplasmic Male Sterile is production in strips. This proposal came about because a customer approached an agency regarding CMS production. The proposal has been discussed at the 2021 Regional meetings and some changes have resulted from them. Minimum one inspection in AxB. Adapted the Commingled standards to the CMS system. Motion passed to accept the proposal and move it forward to the Council Meeting on June 22, 2021.
- 7) Standards Change Proposal – Commingled Hybrid Wheat Standards (Sebesta)
21_AM_SG-SC_04
Changed inspection requirements in the strip standards, thus, for consistency, that change is also proposed for commingled standards. AxB production, B production, and R production standards are the same between this and the CMS. Proposal has been discussed and supported at the regional meetings. Motion passed to accept the proposal and move it forward to the Council Meeting on June 22, 2021.
- 8) Oat fluorescence (Doug Miller-IL)
An issue has occurred dealing with oat fluorescence. Saber, or any other variety, could be heterogeneous for seed fluorescence. Breeder doesn't feel fluorescence is a consistent trait. Due to a recent seed test, the variety was picked up as a FSA violation in Pennsylvania. The breeder was notified of the violation. Miller is aware that there are labs that no longer check for fluorescence.

Shooter Oats was discussed several years ago when it was found that over 5% fluoresced differently. The owner had DNA testing that showed the samples were the same variety. SRTD at that time did not recognize DNA or electrophoresis testing. Moore referenced an agronomy journal publication regarding variability of fluorescence. Canadian Seed Growers does not use fluorescence testing. If a variety has been released with fluorescence in the variety description, then you probably have to abide by that description. If a variety description does not indicate what the fluorescence is, not sure if that would be a workaround or not. Any fluorescence variation over 5% is deemed to be not the same variety. Shooter Oats ceased to exist.

Virginia runs fluorescence test on every new variety, and phenol on wheat.

Discussion: how can we move away from antiquated testing methods [fluorescence] and to newer technologies? SRTD does have PCR capabilities, and one could ask that a more scientific test is done. It may be possible to adopt new technology and we should take up this discussion with SRTD to request new tests.

How many states use fluorescence/something else/or nothing at all? MN uses electrophoresis or HLPC for variety verification. General consensus that genetic testing would be a better method.

John Armstrong proposed a letter endorsing genetic testing to get exact results for varietal purity. We may need to better understand where each agency is prior to taking that step. Chet suggested directing the discussion to AOSA/SCST. Labs did not identify a solution after Shooter Oats – some labs do the testing in some cases and some labs don't do it at all. Chet suggests a survey first, worked on by John Armstrong, Neal Foster, Doug Miller, and Chet Boruff. They will draft a survey and touch base with Dan Curry, Standards Council chair.

- 9) Small Grains VRB application changes (Port) – 21_AM_SG_05
Port presented the draft changes to the wheat form for NVRB applications.
Discussion about the requirement for two years of data. Grass has 1 yr, at 2 locations / 2 yrs at 1 location. Generally, it may be more important to think about total data points when looking at basic performance (ie: winter survival, phenotype, etc.) There can be extreme variability from year to year, so one year of data may not be representative. It is highly unlikely that any breeder would advance a variety without more than one year of testing. Motion made and passed to accept the recommended changes and move forward to the VRB Committee Meeting on June 10, 2021
- 10) Application deadlines (is the summer deadline helpful?) (Port)
Chet stated that the July deadline had been added in the recent past in order to be responsive to industry needs. There evidently is some need because we keep getting requests for it. Industry wanted to have the July review, because they could better meet that review date. We need to continue the second review, as demand shows, but could consider changing the timing of it.
- 11) Creation of a different application form for hybrid wheat parents (Port)
Would like to have a subcommittee to work on a form. This would clarify that data is not required for the inbred lines. In sunflower, they only want to have information on the B-line. If describing B-line, need to identify the analog A-line that goes with it. If you set up the application for the B-line, you want to be clear what the A-line is. We should assemble a list

of hybrids and their component lines – not sure that data will be required. Steve Sebesta volunteered. Hemp approved hybrids and inbreds in one application. Tom Hardiman can use his hemp experience to help.

- 12) Does anyone have the ability to create an auto-fill form (Port)
Contradictory descriptors are a problem from objective description to summary page. Sunflower VRB uses an auto-fill form. Sebesta thinks that Gonzalo Rojas and a ND sunflower breeder put together that form. Peggy indicates that the software used is/was Adobe Acrobat. Eric Fabrizius at Kansas Crop has helped on the Acres Applied and could he maybe help with developing a form. Unless an agency staff member volunteers, this may wait until AOSCA office has new staff. Meredith Martinez may have an admin staffer that could do this. Tom Hardiman mentioned that the Soybean VRB used to use an Excel form and he offered to share the form.
- 13) General discussion – no further discussion.
- 14) Other business – none.
- 15) Action items – develop list for presentation at the Council meeting
 1. Motion passed to forward to the Council the Standards Change Proposal for CMS Hybrid Wheat Standards as presented.
 2. Motion passed to forward to the Council the Standards Change Proposal for Commingled Hybrid Wheat Standards as presented.
- 16) Adjourn – meeting adjourned at 11:38AM, Central Time.