

**North Central Branch Meeting, American Society of Agronomy  
March 14, 2007 – Marriott East - Indianapolis, Indiana**

**2007 Business Meeting Minutes**

Called to order at 7:40 AM, by President Harold Watters

Introduction of officers:

- Past President Steve Paszkiewicz
- Incoming President, Randy Brown
- Secretary/Treasurer, Tony Vyn
  - Harold thanked Steve Paszkiewicz for his leadership and hard work over the past three years, and thanked the new officers for agreeing to help with future programs.
  - There were 47 registered for the March 13 & 14 North Central Branch program.

The 2006 minutes were read and approved.

The treasurer's report from Secretary/Treasurer, Tony Vyn, indicated the branch's finances were healthy with a balance of \$19,543 as of December 31, 2006. We do need to keep in mind that we are a standalone program and get no financial support from ASA. Harold reported that due to low attendance the group will be paying the hotel attrition charges.

Society Report, Susan Chapman, Director of Member Services

Susan once again encouraged us to interact more with graduate students in the region. The Purdue University hosted program is a good idea.

Discussion:

- Meeting with another group
  - Meeting with the North Central Weed Science Society was brought up again. They meet in December, there is some overlap between the two organizations. But we would give up some identity, they tend to bring in weed scientists - not agronomists, likely the CCAs would not attend. So we do not plan at this time to meet jointly with the NCWSS.
- Increasing attendance
  - Attendees are university and industry agronomists. Sometimes CCAs are a larger part, particularly when the program is in Iowa or Illinois. Indiana/ Ohio has less of a history of CCAs attending the NCB program. The recommendation was to keep the program west of the Indiana border.
- Increasing graduate student participation
  - Currently we offer award certificates and cash prizes to graduate student winners. But we often don't get the information of the program and contest to the graduate student advisors, resulting in

less than expected submissions. We need to work harder at communication with department and graduate student chairs.

- Other issues?
  - Fundraising for graduate student awards and program cost offsets. We currently allow graduate students, officers and speakers free attendance to the NCB meeting. We need to do a better job of fundraising to offset these costs. We came to no conclusion other than to be more active in requesting funding from sponsors.

Nominations from the floor for Secretary/ Treasurer.

- There were no nominations from the floor.
- The Past President (Harold Watters) will work with other officers to identify candidates and conduct the election with headquarters assistance. This would be an “Industry” representative year for a new officer.
- Two candidate names were passed on to Susan Chapman in September and elections were held the month of October. Scott Murrell of IPNI was elected Secretary/Treasurer for 2008.

Harold welcomed new President Randy Brown with the passing of the gavel.

- 2008 Plans from Randy
  - Randy will plan the next NCB meeting for western Iowa for March 2008.
- The officers held a planning conference call December 7, 2007.

## **2007 NCB-ASA Program**

### **Tuesday - March 13**

8:30 - 9:25 Registration – set up posters

9:25 – 10:10 Poster Viewing

10:10 Greeting – Harold Watters, North Central Branch President

### **Session 1**

10:15 – 12:15 am

Meeting the Ethanol Demand: Optimizing Corn after Corn in the Corn Belt –

Moderator: Tony Vyn

- Tillage Systems and Soil Conservation for Corn after Corn – Tony Vyn, Purdue University, Cropping Systems Specialist
- Impacts of Increased Corn Frequency in Long-term Rotations on Yield and Nitrogen Dynamics – Antonio Mallarino, Iowa State, Soil Fertility Specialist
- Corn Production Shifts in Response to Growing Demands – Chris Hurt, Purdue University, Ag Economist

### **Lunch and View Posters**

12:15 – 12:45 pm

### **Session 2**

12:45 to 2:15 pm

Biofuels – Crop Decision Impacts – Moderator: Harold Watters

- Biomass Production – Kurt Thelen Michigan State, Agronomist
- DDGs and Manure – Brad Joern, Purdue University, Agronomist

### **Tours**

2:30 to 6:00 pm

Grab a cookie and a drink on the way

Beck's Hybrids, Atlanta, IN

### **Graduate Students (only)**

6:30 – 7:30 pm

Mixer – Hosted by Purdue University

### **Dinner as a group**

### **Wednesday - March 14**

7:40 to 8:30 NCB ASA Business Meeting – Harold Watters Presiding, Passing of Gavel to Randy Brown, President-Elect

### **Session 3**

**8:30 to 10:00 am**

Current Impact of Changes in Plant Density - Moderator: Steven Paszkiewicz

- Physiological Impacts of Moderate- and High-Plant Densities in Maize – Steven Paszkiewicz, Pioneer Hi-Bred Int'l, Inc., Research Scientist
- Impacts of the Changing Planting Rates in Corn – Joe Lauer, University of Wisconsin, Corn Extension Specialist
- Impacts of the Changing Seeding Rates in Soybean – Shawn Conley, Purdue University, Soybean Extension Specialist

### **Graduate Student Poster Awards**

10 to 10:15 am

### **Break and View Posters**

10:15 to 10:30 am

### **Session 4**

**10:30 to 12 noon**

Ten Years of Herbicide Tolerant Crops – Moderator: Randy Brown

- Impact on Micronutrients – Don Huber, Purdue University, Plant Pathologist
- Weed Resistance Issues – Kevin Bradley, University of Missouri, Weed Scientist

## **Wrap-up and Adjourn**

12:00 to 12:15 pm

### **Notes:**

The Indiana CCA Board approved 6.5 CEUs for the NCB program.

Seven graduate student posters were presented. Awards were presented to three:

Tim Boring 1<sup>st</sup> prize \$300, for the poster “Active Sensors for Nitrogen Management in Sugar Beet Production”, by Tim Boring and Ron Gehl, Michigan State University.

Chris Boomsma 2<sup>nd</sup>, prize of \$200, for the poster “Intraspecific Competition in Maize: Plant Population and Nitrogen Rate Effects on Per-Plant Grain Yield Variability”, by Christopher Boomsma and Tony Vyn, Purdue University.

Micah Humphreys 3<sup>rd</sup>, prize of \$100, for the poster “Maize Root Morphological Changes in Metal Contaminated Soil”, by Micah Humphreys and A.P. Schwab, Purdue University.

We used a sample ranking system from the S-3 Division Graduate Student poster competition with ratings based on:

- Visual appearance
- Abstract
- Visuals (charts, photos)
- Data
- Supporting material
- Completeness

Judges were Wes Haun, Dan Fiedler and Harold Watters.

Minutes submitted by Harold Watters