

NSAC Board Meetings - Summary of Minutes

Board Meeting – July 21, 2010

Preliminary 2011 Budget – D. Graham reviewed the 2011 budget and the estimations for seeded acres and projected sales based on unfavourable growing season in 2010. The board reviewed the preliminary budget for 2011 and agreed that it's a safe assumption to base check-off revenues on an 80 percent harvest of the MASC seeded acreage. Total 2010 sunflower acres: 134,228.

Agronomist Position – D. Graham presented the details of the agronomist position, the budget and job description to be advertised. The position will be posted the week of October 4th (online) with a closing date of November 12th, 2010. The details of the hiring process were discussed with a goal of hiring by early December to have the employee in place by January 3rd, 2011.

MASC Meeting Review – D. Graham presented the proceedings from the Manitoba Agricultural Service Corporation (MASC) meeting in March, discussing the options for blackbird damage coverage, dark roast protocol and developing a write-off threshold for sunflowers. The Board agreed that the NSAC needs to develop a consensus among processors to develop a protocol for dark roast and a write-off threshold for sunflowers.

MB Sunflower Surveillance Survey – K. Podolsky provided an update on the progress of the 2010 Manitoba Sunflower Surveillance Survey and crop conditions. It was decided that the three crop tours/informative sessions will be held at three of the MCVET sites: Morden, Rathwell and Melita.

2010 MCVET trials – K. Podolsky provided an update on the conditions of the Sunflower MCVET trials including the unseeded Beausejour site due to excess moisture. NSAC to refund the seed companies the fees for the unseeded trial.

Board Meeting – November 23, 2010

2010 Budget – The NSAC Board reviewed the 2011 budget as presented and agreed to increase the total harvested acres to 95 percent calculating at an average price of \$0.28/lb at an average yield of 1200 lbs/acre. This budget will be presented to our membership at our 2011 Annual General Meeting on February 10, 2011.

NSAC Constitution – D. Graham discussed the requirement to review NSAC's Constitution and By-laws to ensure that it still meets our mandate and goals for the Association. One area identified for change is to replace the position titled "Secretary-Treasurer" to "2nd Vice-President" to reflect the role of this position. The board agreed to bring this change forward for approval at our 2011 AGM.

MB Special Crops Symposium – D. Graham reviewed the list of speakers/topics that have been booked to date for the 2011 symposium. The NSAC Annual General meeting is scheduled for February 10, 2011 at the Winnipeg Convention Centre. As always, we will be sourcing new directors to sit on the board. K. Podolsky indicated potential growers to be contacted regarding director positions.

Manitoba Special Crops Production Day – NSAC and MPGA have joined forces to hold the Manitoba Special Crops Production Day, a means of reaching out to our growers in the southwest part of the province. The day will feature concurrent sessions on sunflowers and pulses, joining together for a luncheon speaker on GIS. The sunflower portion of the day will include speakers throughout the morning session and feature a "planter school" in the afternoon.

Blackbird Damage Coverage – D. Graham updated the board on the recent amendment in Saskatchewan where blackbirds have been included under the Wildlife Damage Compensation program, allowing growers to collect compensation for blackbird damage without increase premiums. Immediate action is to be taken in order to request that the same change take place in Manitoba, particularly since the appropriate action was taken this fall via blackbird damage assessment survey.

Saskatchewan Sunflower Committee – E. Moats provided an update to the board on sunflower activities in Saskatchewan. Five thousand acres were grown in Saskatchewan in 2010 with acres distributed into non traditional areas.



MANITOBA
Special Crops Production Day

This event will bring together producers and industry representatives in one venue to discuss marketing, agronomy and pest management issues relating to sunflowers, peas and soybeans in Manitoba.

- **KEYNOTE:** Pamela Wilson – GIS instructor at ACC will be talking about GPS accuracies for row crops and valuable field data that can be collected on your farm
- Agronomic, research and marketing updates
- Sunflower Planter School

MARCH 3, 2011
Royal Oak Inn, Brandon MB
3130 Victoria Ave

Presented by

