

**Systems Approach for Nursery Certification  
5-6-11 Conference Call - Summary and Action Items**

**Draft** 5-26-11

On the Call: Gray Haun, Wayne Dixon, Stephen Schmidt, Dan Kenny, Carol Holko, Ruth Welliver, Mike Colvin, Aurelio Posadas, Ken Rauscher

Subcommittee discussion: Gray initiated the discussion regarding subcommittee initiatives. Gray and Aurelio indicated that while we are still in the feasibility study phase of this Systems Approach activity, it is important for subcommittee leadership to move forward and review and revise mission statements and objectives, identify membership and establish tentative timetables for deliverables. A draft of subcommittee activities was provided to help guide the discussion. Ultimately the mission statement, composition, objectives and timetables will be the responsibility of the subcommittee and subcommittee leadership. To stay in the process loop, Ken requested that the leadership keep Gray, Aurelio and he informed of conference calls and committee progress.

**Outreach and Education:** Leads, Carol Holko and Ruth Welliver (the draft guidance also suggests Julie Van Meter, Tadd Hardy, an industry representative such as Karen Suslow or Jerry Lee, an HIS member, and Karen Ranes – UMD as additional possible members) Wayne suggested that the committee coordinate with the efforts of the IPM Centers relative to the National Clean Plant Network outreach activities (Lynnae Jess of Michigan State Univ. would be a good contact). Carol and Ruth indicated an interest in contacting Karen Ranes of Univ. of Maryland who is working under an agreement with USDA on outreach for the USNCP. Gray indicated a need to look at the economic benefits of certification and a systems approach as education and outreach materials are developed. This probably should be part of an objective. Ruth suggested that the mission statement should indicate the audience this outreach effort is directed toward. As a follow up to our last conference call, Ruth and Carol indicated that perhaps the Systems Approach fact sheet should be the first deliverable for this subcommittee. It was suggested that the subcommittee may wish to have this available for the annual NPB meeting. Ken requested any additional comments regarding the current draft NPB Fact Sheet be provided to him by May 20<sup>th</sup>. Ken will revise the current draft and then turn it over to the subcommittee to rework into whatever form is appropriate to help deliver the message about our systems approach initiative.

**NPB Model Law and Regulations:** Leads, Wayne Dixon and Gene Cross (draft guidance also suggests Victoria Smith, Mike Bryan, Nick Condos, Dan Hilburn and Dave Blackburn as possible members) Gray indicated that at his request, Gene Cross has been working on some revision of this NPB model for the past year. Generally the group agrees that the work of this committee is critical to potentially adopting a systems approach for certification of plant material. Ruth suggested that systems approach language be incorporated into the objectives of the subcommittee. Ken suggested that there are state program managers in addition to Mike Bryan and Dave Blackburn who may be very good additions to this subcommittee. Aurelio reminded workgroup members to contact SPRO's if they are planning to include staff on the subcommittees. Ken

agreed to contact Regional Presidents about our workgroup and subcommittee activities. Gray indicated that he would be getting together with Gene and Wayne in the next week or so to discuss subcommittee outcomes and set long and short term plans.

**Training:** Leads: Gary McAninch and Collin Wamsley (guidance also suggests Stephen Schmidt, Ann Gibbs, Terry Walker, and industry representative and an HIS representative as possible additional members)

Since Collin and Gary were not able to make the conference call. Ken indicated that he would contact them and share the outcome of the call discussion. Mike indicated that Kathy Kosta has some very good training materials developed for SOD which may be useful. Gray reiterated the need to have industry representation on this committee and suggested perhaps Karen Suslow. Aurelio suggested that Dave Fujino would be a good choice considering his involvement with the California Association of Nurseries and Garden Centers (CANGC) project involving BMP identification and outreach or he may be able to suggest a representative. Gray also suggested that USDA needs to be represented on this subcommittee.

There was brief discussion regarding the inclusion of USDA audit based training in the training activities. A suggestion was made to provide audit based training for workgroup members who have not already attended this session. Aurelio will check on the potential for this training.

**Template/Compliance Agreements:** Leads: Mike Colvin, and Dan Kenny (other suggested members include Kevin King, a USDA and HIS representatives) We also need representation from the SPB – perhaps Mike Evans from Georgia.

Wayne indicated that he has some additional names for possible SPB representation. Gray indicated that Phil Marshall with his forestry background might be a good subcommittee member. Ruth suggested that existing compliance agreements such as those for Japanese beetle and gypsy moth would be a good starting point for the work of this subcommittee.

#### Additional membership for the SANC Workgroup:

Gray indicated that the core group would be getting together with ANLA in the near future to discuss greater participation in this initiative and representation on the workgroup may be part of the discussion. Gray indicated that perhaps someone like Jerry Lee from Monrovia Nurseries would provide good input from the industry side. Aurelio suggested that a connection with CANGC may be good for this workgroup. Mike and Aurelio have been attending the CANGC meetings and so there is an existing link. However, this group seems to be actively pursuing some of the same initiatives, and therefore it probably makes sense to include them as a member. Aurelio suggested that it would be good to have USDA representation as well. It was suggested that there be representation from the regulatory side such as a SPHD and or someone from the staff side – perhaps some one like Charlie Brown. Gray asked all participants to give some thought to other possible associate members who could add to the process. Ken indicated that he would add a discussion of additional workgroup members to the agenda for the next meeting.

Potential Face to Face meeting of the Workgroup: Due to the number of issues to discuss and decisions to be made, Gray suggested the need to for a face to face meeting of the Workgroup and perhaps new associate members. A number of meeting locations were discussed and possible combination with existing meetings. Gray, Aurelio and Ken will spend a little time trying to identify some options for a meeting. After some discussion, it appears that July may be the best possibility for this meeting. It was suggested that we invite NPB and HIS regional leadership to this meeting to expand the discussion and increase the perspective. We will include on the agenda for the next conference call.

Ken requested additional input on the USDA White Paper comments, the NPB Systems Approach White Paper and the NPB SANC Fact Sheet drafts by May 20th.

Next conference call: Friday, June 3, 2011 at 11:00 am EDT.

Action Items:

Subcommittee Activities	Who	To be completed by
Outreach and Education	Leads: Carol and Ruth	
Review and revise mission statement, objectives, adjust composition of subcom.(consider outcome of 5-6 discussion), set initial timelines	Ruth, Carol, and the committee	July 1. and ongoing
Contact Karen Raney regarding participation on the subcommittee	Carol	June 1
Develop Systems Approach Initiative Fact Sheet	Committee	July 1
Finalize current draft Fact Sheet and turn over to the outreach and education subcommittee for enhancement	Ken	May 24
NPB Model Law and Regulation	Leads: Wayne and Gene Cross	
Review and revise the mission statement, objectives, adjust composition of the com. (consider outcome of the 5-6 discussion), set initial timelines.	Wayne, Gene and the subcommittee	July 1 and ongoing
Committee leads to contact SPRO's as state staff are added to subcommittee	Wayne and Gene	On-going
Contact Regional Presidents regarding SANC workgroup and subcommittee activities	Ken	May 25
Conference call between Gray, Wayne and Gene to discuss short and long term	Gray	May 20

planning.		
<b>Training</b>	Leads: Gary and Collin	
Review and revise the mission statement, objectives, adjust composition of the com. (consider the outcome of the 5-6 discussion), set initial timelines.	Gary, Collin and the subcommittee	July 1 and ongoing
Share outcomes of 5-6-11 conference call	Ken	May 20 (in progress)
Check on availability of audit based training for members of the workgroup who have not yet attended.	Aurelio	On going
<b>Template/Compliance Agreements</b>	Leads: Mike and Dan	
Review and revise the mission statement, objectives, adjust composition of the com. (consider the outcome of the 5-6 discussion), set initial timelines.	Mike, Dan and the subcommittee	July 1 and ongoing
Keep Gray, Aurelio and Ken updated on subcommittee progress and conference calls.	All leads	On going

SANC Workgroup activities	Who	To be completed by
Conference call with ANLA regarding industry participation in SANC activities in	Gray, Aurelio, Carl, and Ken	May 17
Conference call with USDA (Sam Johnson) regarding USDA participation in SANC activities	Gray, Carl, Aurelio, and Ken	Scheduling in progress
Suggestion of additional workgroup members	All	On going
Any additional input from workgroup members on the draft comments to the USDA white paper, the draft NPB Systems Approach white paper, and the draft NPB SANC Fact Sheet drafts	All	May 20

Face to Face Workgroup Meeting	Who	To be completed by
Identify meeting place options	Gray, Ken and Aurelio	June 3
Meeting logistics	Aurelio and Ken	June 10
Meeting agenda	Ken with help from the entire workgroup	June 10

Ken

