

**Minutes of the
Idaho Nursery and Florist Advisory Committee Meeting
Boise Centre on the Grove, 850 W. Front St, Boise, Idaho
11:45 a.m. – 1:40 p.m., January 15, 2020**

In Attendance

Committee Members

Walt Coiner, Hollyberry Nursery, Hansen, ID – Committee Chairman
 Robert (Bob) Reggear, Reggear Tree Farm, Orofino, ID – Committee Member (absent)
 Joan Mount, Green Things Nursery, Orofino, ID – Committee Member
 Sharon Storey, Webb Landscape Inc, Ketchum, ID – Committee Member
 Kelly Baker, Teton Turf & Tree Farms Inc, Sugar City, ID – Committee Member
 Wade Steele, Clayton Tree Farm, Nampa, ID – Committee Member
 Jared K. Stuart, Idaho State Department of Agriculture (ISDA) – ISDA Representative
 Dr. Robert Tripepi, Ph.D., University of Idaho – University of Idaho Representative

Guests

Dr. Stephen L. Love, Ph.D., University of Idaho
 Dr. James Woodhall, Ph.D., University of Idaho
 Mike Mount, Green Things Nursery, Orofino, ID
 Kathy Noble, LA, Sawtooth Botanical Garden, Sun Valley, ID
 Shari Ferree, Idaho State Department of Agriculture

Call to Order and Comments from the Chair and Introductions

Chairman Walt Coiner called the Idaho Nursery and Florist Advisory Committee (NAC) meeting to order at 11:49 a.m. Walt Coiner called for any changes or additions to the October 23, 2019 meeting minutes. A motion to approve the meeting minutes was made by Sharon Storey and seconded by Kelly Baker: the motion was approved by the committee.

Budget Report: Jared Stuart gave an overview of the budget. During the January 2019 committee meeting, grant and educational outreach requests totaling \$45,349.00 were approved. As of January 10, 2020, the receipts totaled \$33,225.00, and expenses were \$1,169.00, leaving a balance of \$184,985.16. Pending approval of the final grant reports, there is an outstanding obligation of \$23,863.00. This leaves \$161,122.16 for funds that could be granted in the coming year. There are new grant and educational outreach application requests in the amount of \$61,919.00.

For each \$100 nursery license issued by ISDA \$25.00 is dedicated to the research fund to support the grant program.

Nursery Research Account Budget Summary

	Receipts	Expenses	Balance
FY2011	\$51,721.99	\$68,504.70	\$ 96,703.62
FY2012	\$44,875.00	\$66,022.58	\$ 75,556.04
FY2013	\$45,900.00	\$44,109.04	\$ 77,347.00
FY2014	\$44,450.00	\$42,087.72	\$ 79,709.28
FY2015	\$44,625.00	\$48,460.22	\$ 75,874.06
FY2016	\$46,000.00	\$ 9,536.06	\$112,338.00
FY2017	\$46,752.50	\$35,319.85	\$123,770.65
FY2018	\$49,901.00	\$31,689.36	\$141,982.29
FY2019	\$53,175.00	\$42,247.00	\$152,910.29
FY2020	\$33,243.87	\$ 1,169.00	\$184,985.16 as of 1/10/2020

ISDA Updates:

Nursery renewal statistics: For 2019 there were 2,102 nursery licenses were issued, up from 2,039 in 2018. On December 3, 2019, 2,387 renewal packets were mailed out. As of Tuesday January 14, 2020, we had received 1,320 license renewals; the same date last year when we had 1,184 renewals. Late fees are applied after February 1st and late notices will be mailed at the beginning of March.

Japanese beetle Eradication and Surveillance project: From Jared Stuart:

1993 to 1996: 0 (zero). 1997: 1 beetle in Gooding Co. 1998-2010: 0 (zero). 2011: 1 beetle in Twin Falls Co.

2012: 61: 1 beetle in Bannock Co., 4 beetles in Kootenai Co., 56 beetles in Ada Co. (Boise).

2013: 3058 beetles in Ada Co. (Boise) – first year of treatment in Boise.

2014: 1283 beetles in Ada Co. (Boise) – second year of treatment in Boise.

2015: 365 beetles in Ada Co. (Boise) – third year of treatment in Boise.

2016: 128 beetles in Ada Co. (Boise) – fourth year of treatment in Boise.

2017: 19 (nineteen) beetles in Ada Co. (Boise) – fifth year of treatment in Boise.

2018: 5 (five) beetles: 4 in Ada Co. (Boise) and 1 in Pocatello – sixth year of treatment in Boise.

*2019: 4 (four) beetles: All in the Pocatello area, near the golf course. It is the same area where there was one catch in 2018, so we were delimit trapping this year. We will continue to delimit trap in 2020 to make sure there is not a population. Outside of the golf course, there is not much natural habitat for the beetles. We are in contact with the golf course about their treatment plans for grubs, etc. ISDA did not have any 2019 treatment areas anywhere in Idaho. This is our first year without any treatments in the Boise area since 2013. With treatment of Japanese Beetle, you don't know how you've done until the next year. 650+ traps in Boise with **zero catches!** About 30 traps in Pocatello, each catch there was in a different trap. About 275 traps spread throughout the rest of the state in high risk location with **zero catches!** Delimit trapping needs to happen before any treatment. In the past, there have been areas where we had catches, but after delimit trapping, there were no catches. And other areas where we'd have two catches and delimit trapping would show a population.*

This program has been a big success for Idaho. It is proof to the other western states that Japanese beetles can be eradicated if you are diligent and do your homework. In the surrounding states, things are not working out so well. Colorado had Japanese beetle come in around 2014 with no treatments. They believed that the climate and habitat would keep a population from establishing. We've seen pictures of Denver area roses completely covered in Japanese beetles. Billings Montana has an established population for some time. They've trapped 1,500 beetles in fifteen traps. We don't feel like they are doing their due diligence. Next week we have a conference call with the Western Plant Board where we will discuss changing their status to a category two state, which means no nursery stock, which is a host, may come into Idaho without proper treatment and documentation. That may include post entry inspection as well. Oregon is fighting the good fight against Japanese beetles. They've always had a population around their airport. About three years ago they found a population in residential Portland. This is exactly where you would want to treat with insecticide. Last year they had 10,000 beetles there. I believe that they had a successful year this year and will be continuing the program. I will know more next week. California is 'status quo'. There were less flight beetles this year than in the past. They have a few locations, but they have more traps than anyone else. There are still Japanese beetle issues in British Columbia as well. We will continue trapping this year, but we are looking pretty good now.

Invasive Species: Jared Stuart: No Gypsy moth catches this year. We've been joint trapping with Forest Service and Department of Lands. We did not have any other red flags as far as pests go.

Legislative Updates: Jared Stuart: Last year there was a continuing resolution that should have been passed by the House, but was not. Because of that, all rules in Idaho were set to expire on June 30, 2019. The Governor put all rules in Idaho under temporary status until the following year when legislation could be passed. Now all rules are under consideration by the legislature. Both the House and Senate must

review and approve. Most are reviewed as one giant rule. We have a few that are outside of that; proposed rules from the bean and grape industries. For grapes it was to add Red Blotch in order to be consistent with Oregon and Washington's virus free certification program from grape stock. We also combined some rules together. There were two separate blue grass rules that combined into one. Soy beans and beans, referred to as non-phaseolus and phaseolus combined into one rule. We eliminated a snail rule that was double covered by the invasive species rule. This all came from the Red Tape Reduction Act from the Governor's office.

Old Business

Review of 2019 Final Reports:

- 1) NAC/ISDA 2019-1, \$2,623.00 "Overwatering and Overfertilizing Landscape Plants: Why This Behavior Happens and How It Affects Environmental Health" – Dr. Linda Chalker-Scott, Ph.D., Washington State University, Puyallup Research and Extension Center. (Paid in full on 3/15/2019.) An extension was granted on October 23, 2019.
- 2) NAC/ISDA 2019-2, \$20,972.00 "UAV-Based In-Season Assessment of Fruit Trees" – Dr. Olga Walsh, Ph.D., University of Idaho Parma Extension Center. (\$10,486.00 paid on 3/15/2019) A motion to approve the report was made by Sharon Storey and seconded by Wade Steele; the motion was approved by the committee. (Outstanding balance of \$10,486.00.)
- 3) NAC/ISDA 2019-3, \$5,000.00 "2020 Idaho Horticulture Expo Education" – Ann Bates, Idaho Nursery & Landscape Association. A motion to approve the report was made by Sharon Storey and seconded by Wade Steele; the motion was approved by the committee. (To be paid upon invoice and approval of the 2020 annual meeting minutes.)
- 4) NAC/ISDA 2019-4, \$7,000.00 "The Perks of Plants Magazine" – Ann Bates, Idaho Nursery & Landscape Association. (\$3,500.00 paid on 3/15/2019) A motion to approve the report was made by Sharon Storey and seconded by Wade Steele; the motion was approved by the committee. (Outstanding balance of \$3,500.00.)
- 5) NAC/ISDA 2019-5, \$9,754.00 "Establishing a Native Plant Trial Garden in Sandpoint, Idaho" – Dr. Robert Tripepi, Ph.D., Dr. Stephen Love, Ph.D., and Jennifer Jensen, University of Idaho. (\$4,877.00 paid on 3/15/2019) Dr. Tripepi stated that the garden had been planted and he last visited it on December 10, 2019. A couple of plants had died, but the garden is looking okay at this time. We'll see what the upcoming spring season brings. A motion to approve the report was made by Sharon Storey and seconded by Wade Steele; the motion was approved by the committee. (Outstanding balance of \$4,877.00.)

New Business

2020 Research Proposals

- 1) NAC/ISDA 2020-1 \$7,403.00, "Cultural Alternatives to Manage Anthracnose Leaf Spot Disease in Greenhouses" – Andrew Steven Nelson, Ph.D., University of Idaho, Moscow. Joan Mount stated in the past they have used copper to eradicate anthracnose, but she did not see any mention of copper in the proposal. Has copper been considered? As it's normally considered to be an organic, not a chemical. Joan asked if it is naturally occurring in the environment, are they going to inoculate all of the plants? Will he go through all of this study only to find that there is nothing that can be done because it naturally occurs in the environment? How many people are growing bitterbrush? How important it is to our industry? Dr. Love stated that bitterbrush is mostly used for restoration purposes. A motion to approve the grant request was made by Sharon Storey and seconded by Wade Steele; the motion was approved by the committee.
- 2) NAC/ISDA 2020-2 \$9,920.00, "Developing Diagnostics and Evaluating Control Methods for Diseases of Woody Plants" – James Woodhall, Ph.D., University of Idaho, Parma Research & Extension Center. Dr. Woodhall stated that the goal is to find a treatment to be used in the field that does not require boring into the tree or at least completely repairing any boring that is done to the

tree. Using a surfactant, they may be able to treat directly through the tree bark. Wade Steele asked about the labeling and use of the chemicals. Dr. Woodhall confirmed that they were pesticides, but he was unsure of the labeling use. Currently all testing will happen in the Treasure Valley area, using standard DNA based tests. A motion to approve the grant request was made by Sharon Storey and seconded by Wade Steele; the motion was approved by the committee.

- 3) NAC/ISDA 2020-3 \$9,206.00, "Molecular Characterization of Bacterial Communities in Container Crops Following Treatment with Liquid Biological Amendments" – Robert R. Tripepi, Ph.D., University of Idaho, Moscow. Dr. Tripepi stated that a number of companies are selling biological compounds that are supposed to stimulate plant growth. They are marketed for soils, but they are affecting food web by stimulating growth and releasing bacteria. The companies say they are for soils, but I have not seen anything outside of that showing this to be true. How long does the bacteria live once it is applied? Does it stimulate other micro-organisms to grow? We are looking at plant and soil DNA analysis results to see if there are any mineral differences. The question was asked why we pasteurize the soil media. We wanted to make sure that the effects we see are only from the amendment we are testing and to verify that there was nothing additional in the potting mix to inhibit the amendments. Only the greenhouse plant soil was pasteurized, not the field grown plants, The pasteurizing may have inhibited the growth of some plants. Wade Steele asked if the information will be transferrable from one brand to another? Dr. Tripepi stated that each product is very different and it is probably not transferrable. Many of the amendments sold also have fertilizer, so what is actually helping the plants to grow, the amendment or the fertilizer? A motion to approve the grant request was made by Joan Mount and seconded by Sharon Storey; the motion was approved by the committee.
- 4) NAC/ISDA 2020-4 \$12,990.00, "Determining Foliar Nutrient Contents of In vitro Little-Leaf Mockorange Shoots for Use in Spectral Imaging" – Robert R. Tripepi, Ph.D., University of Idaho, Moscow. Dr. Tripepi stated that the use of Mockorange from Dr. Love's research has been very easily cultured. We're trying to use this as a model system for both culture and field use when we put the data out. The goal is to grow these and get the results in the best medium. We will have both foliar and spectral analysis and determine the nutrients in the plants. The results should be transferrable to field plants. The field equipment can run from \$400 to \$20,000 depending on the amount of details you are requiring. As with most technology, the equipment costs will keep coming down. A motion to approve the grant request was made by Wade Steele and seconded by Sharon Storey; the motion was approved by the committee.
- 5) NAC/ISDA 2020-5 \$7,500.00, "Trees Are the Answer: Plant One Today" – Ann Bates, Idaho Nursery & Landscape Association, Idaho Falls. Joan Mount stated that she gives the publications to her customers. They promote INLA and its members, not horticulture as a whole. The last one had more horticulture articles. She needs more contributions of condensed research articles that can help to spread the good news to the public. She needs cooperation from all of us to get those articles for the magazine. Wade Steele said that he has never seen any of the publications that the research produces. It would be great if we could get a copy to the committee to actually see what we are working toward. Joan suggested listing the current projects that the committee is funding. Wade said it would help the nursery license holders to see what their annual \$25 contribution is helping to fund. Dr. Woodhall said that the committee needs a way to capture the information. Sharon Storey asked Joan if she wanted a synopsis of the meetings into the publications? Joan replied that single column articles are needed because Ann is looking for contributions of interest. It could be a list of approved projects or abstract contributions from various researchers that are being funded. Extension offices receive the magazines; it would be a great way to get the information to the public and industry. Dr. Woodhall asked if it could be a little as a 300 word article from each researcher? Sharon agreed that it should be small and easy to read and understand by the general public. Joan noted that INLA puts out different publications including The Tap Root and articles can be used as needed. We need to make

these more interesting to the public. Often she sees people who pick it up, look at it and put it back down. They aren't taking it with them. Walt Coiner suggested adding testimonials from professionals. A motion to approve the grant request was made by Sharon Storey and seconded by Kelly Baker; the motion was approved by the committee.

- 6) NAC/ISDA 2020-6 \$6,000.00, "2021 Idaho Horticulture Expo Education" – Ann Bates, Idaho Nursery & Landscape Association, Idaho Falls. A motion to approve the grant request was made by Sharon Storey and seconded by Kelly Baker; the motion was approved by the committee.
- 7) NAC/ISDA 2020-7 \$8,900.00, "Establishing a Cold-Hardiness Test Garden in Blaine County, Idaho" – Kathy Noble, LA, Sawtooth Botanical Garden, Sun Valley. Kathy Noble stated that she had observed the garden that Dr. Love had built in northern Idaho, because we have similar problems in our area because of the high altitude, short season, and lack of organic material in our soil. The new varieties of plants that are being distributed by the nurseries have unknown hardiness for our area. I regularly see that our local nurseries are very cautious about stocking new plant species because we just don't know how they well they will survive. We just don't know if they are hardy enough for us to carry. At the Sawtooth Botanical Garden (SBG) we have an area that can be developed to test some of these new varieties for our short season and cold winters. We would be able to show our residents what they can plant in their own gardens. That will also help the nurseries to know what they can order and be successful with selling in their operations. She then spoke with Dr. Love and he agreed to help with the project. Dr. Love noted that there is a great difference in the altitudes and snow cover in our small county. He recommended that we find additional areas within the county for further testing to get a better reading of the hardiness. I reached out to some of the local nurseries about additional tree species and they are hesitant because of adequate testing sites. I'm not sure if we will be able to include new tree varieties at this time. Sharon Storey asked how will the results be released? Kathy Noble stated that she would be glad to do whatever the committee thought would be best, like an article for Tap Root. She also noted that SBG has a monthly newsletter that will also have the information. She would also be willing to have a presentation for the annual Horticulture Expo. Dr. Love noted that this project will also enhance the offerings of SBG to the public. Kathy agreed and noted that the local nature conservancy also offers classes in conjunction with SBG to the public and local professionals that also extend to soil, irrigation and plant material, as well as the Master Gardener Program (MGP). Joan Mount asked if they use the next level of education after MGP, which is Certified Nurserymen, as instructors in your program? Kathy said that they have never used any of the Certified Nurseryman as there are only two nurseries that propagate product in their valley (Webb and Whitehead). There are others that do not actually propagate, they mostly purchase product from other facilities. Joan asked about retailers, and Kathy noted that there are four local retail nurseries. Joan noted that the retailers are the last line of defense in getting information to the public for things like hardiness. She asked if the retail nurseries participated in any of the classes? Kathy confirmed that they generally do. Sharon Storey asked if it were possible to have the newsletters shared with all four of the retail facilities, as the information will be very helpful. Kathy noted that the newsletter is actually only available online at SBG website, but the website is in all of their different handouts. Kathy noted that they have not published any new ones recently, but they will be updated. Dr. Love stated that Kathy helped to develop a series of guides for high elevation production for landscaping and all aspects of horticulture and this work could easily be transferred into those publications too. He confirmed that he would also be willing to help with that aspect of the project. A motion to approve the grant request was made by Sharon Storey and seconded by Kelly Baker; the motion was approved by the committee.

University of Idaho Report: Dr. Robert Tripepi: Dr. Don Morishita, who gave a presentation this morning, actually retired last April. We have interviewed candidates and should have a replacement weed specialist scientist by May in Kimberly Idaho who will handle weeds and agronomic specialties. We are

working toward hiring a barley specialist in the future. We are having budget duress from the Governor. He issued a one percent rescission in the middle of the year. The college feels like we have that covered and are working on the next budgets with the cutbacks from the Governor. The facility and technicians have to adjust because of the funding changes. The committee should be prepared to have more grant requests for technical funding.

Other Business: Bob Reggear sold his business and has retired.

In executive session Walt Coiner noted that the funding requests are up 27% this year. Jared Stuart pointed out that if all of the requests were funded and no additional revenues were received, the fund balance would still be \$99,203.16, which is substantial. Jared also noted that when revenues were down, the committee was not funding as much and it was harder to get the kind of request that the committee wanted to fund. Now things are somewhat better, and if it is known that funding is available, more requests should be submitted so the committee may have more interest in funding certain ones.

2020-7 needs to be continuing beyond a single year for more continued monitoring and more accurate results. The findings need to be available in more places than just their website. The committee would recommend that the study continue into future years for a comprehensive long term approach.

2020-1 make a presentation at the 2021 Hort Expo.

Wade Steele noted that Ann's publications have been lacking substance. This is our opportunity to help her make them better in the future. It was decided that all funded projects need to submit a short synopsis, easy to understand article to INLA to be used in a future publication.

Motion to approve made by Wade Steele and seconded by Sharon Storey. The motion was approved by the committee.

Upcoming Term Vacancies / Expirations:

ISDA Advisory Committees 2020								
Committee	ISDA Person	Idaho Code	First Name	Last Name	Address	City	Postal Code	Term Expiration
State Nursery and Florists Advisory Committee	Jared Stuart	Title 22, Chapter 23	Robert	Tripepi	University of Idaho	Moscow	83844-2339	Indefinite
State Nursery and Florists Advisory Committee	Jared Stuart	Title 22, Chapter 23	Walt	Coiner	PO Box 2587	Ketchum	83340	June 30, 2021
State Nursery and Florists Advisory Committee	Jared Stuart	Title 22, Chapter 23	Kelly	Baker	4735 E Hwy 33	Sugar City	83448	June 30, 2023
State Nursery and Florists Advisory Committee	Jared Stuart	Title 22, Chapter 23	Robert	Reggear	1176 Loseth Rd	Orofino	83544	June 30, 2020
State Nursery and Florists Advisory Committee	Jared Stuart	Title 22, Chapter 23	Wade	Steele	PO Box 68	Wilder	83676	June 30, 2021
State Nursery and Florist Advisory Committee	Jared Stuart	Title 22, Chapter 23	Joan	Mount	PO Box 2167	Orofino	83544	June 30, 2022
State Nursery and Florists Advisory Committee	Jared Stuart	Title 22, Chapter 23	Sharon	Storey	162 Glendale Rd	Bellevue	83313	June 30, 2022

A motion to adjourn was made by Sharon Storey and seconded by Kelly Baker; Walt Coiner adjourned the meeting at 1:40 p.m.



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