



**MINUTES OF THE 32nd ANNUAL MEETING OF THE
HORTICULTURAL INSPECTION SOCIETY, EASTERN CHAPTER
Held APRIL 3-6, 2006 in Rehoboth Beach, Delaware**

Monday, April 3, 2006

9:00

The group attended a field trip to Delmarva fire ant detection sites. Information was presented on the locations and the mode of infestation of the Red Imported Fire Ant (RIFA) colonies. Survey techniques were discussed along with regulatory issues.

1:00

RIFA roundtable discussion which covered the development of quarantine techniques, inspection blitzes, and violation documentation.

Tuesday, April 4, 2006

8:00(Joint Session with EPB and CAPS)

The Eastern Plant Board meeting opened with welcoming remarks from Carl Shultz, President.

Walt Blosser was called on for roll call which resulted in 11 of 12 member states being present. Rhode Island was the only state not in attendance.

Carl Schultz offered the Presidents Report to the EPB where he included acknowledgements for individuals that had shown involvement within the organization.

Faith Kuehn of Delaware spoke briefly on the local arrangements.

8:20

Ken Rauscher, National Plant Board President, offered the NPB Presidents report to the Eastern Plant Board. In his presentation he mentioned the NPB website, national seed potato certification standards, exotic species management and challenges for the CAPS program and its opportunities. Ken also spoke of the NPB Executive Director Position.

8:50

NASDA representative, Bob Ehardt spoke on Homeland Security, Communication with the press and message mapping.

9:25

Colleen Kitzmiller, State Plant Health Director (SPHD) for Delaware, spoke on the National Plant Protection Laboratory and offered an update of the USDA Lab accreditation.

9:45(HIS only)

Eric Ewing, President of the HIS (Eastern Chapter), opened the 32nd annual meeting with a few remarks and then a roll call of states. WV, ME, PA, CT, MD, and NY were present with NH, VT, NJ, DE, MA, and RI not attending this segment of the meeting.

Self introductions were performed by the individuals attending the meeting:

Peter Trenchard, CT
Jeff Brothers, DE
Deborah Hayes, MD
Jaime Amirault, MD
Mark Taylor, MD
Matt Travis, MD
Bob Trumbule, MD
Sarah Scally, ME
Chris Rallis, NH
Ethan Angell, NY
Tom Kehoe, PA
Mike Arnold, WV
Eric Ewing, WV

The 'Historians Report' was tabled due to the absence of the historian, Steve Saundry.

The website was discussed among the group with members of the committee, Mike Arnold and Matt Travis speaking on what they had found. The price of the webpage, capabilities, term of commitment, problems with it and benefits to having one were all discussed. Reimbursement issues were addressed as well.

Pete Trenchard reported on the Newsletter and how he needed information before June.

11:15

Sara Scally offered the Treasurers Report:

Initial Balance = 1556.90

Interest	=	+	7.20
Dues and Pins	=	+	295.00
Website Cost	=	-	106.75

Current Balance =			1752.35

There was a motion from the floor to accept the Treasurers Report and it carried.

(Old Business)

Eric spoke about the lack of a Vice President since Lindsay Modesto had left Delaware for a position with USDA. A motion was made to insert Mike Arnold into that position to fill the remainder of Lindsay's term. This motion passed and was followed by a discussion on a possible constitutional amendment to address increasing the term limits of the president and vice-president positions. This would be a subject for a Constitution Committee along with the protocol for replacing individuals not able to complete their term.

The Distinguished Service Award for Mark Rothschild was distributed for inspection by the members. There was discussion on how to get this to Mark.

11:35 (New Business)

Matt Travis spoke about the upcoming meeting in New Hampshire and representation there. There was mention of a possible letter of invitation for State Plant Regulatory Officials (SPRO), from the member states.

An informal discussion progressed on how to draw new members into the organization from member states. Possible ideas included awarding pesticide points, phytosanitary certification; training sessions in general, post entry certification, agro-terrorism, and NIMS training.

The possibility of extending terms for committee assignments was mentioned.

1:40 (New Business)

New Business resumed with Committee Assignments:

- 1) Resolutions – Pete, Bob, Eric, and Sarah
- 2) Constitution- Bob, Eric, Ethan
- 3) Audit- Mike, Tom, Mark
- 4) Awards - Matt, Eric
- 5) Newsletter - Pete, Ethan
- 6) Program - Eric, Pete, Matt, and a representative from the hosting state.

It was decided that one hour on Thursday should be set aside to discuss the program of next years meeting.

Jeff Brothers of Delaware was introduced as a new attendee.

It was brought to the group's attention that a nomination selection for the Secretary's position was needed since Mike's term would be up at the start of next meeting.

There was more discussion for the change of term limits since we currently had a lack of persons to fill the positions.

2:10

Tom Kehoe presented PA's state report.
New York's state report was issued by Ethan Angel.
Pete Trenchard spoke on CT activities in 2005.

Pete spoke on the inequality of quarantine guidelines between California and the eastern states.

4:00

Bob Trumble issued Maryland's state report to the HIS while mentioning the first detection of the Euonymus Leaf Notcher.

4:25

Sarah Scally presented Maine's state report to the group.

Delaware's activities were discussed by Jeff Brothers but no official state report was prepared.

Eric Ewing presented WV's state report and discussed the WVDA's involvement in different situations during 2005.

There was discussion from the floor on the subject matter of the talk Matt was going to perform to the EPB on Wednesday. Matt's subject matter would consist of the Phytophthora ramorum situations and inconsistencies relating to the problem and lack of reliable diagnostic tools in the field to determine infected material.

Wednesday, April 5, 2006

8:00 (Joint Session with EPB)

*Eric and Matt spoke to the group about "**Emerging Pest Situations and Response**" related to Phytophthora ramorum. The possibility of tailoring surveys to mesh with inspectors thoughts, lack of defined diagnostics, differences in protocol vs. the inspectors view on the situation, the ever expanding list of hosts to sample. It was also mentioned that we need an East Coast oriented protocol for SOD management and detection.*

8:30

*Jim Croon, Delaware, spoke on using "**Electronic Survey Forms**" to cut down on the amount of paperwork involved with PPQ entry. Visual Basic and Excel were two of the*

programs discussed. It was also mentioned how Arc Pad was used to keep track of and display RIFA traps.

8:55

“Preparedness and Responses to New Pest Threats” was the topic presented by Joel Floyd. Joel covered the USDA's history with foreign plant pests, NIMS, crop biosecurity, preparedness and new pest response guidelines.

9:40

Tim Schmalz from the Vermont Agency of Agriculture, Food & Markets spoke on **“Mitigating the Risk of Transporting Firewood”**. Subjects mentioned included the Vermont Emerald Ash Borer Survey Pilot Program, detection, identification of high risk pathways, spatial database of high risk sites, developing an action plan and forming a model applicable to any introduced pests.

10:40

Ethan Angell and Ken Carnes from the NY State Department of Agriculture & Markets spoke on **“Sirex noctilio in NY”**. The Sirex Survey and results were covered as well as trapping techniques and a description of the pest itself.

11:00

Material was presented on **“Sirex noctilio and other pest issues in the USA”** by Vic Mastro from the USDA-APHIS-PPQ-Otis Lab. A basic description of the pest and its current range in America were discussed. Complications in its lifecycle, biocontrols and hosts for EAB, in addition to Asian Longhorned Beetle attractants, survey technology and control methods. There was also discussion about the different strains of gypsy moth.

11:55

Dick Bean with the Maryland Department of Agriculture spoke about **CAPS Initiatives and Updates**.

12:05

An update on the current **“Sudden Oak Death”** situation was offered by Mary Mahaffey, USDA-APHIS-PPQ.

1:30 (HIS only)

Ethan Angell of NY presented a more in depth and informal account of **“The New York Story”** in relation to *Sirex noctilio*. Ethan spoke on differences between the male and female insect in size and appearances. Various other subjects covered were hosts, detection locations, and information about Australia's infestation.

2:30

A follow-up of the electronic inspection report writing, **“Inspection Reports for the 21'st Century”**, was presented by Mike Arnold from WV. Mike spoke on the complications the he and Eric had experienced with this program and how they were outweighed by the benefits.

4:00

Glen Gladders of the Delaware Forest Service spoke on “**The Return of the Pinewood nematode, *Bursaphelenchus xylophilus***”. Glen described the pest, susceptibility of trees, symptoms, disease cycle, introduction, control and reasons for resurgence.

4:28

Matt Travis of Maryland delivered a presentation on “**PCIT-The Future of Federal Phytos?**”. Matt spoke of the electronic version of the phytosanitary certificate and how it works.

Thursday, April 6, 2006

8:00

Jason Watkins, USDA-APHIS-PPQ, delivered information on “**Hot Zone Trapping**”. Jason described the intended results, WV’s implementation, program operation and the effectiveness of this method of predicting trap locations.

9:45(Committee Reports)

Nominations Committee- Matt Travis reported to the group and nominated Mark Taylor to the Secretary position.

Program Committee- There was discussion on the meeting being in New Hampshire in 2007. The representative for HIS was not known at this time. The program for next year was discussed also.

Awards Committee- Matt Travis announced that Walt Blosser would be nominated for the Carl Carlson Award, once again.

Audit Committee- This committee announced that there was \$1752.35 in the treasury at this time.

10:10

Discussion from the floor covered drafting a membership letter and strategy to increase membership.

10:15

Constitution Committee- Changes to the Constitution

1) Article V: Section 1

If both the president and vice-president are unable to fulfill their duties, the executive committee, under the leadership of the immediate past president, shall appoint new officers. The appointments shall be approved by a ¾ vote of the states present, provided those present constitute a quorum.

2) Article III of the By-Laws

The officers with terms expiring shall be elected at the annual meeting for the ensuing year. In the event of a vacancy before a term has expired, the president shall appoint a new officer. The appointment(s) shall be approved by a ¾ vote.

of those states present, providing those present constitute a quorum.

Matt Travis made a motion to accept, it was seconded and carried.

10:20

Resolution Committee-

I) Whereas the Eastern Chapter of the Horticultural Inspection Society (HIS) was established to promote education, cooperation and interaction among state horticultural inspection personnel, Whereas participation of the inspectors from all member states is vital in order to achieve the goals of the Society, and as the HIS is actively engaged in an effort to increase participation, attendance at the annual meeting is contingent on support of State Administrative personnel,

We resolve that:

The Eastern Plant Board (EPB) in cooperation with the HIS proactively support membership and encourage increased participation of horticultural inspection personnel from all 12 member states at the Eastern Chapter meetings of the HIS.

II) Whereas members of the Eastern Chapter of the Horticultural Inspection Society (HIS) are responsible for conducting much of the field work that has been mandated by survey protocols, and

Whereas participation of the inspectors in these surveys is often a requirement and primary means for successful completion of the surveys,

It has become apparent during the process of following survey protocols, that said protocols are often in need of adjustment to maximize efficacy and to meet actual field conditions encountered by the inspector,

We resolve that:

The Eastern Chapter of the Horticultural Inspection Society (HIS) receive the protocols in a timely manner and be given the opportunity to comment on, and suggest changes to said protocols prior to their implementation.

Motion was made to accept the resolutions, it was seconded and passed.

Matt Travis made a motion to form a Membership Committee

This motion was seconded and passed. The members on this committee included Bob Trumble, Ethan Angell, Eric Ewing and Tom Kehoe. Mention was made of forming a CD to include the Newsletter, Website information, presentations and any useful information for distribution to prospective members.

1:30(Joint Session with EPB)

Eric delivered the HIS report to the Eastern Plant Board.

It was mentioned that we should forward a copy of the resolutions to the National Plant Board president.

1:50 (HIS Only)

Eric struck the gavel and the 2006 meeting was adjourned.