

**Minutes of the
Idaho Nursery and Florist Advisory Committee Meeting
8:00 a.m. – 11:30 a.m. January 24, 2004
Statehouse Inn - Boise, ID**

In Attendance:

Howard Hughes, Hughes Greenhouses, Post Falls, ID – Committee Chairman
Bill Dial, Sterling Landscape Co., Boise, ID – Committee Member
Kevin Allen, Pro Care Landscape Services, Meridian, ID – Committee Member
David Jenkins, Jens & Son Christmas Trees, Inc, Sandpoint, ID – Committee Member
Matt Wolff, Baxter Wholesale Nursery, Emmett, ID – Committee Member
Gary Paulson, Trail Creek Nursery, Victor, ID – Committee Member (by Telephone)
Michael E. Cooper, Idaho State Department of Agriculture (ISDA) – ISDA Representative
Ann Bates, Idaho Nursery & Landscape Association (INLA), Idaho Falls – Guest

Chairman Hughes called the meeting to order at 8:00 AM.

NOTE: *These minutes were approved by e-mail review of a majority of the committee members February 5-9, 2004*

Dr. James Johnson sent his regrets that he would be unable to attend the meeting due to family commitments.

Old Business:

Members reviewed the minutes of the January 25, 2003 annual meeting and the minutes of the October 7, 2003 teleconference. A motion to approve the minutes was made and seconded. The motion was then approved by the full committee.

Review of 2003 Grants – Final Reports

- 1) University of Idaho \$21,366 Grant No. NAC/ISDA 2003-3 - Drs. Robert R. Tripepi and John E. Lloyd “Examining Treatments Used on Colorado Spruce to Maintain Postharvest Quality.” A motion was made and seconded to approve the report. The report was then approved by the full committee. The remainder of this grant will be disbursed to the University.
- 2) University of Idaho \$4,360.25 Grant No. NAC/ISDA 2003-2 - Sandra E. Cann, Social Science Research Unit Project Manager “Defining Business Operations Related to the Green Industry.” A motion was made and seconded to approve the report. The report was then approved by the full committee. A formal brochure showing the results was printed and is available from the Idaho Nursery and Landscape Association.
- 3) University of Idaho \$3,425 Grant No. NAC/ISDA 2003-1 - Dr. Dan Barney “Evaluation of Corkbark and Subalpine Fir for Their Potential as Ornamental Nursery Stock and Christmas Trees.” This has been an ongoing grant (year four of 10) and this report was presented at the Idaho Nursery and Landscape annual convention January 21-23, 2004. A motion was made and seconded to approve the report. The report was then approved by the full committee.
- 4) The Idaho Agricultural Statistic Service annual report was present to the committee. The report is for the year 2002 and is on page 16 of the “2003 Idaho Annual Statistics Report”. This

publication is available from the Idaho Agricultural Statistics Service, 2224 Old Penitentiary Road, P.O. Box 1699, Boise Idaho, Phone (208) 334-1507, Fax: (208) 334-1114. This report is funded by the committee on an annual contractual basis with the Idaho Agricultural Statistics Service through the year 2007 as approved by the committee and reflected in the minutes of the January 14, 2002 annual meeting.

Note: Final reports are converted to PDF files and placed on the Idaho State Department of Agriculture's Internet Web Page.

New Business:

Six proposals were submitted to the committee for approval. Ms. Ann Bates, representing the Idaho Nursery and Landscape Association (INLA) research committee, presented that committee's comments concerning the proposals (A copy is attached to the end of this report). The merits of each proposal were discussed by the Idaho Nursery and Florist Advisory Committee. Each proposal was then approved or denied on the basis of the discussion and merits of the proposal.

Research Proposals:

- 1) NAC/ISDA 2004-1 \$4,258 "Holding Bareroot Colorado Spruce Trees in a Gravel Bed" - Robert Tripepi & John Lloyd, University of Idaho. A motion was made and seconded to approve the proposal. The proposal was then approved by the full committee. If the research proves fruitful, the committee will consider additional funding next year to include additional species of plants.
- 2) NAC/ISDA 2004-2 \$8,398 "Evaluating Pinyon Pine and Subalpine Fir Root Growth in a Gravel Bed Growing System" - Robert Tripepi, University of Idaho. A motion was made and seconded to approve the report. The proposal was then approved by the full committee. A motion was made and seconded to approve the proposal. The proposal was then approved by the full committee.
- 3) NAC/ISDA 2004-3 \$3,700 "Evaluation of Corkbark and Subalpine Fir for Their Potential as Ornamental Nursery Stock and Christmas Trees" - Dr. Dan Barney, University of Idaho. A motion was made and seconded to approve the proposal. The proposal was then approved by the full committee. This is a continuation of a previously approved grant. The comments from the INLA asked some specific questions about this study, that, at the recommendation of the committee, be forwarded to Dr. Barney.
- 4) NAC/ISDA 2004-4 \$5,000 "Super Absorbent Douglas Fir Bark: A New Container Medium Component" - Virginia Lohr & Caroline Pearson-Mims, Washington State University. A motion was made and seconded to approve the proposal. The proposal was then denied by a majority of the members of the committee. Some of the committee member felt that this study should be funded by the company who owned the product who would receive the most benefit from the study.
- 5) NAC/ISDA 2004-5 \$15,000 "Effect of Holding Treatments on the Health of Transplanted Conifers" - John Lloyd, Robert Tripepi, Jennifer Wood, University of Idaho. A motion was made and seconded to approve the proposal. The proposal was then approved by a majority of the members of the committee.
- 6) NAC/ISDA 2004-6 \$5,000 "Alternative Practices for Aphid & Honeydew Management on Landscape Trees" - John Lloyd & Steve Nittolo, University of Idaho. A motion was made and seconded to approve the proposal. The proposal was then approved by the full committee.

Other New Business:

Ann Bates brought up a discussion about the Horticultural Research Institute (HRI). The Institute was established in 1962 under the umbrella of the American Association of Nurserymen to direct, promote, fund and communicate the results of research conducted to increase the quality and value of plants, to improve the productivity and profitability of the nursery and landscape industry and to protect and enhance the environment. In 1975, the HRI created the HRI Endowment Fund to provide a perpetual resource to support deserving projects. Ann handed out a booklet on the HRI Endowment Fund. After some discussion, a motion was made to donate \$2,000 to the HRI Endowment, the motion was seconded and approved by the full committee.

The committee also was given a review of the funds available to the committee for granting purposes. Mike Cooper reported that as of December 31, 2003 there was \$130,733.60 and a spending authority of \$60,000. Committee members raised the concern that if a major pest or other similar issue should arise to affect the industry that the committee have available sufficient spending authority to address it. A motion to have the spending authority raised to \$100,000 was made, seconded and approved by the committee. Mike Cooper said he would make the necessary request during the next state budget cycle for FY 2006.

Dr. Tripepi made a written request dated January 7, 2004 for a no cost extension of grant number NAC/ISDA 2003-3 \$21,366. The request was to re-analyze some soil samples to improve the reliability of the data and clean up and remove materials (200 cubic yards) from the research site so that other research may be conducted on the site. A motion was made and seconded to approve the request. The proposal was then approved by the full committee.

Dave Jenkins suggested that the committee be able to contact the people who submit proposals during the review meetings and that they be required to provide their home and cell phone numbers on the application so that they may be contacted. Mike Cooper indicated that he would make that change on the application. Ann Bates volunteered to reword the call for proposals and the timeline for the submission of proposals. Once she has a draft the committee may have a conference call to review her suggestions.

The committee members discussed the possibility of funding “educational speakers.” Many of the different organizations cannot afford to bring in researchers as presenters. The committee felt that this may be a good use of the research dollars. The timeline may have to be different from the grants.

Ann Bates asked that we have a conference call in July to review the other states proposal forms and reword ours. She also suggested that we look into changing the timeline. Ann will send out suggestions for rewording of the proposals to the committee members and then a conference call will be scheduled.

The possibility of funding multi-year research proposals was discussed briefly and tabled for future discussion.

The meeting adjourned at 11:30 AM.

The following is a handout distributed at the committee meeting by the Idaho Nursery and Landscape Association:

January 23, 2004

Minute's from the INLA Research Committee Meeting

Attending: Dana Moss, Chairman, Gene Andrews, Mark Palmer, Randy Poss Meeting January 22, With Joan & Mike Mount

Phone Meeting with Gary Paulson January 21

The Research Committee recommends to the Nursery Advisory Board the following research proposals are considered for approval for funding.

1. NAC-ISDA 2004-6 Alternative Practices for Aphid & Honeydew Management on Landscape Trees. We recommend this project but would like to see the records of the previously used eradication methods used in the midterm report, due the age of the trees being used in the project on the campus. Concerns were expressed by some committee members about the proximity of the trees to the sidewalks, buildings, traffic. Committee members feel this is a valid concern with Tilia Trees and aphid problem.

The following projects we would recommend for approval if the following items are addressed before approval is given by the Advisory Board.

1. NAC-ISDA 2004-1 Holding Bareroot Colorado Spruce Trees in a Gravel Bed. . We would like to see if one more species could be added to this research for comparison/testing purposes, such as Pine or Fir. If the additional cost of trees needed to be added to the funding request a cost sheet could be added to the funding. We feel this research may be too limited with just the Colorado Spruce Tree.
2. NAC-ISDA 2004-2 Evaluating Pinyon Pine and Subalpine Fir Root Growth in a Grovel Bed Growing System. This project in very similar to the previous project and at first appears it needs to be combined but the gravel beds are different with the addition of fertilizer and the media base for the gravel. Has a through literary search been done of this? If there is not research already done that would answer the questions this project is trying to do, then we would recommend this project.
3. NAC-ISDA 2004-3 Evaluation of Corkbark and Subalpine Fir for their Potential Ornamental Nursery Stock and Christmas Trees. We have many questions concerning the continued funding of this research. We would like to have the following things addressed before consideration for this project is done.
 - A.) Is this the correct title? Is this a seed source study?
 - B.) We would like to see results by an overall comparison of each viable seed source. Discontinue the study of poor seed sources
 - C.) If this is a seed source study, is the project done?
 - D.) We need to see results from the fourth research site in Oregon.
4. NAC-ISDA 2004-5 Effect of holding treatments on the health of transplanted Conifers. We need to see a cost breakdown. The cost of this research is very high and it appears from the lack of information given that the \$15,000 is being requested for the wages, for the graduate student. We also feel this project should be done with an established nursery/garden center that would work with there nursery stock. The graduate student would work with this business. The business needs to have a reputation for quality' care practices so they are a viable source of research. This would get results that, have amore practical application to our membership.

The INLA Research committee feels the following project should be denied funding at this time.

NAC-ISDA 2004-4 Super absorbent Douglas Fir Bark: A New Container Medium Component?
This type of research has been done and appears as if the only business that would benefit this would be Plant Care Technologies, as listed in the proposal.

Could the Advisory Board consider the following items for change/review.

We request that all proposals have the results of the library/literary search enclosed with the proposal. We would like to have site specific information to show a through search was done. A lot of the projects proposed seem to be a duplication of existing research.

We also would like to request that mid-term and final reports are sent to the Research Committee. They can be emailed in a PDF file to the chairman who will forward to the committee members.

Timeline for research proposals needs to be revised.

March 1 st	Research committee submits preferred list of research topics.
May 1 st	List of preferred projects (combination of research committee and Advisory Board listed on web site and mail as needed)
Nov 1 st	Proposals Due to Department of Agriculture
Nov 30 th	Send Proposals to research committee and advisory board
Dec 15 th	Teleconference with research committee on the proposals
Jan 5 th	Recommendations to Advisory Board
Jan 18 th	INLA Show, follow up

Lastly, would the Advisory Committee consider two to three year projects?
Would the researcher need to ask for all of the funding the first year?