

University Crop Testing Alliance Meeting
August 11-12, 2009
Kansas State University
Manhattan, KS

Attendees:

Keith Dysinger- Michigan State
John Boyse- Michigan State
Chris Kroon Van Diest- Ohio State
DJ Kroon Van Diest- Ohio State
Dick Todd- Penn State
John Shaffer- Penn State
Jim Breining- Penn State
Darin Joos- Univ. of Illinois
Ralph Esgar- Univ. of Illinois
Brian Henry- Univ. of Illinois
Bill Vinson- Iowa State
Bill Fjelland- Iowa State
Teshome Regassa- Univ. of Nebraska Lincoln
Kraig Roozeboom- Kansas State University
Jane Lingenfelter- Kansas State University

Minutes:

The meeting began at 8:30 am on Tuesday morning with introductions at the hotel. Following the introductions, all those attending traveled to the first stop of the tours at the Biological and Value-Added Processing (BIVAP) facility. Ron Madl, director of BIVAP, introduced the group to many commercial items manufactured with bio-materials instead of petroleum byproducts and led us through the pilot-scale extrusion and fermentation laboratories. Next it was on to Hal Ross Mill where Jeff Gwartz, professor of Milling Science, treated us to his own brand of tour of the 5-story flour milling facility. Next the group traveled to the American Institute of Baking for a walk-through led by Kent Ebrens. We left AIB hungry and empty-handed but immediately went to lunch where we were joined by Kraig Roozeboom.

Following lunch the group traveled to the Konza Prairie Biological Station where some attendees elected to walk the self-guided trail while others enjoyed the docent-guided driving tour. After a very brief stop at the hotel, the group traveled to the Kansas River Valley Fall Field Day in Rossville, KS. Topics included phosphorus management, sensor-based nitrogen management of irrigated corn, soybean seed insecticide treatments efficacy, and soybean cyst nematode/sudden death syndrome updates. The field day was concluded with a dinner and informal tours of the soybean and corn tests.

The Wednesday gathering began at 8:30 am with a quick look at the KSU Agronomy Research Farm and the plot equipment used in the variety trials and breeding projects.

The business meeting began at 9:15 am in Throckmorton Hall with all members in attendance. State reports were the first order of business; all states present reported that the cooler, mostly wet conditions this summer were causing some concerns, but generally tests were doing well. Jim Brieining alerted us to the dangers of losing a cable winder while hauling equipment.

Following state reports, Chris Kroon Van Diest initiated a discussion of revamping the annual meetings of the UCTA to adopt a professional agenda and invite more industry involvement. This was followed by a lengthy discussion concerning a possible merger with the SCC33 (SRIEG?) meeting in Tampa, FL on January 26-30, 2010. Chris moved (John Shaffer) that UCTA members attend the SCC33 meeting in Tampa with a separate session for the UCTA, possibly to be held on Friday, Jan. 29th, 2010. Motion carried 15-0.

Michigan State agreed to host the 2010 annual meeting on August 10-11 if the group agrees that another meeting is needed after attending SCC33. Tentative topic for the Michigan State meeting was an equipment overview with ALMACO.

Darin Joos volunteered to contact Purdue about taking over maintenance of the UCTA web site.

Keith Dysinger and John Boyse reported that the UCTA booth was registered for the ASTA meeting in December. John Boyse asked that attendees send good quality digital photos to him so that he can update the poster. John Shaffer moved (Chris Kroon Van Diest) that each state put in \$50 to help Michigan State pay for shipping costs and other fees associated with the UCTA poster and booth. Motion carried 15-0. Michigan State will invoice the other states for the fee.

More discussion followed concerning the entry of Roundup Ready soybeans in conventional trials and the pricing conventions of contract plots. No more legislative action was presented and the meeting adjourned at 11:45 am.

Respectfully submitted,

Jane Lingenfelter
Agronomist-Kansas Crop Performance Tests