

MINUTES

PROCESSING TOMATO ADVISORY BOARD (PTAB)
MARCH 29, 2011
UCD CONFERENCE CENTER
DAVIS, CALIFORNIA

CALL TO ORDER, ROLL CALL, ESTABLISH QUORUM

Chairman Neil Dougherty called the meeting to order at 10:20 A.M. Roll was called; a quorum was established. The following members were present:

Producers

Neil Dougherty
Dan Burns
Chad Crivelli
Steve Meek
Tim Maggiore

Processors

Derek Chamberlain
Tim Hamilton
Pat Rooney

Other Board Members Present:

Darryl Bettencourt

INTRODUCTIONS

Board Chairman Neil Dougherty welcomed the audience. Members of the audience introduced themselves (see roster).

APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MEETING MINUTES

BOARD ACTION 13-11

A motion was made, seconded, and passed unanimously to approve the minutes as mailed of the January 25, 2011 meeting.

ORGANIC CROP REPORTING

Last year PTAB tracked the number of organic loads for the first time. PTAB staff asked processors to voluntarily note which contracted fields were organic. Tom would like Board approval to formalize this procedure, in order to improve the counts and allow for better reporting. Field departments will need to supply PTAB with a listing of the organic fields. PTAB will put out an annual organic report

BOARD ACTION 14-11

A motion was made, seconded, and passed unanimously to approve the tracking and reporting of the organic crop.

GARLIC AND ONION INSPECTION MANAGEMENT

Tom reported the Garlic and Onion Dehydrator Board (GODAB) would be in need of a manager or a managing organization for the 2012 season. PTAB could submit a management services proposal to take over the running of their program. Garlic and Onion has approximately 12 employees and 2 processors. This could offset some PTAB expenses and save GODAB some costs also. Tom stated managing the GODAB program would not affect PTAB's inspection program. Tom will put together a management proposal and send it to the Garlic and Onion Board .

BOARD ACTION 15-11

A motion was made, seconded, and passed unanimously to approve sending a proposal to GODAB for managing their program.

INSPECTION FREQUENCY CHANGE

At the January 25, 2011 board meeting a processor requested that the Board amend the marketing order to allow Processors to have the option of sampling each load of tomatoes one or more times. Currently the marketing order states each load must be sampled twice. The Board agreed to put the item on the agenda again for this board meeting.

DISCUSSION

The growers stated that in polling other growers the question most asked was what benefit would there be switching to one probe? Dr. David Slaughter stated that the studies have been done and that anytime you reduce the number of samples the variability goes up 40 percent. Some of the processors felt any problems could be worked out.

BOARD ACTION 16-11

A motion was made and seconded to update the marketing order to allow Processors the option of one or more probes per load of tomatoes. The motion failed.

FURTHER DISCUSSION

A Processor asked that the Board continue to look at the feasibility of allowing one or more samples as a way of cutting costs and speeding up inspection.

CHANGE RE-GRADES TO SPECIAL SERVICE

When there were mandatory reject levels the PTAB re-grade procedures made more sense. If the change were made processors would have more flexibility in deciding if a re-grade is needed. Re-grades could still be used when the crop quality was down. PTAB management could work with each processor to set their re-grade procedures and then bill this as a special service.

DISCUSSION

High levels of defects are difficult to overcome with a re-grade. Tom stated about one quarter of 1 percent of loads, in 2010, were re-graded.

BOARD ACTION 17-11

A motion was made, seconded, and passed unanimously to change regrades to a special service.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business the Board meeting adjourned at 11:22 A.M.

CERTIFICATION OF MINUTES

I Thomas M. Ramme, Manager of the California Processing Tomato Advisory Board, do hereby declare that the foregoing is a true and correct copy of the minutes of the California Processing Tomato Advisory Board meeting on March 29, 2011, in Davis, California.

Thomas M. Ramme, Manager
Processing Tomato Advisory Board
(530) 759-7501

Date

ROSTER
PTAB MEETING- MARCH 29, 2011
UC DAVIS CONFERENCE CENTER, DAVIS, CA

Board Members

Neil Dougherty
Dan Burns
Stephen Meek
Tim Maggiore
Chad Crivelli
Darryl Bettencourt
Tim Hamilton
Derek Chamberlain
Pat Rooney

Dougherty Farms, Inc
Nickel Family LLC
J.H. Meek and Sons
F.A. Maggiore and Sons
Crivelli Farms
J.G. Boswell Company
ConAgra Foods
Morning Star Packing Co.
Campbell Soup Company

Others Present

Tom Ramme
J.D. Blevins
Connie Read
Angelyne Martiniuc
Joe Monson
Dr. David Slaughter
Roger Scriven
Karrie Rufer
Mark Evans
Bob Rohner
Khris VanElswyk

PTAB
PTAB
PTAB
PTAB
CDFA
UC Davis
The Morning Star Packing Co.
The Morning Star Packing Co.
The Morning Star Packing Co.
GODAB
Sensient Dehydrated Flavors, Inc