



Growing together™



Minutes of the Technical Committee held on Tuesday 2nd July 2019 NFU Stoneleigh Park, Kenilworth.

Present:

Edwards, Graeme (Meeting Chair)
Need, Chris (Technical Secretary)
Bartel, Elysia (Meeting Secretary)
Brough, Wayne (AHDB)
England, Jill (ADAS)
Agache, Vasile
Kitchener, Harry
Shove, Caroline
Smith, Mike
Key, Georgina
May, David
Lisher, James
Collins, Spencer
Mason, Lyndon
Alcaraz, James

Apologies:

Fuller, Andrew (report received)
Woodcock, Russ
Braime, Howard (report received)
Bragg, Neil (report received)

ACTION 1	CN
ACTION 2	CN

Send 'Thank you' card to Fay Richardson on behalf of the BPOA as thanks for her extensive service, now that she has resigned from the committee.

Find a new representative from Coletta's to replace Fay on the BPOA Technical Committee such as Sean or Stefan?
Contact John Tyson in the first instance as a courtesy.

Matters arising from the minutes of the last meeting, 29th January 2019

ACTION 3	HK, CN
ACTION 4	CN
ACTION 5	CN
ACTION 6	CN
ACTION 7	WB

Send electronic version of the flyer for the NIAB lighting event to CN for circulation amongst the membership.

Look into alternative PGRs for primrose e.g. Topas, Bonsai and Regalis. Since the last meeting, no progress on finding a replacement for Bumper, which is mainly used on primrose. EAMUs are difficult to get approved for triazoles, and fungicides cannot be trialled specifically for use as PGRs.

Ask Tim Pettit to send an email proposal to WB for <£3k for a water treatment decision tree.

Request an NFU speaker to present at the next Technical Committee meeting on the topic of 'peat'.
Send a note to Lee Abbey with the requirements, including: the NFU's position on peat, details of lobbying action being taken and a suggestion to subsidise peat alternatives ('public good').

Update committee following outcome of Defra consultation on peat.

Topics of Interest

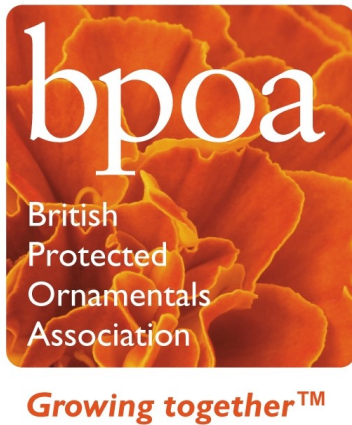
ACTION 8	CN, HB
ACTION 9	CN
ACTION 10	DM
ACTION 11	ALL

Ask HB whether he had tried using Mainman or Sequoia on his *Aphis gossypii* outbreak and whether he has any feedback on the products.

Assign David May to 'Topic of Interest—Automation/Robotics' alongside AF.

Talk to AF regarding a proposal to extend the work of Aran Sena on robotics since further work has been commissioned with Matthew Howard.

Contact DM with ideas for research in agri-robotics since he has won funding to work with horticulture industry in robotics.



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Topics of Interest continued

ACTION 12 DM	Enquire about the possibility of running ornamental research projects in parallel to others in the edible sector.
ACTION 13 CN	Add Coleus growth regulation to research demands.
ACTION 14 ALL	Read through GK's BPOA strategy and give feedback on whether the AHDB are doing enough, on the right topics.
ACTION 15 DM, HK	Summarise the different types of glasshouse lighting (UV) and camera imaging that are commercially available and what the potential crossover into ornamentals could be.
ACTION 16 GE, NB, CN	Continue with work on Poinsettia residue analysis and ask AHDB for a separate funding stream to complete the work. Results so far show that cuttings come into the country with residues for pesticides that are not approved in the UK or EU. PGRs do not appear in residue analysis and Neonicotinoid residues are apparent even if only used early on the crop.
ACTION 17 ALL	Contact JE if discovering any Pansy Mottle Syndrome to help inform new trials work on the disorder by ADAS.

Spring Conference 2020—Pot plant focus and Poinsettia day

ACTION 18 CN, GE, HK,	Decide on a date and location to use for the combined Poinsettia January event and Spring conference workshop/conference. Suggestion 13th/14th January 2020, Poinsettia Event on the 13th followed by Conference on the 14th. Peterborough area was suggested for the conference location.
ACTION 19 All CN WB HB LL	<p>Suggest topics and speakers for the Spring conference 2020 to CN. CN to contact relevant speakers and liaise with WB if additional funding is required. CN to ask HB and LL for suggestions. Thus far topic suggestions include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Primrose growth regulation, use of Bonsai in transport, PGRs and nutrition.—Brian Whipker (confirmed) • Substrates and nutrition—Eric Forschelen (confirmed) • Pest control with UV lighting—Frank Lopez (tbc) • Aphis gossypii—? • New strains of Bemisia and their control —Thomas Boussart (tbc) • Commercial scale water deficit— VA • Biopesticides—? • Automation—? • Novel crops e.g. foliage pot plants, Succulents—?
ACTION 20 HK, JE	JE to present Poinsettia PGR results at the Poinsettia events.



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Technical Secretary R&D and regions

ACTION 21 CN, SD

Keep committee updated with progress on the small invited meetings with growers, on nurseries.
Show AHDB priorities to growers and ask if they agree with them.
Consider holding meetings at different horticultural holdings to demonstrate ancillary technology, as suggested by DM.

ACTION 22 MS

Inform CN and SD about Bulrush 'peat free' meeting.

Panel Discussion Document

ACTION 23 GK

Feedback to AHDB that the BPOA Technical committee supported the amalgamation of the HNS and PO+Bulbs AHDB panels into one ornamental panel, retaining 2 members on the horticulture board.

ACTION 24 CN

Work with management committee to look into the possibility of the BPOA becoming a British Ornamentals Association, representing all sectors of ornamental horticulture.

Questions and Updates

ACTION 25 ALL

Provide feedback to SC if the higher rate approval for Sequoia has been useful.

ACTION 26 ALL

Contact GK if interested in research on root rot, stem rot and crown rot. For example work on:

- Host resistance breeding
- Fungicides
- Biopesticides drenches
- Trouble with Phytophthora in crops such as gerbera and column stocks.
- How to reduce use of Subdue

ACTION 27 SC

Investigate whether there are any drenches available for whitefly control after bract development in Poinsettia.

ACTION 28 CN, JE

Inform members that the withdrawal of Chlorothalonil has been granted a grace period with a final use date of May 2020.

ACTION 29 CN, GE

Represent the Technical committee by attending the review of the BPOA review with the BPOA management committee at September meeting.

**2019 Meeting dates:
Tuesday 15th October
NFU Stoneleigh**