

**COMMUNITY CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE
MINUTES OF MEETING CCC40
17 August 2006
John Curtin House, Canberra**

MEMBERS PRESENT

Jenni Mack (Chair), Sam Beechey, Peter Cone, Joe Elbustani, John Temperley, Neville Prowse-Brown, Julie Buckley
Jo Immig via phone

APVMA OFFICERS PRESENT

Eva Bennett-Jenkins, David Loschke (part), Tim Dyke (part), Alan Norden (part), Simon Cubit (part), Les Davies (part)

APOLOGIES

Jo Immig and Liz Hanna

AGENDA ITEM 1 – WELCOME AND APOLOGIES

The Chair welcomed members and attending APVMA staff.

AGENDA ITEM 2 – ADOPTION OF AGENDA

The proposed agenda was accepted.

AGENDA ITEM 3 – MINUTES OF CCC39

The Minutes of CCC39 were accepted as a true and accurate record.

AGENDA ITEM 4 – CORRESPONDENCE

OUTWARDS:

1. To stakeholders who responded to call for information on container management including a summary of comments received.
2. Marlene Weiss, NSW Apiarists Association with action taken regarding labeling concerns.
3. Congratulations to Steve McCutcheon for successful PSIC forum.
4. Thanks to Helen Rosser for the *Background Paper for discussion of APVMA for Animal Welfare Policy* (March 2006).

INWARDS:

1. S Cubit received and actioned a request for information about chemicals used on a golf course in Queensland.
2. E Bennett-Jenkins advised that Lucerne Australia wrote to APVMA and copied the CCC seeking to establish a relationship with APVMA with a particular interest in chemical reviews. E Bennett-Jenkins has responded and advised of the APVMA intention to hold a user forum and invited Lucerne Australia to keep abreast of CCC activities.

It was agreed that inwards correspondence would be copied to the Chair at time of receipt.

AGENDA ITEM 5 – ACTIONS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MEETING

All actions either complete or addressed as part of separate agenda items. Two papers distributed: *Pesticide in Schools*, by Mark Jenner MSc (dated June 2006) and *National Strategic Pesticide Gap Analysis for Vegetables* (submitted by JE).

Atrazine – Community involvement

It was noted that no further public consultation was planned and that the aim was to finish the review by early next year. J Immig expressed concern about how the APVMA will respond to address community concerns over the atrazine review. She indicated that

there was significant community apprehension about atrazine and pointed to a number of specific issues where she believed APVMA assessment appeared to be deficient.

J Immig to send members copies of NTN and other community group submission to the atrazine review.

After discussion the meeting agreed that it would be useful if the APVMA held a workshop with community representatives, and representatives of DEH, OCS and APVMA and to discuss issues arising out of the public submissions.

It was agreed that J Immig would prepare a meeting agenda and suggest a list of possible community attendees. The APVMA would then work out the best way of hosting the meeting.

ACTION 40.1

- 1. J Immig to distribute NTN and other community submissions to CCC members.**
- 2. APVMA (coordinated by Eva) to host a workshop of community reps and reps of DEH, OCS and APVMA to discuss issues arising out of the atrazine review.**
- 3. J Immig to prepare a meeting agenda and suggest possible community attendees.**

AGENDA ITEM 6 – MEMBER MATTERS

6.1 Member activity since CCC39

Written reports were noted. Oral reports were not reached.

6.2 Trade notices

Not reached

6.3 PISC report

Noted

AGENDA ITEM 7

7.1 Work Program

The work program contributions were acknowledged and discussed.

Three big projects were agreed:

- to prepare a state of nation report,
- to prepare a paper on new ways of thinking/assessing chemical impacts
- a project around domestic chemical use with both a data collection prong and review of risk assessment process component

ACTION 40.1

J Mack to consolidate comments and discussion into workplan.

7.2 Reduced Risk Criteria Project (Alan Norden)

Alan advised the Committee that APVMA has held initial discussions with DEH and OCS but no further progress had been made at this stage on the reduced risk criteria work. This is largely due to new developments in relation to forming the new Minor Use Unit in DAFF.

Alan provided a brief overview of the Minor Use Unit.

A steering committee has been appointed with Trevor Doust from APVMA, Bill Magee from DAFF, Craig Dunlop representing CropLife, Brad Wells from Horticulture Australia and Sandra Baxendall from Queensland DPI. .

Two Minor Use officers have been appointed and a draft work plan for the 12 month project developed. The work plan has four key elements:

- enhancing registration and permit approvals for minor uses
- developing strategic regulatory objectives for key pests and diseases
- progressing reduced risk/ new chemistry / biological control agents
- enhancing communications.

To progress the reduced risk project Allan needs to:

- Prepare a work order for DEH
- Prepare a work order for OCS
- Scope the survey process.

The CCC subcommittee (Jo, Jenni and Joe) will have input into these.

ACTION:

Allan to circulate the above documents to the CCC reduced risk subcommittee for comment when they are ready.

7.3 Spray drift update

The committee concluded a need for:

- neighbour notification framed by an easily followed, achievable process
- a clear definition of neighbour
- appropriate signage for property where spraying is done
- a register for those who could be affected by spray drift
- a training course that covers the breadth and depth of use and risks
- a national practical approach to control of use
- further work on assessment procedures used to measure bystander exposure

The committee agreed to prepare a submission for the next phase of the project

ACTION 40.4

J Mack, J Temperley and P Cone to set up working party to prepare a submission to the APVMA spray drift project. Due 6 October 2006.

7.4 APVMA website update (Simon Cubit)

The committee NOTED the new 'face' of the website that recognises each stakeholder group. It is being developed in html language with a reconfiguring of the content to give a professional presentation. The aim is to give a positive face to APVMA and be user friendly.

It was noted that it would be useful to record the CCC's achievement on an annual basis on the website. Text from the annual report could be appropriate.

ACTION 40:

J Mack to liaise with S Cubit.

7.5 AERP Ag update (Tim Dyke)

The CCC agreed it is important to communicate to the community that the government is monitoring adverse experiences associated with the use of chemicals.

Better education is needed to inform the public of the role of APVMA, in general as well as raising awareness of the AERP.

T Dyke reported there are a low percentage of voluntary (9% veterinary / 20% agricultural) adverse reports being received. Suggested mechanisms of feedback could include an 1800 telephone number; obtaining information from Workcover agencies, insurance companies and poisons information centers, which have a comprehensive database of adverse effects; and specialist commodity groups.

As it is difficult to link with interstate agencies due to privacy laws, some methods to counteract this would be to include the opportunity for someone reporting an incident to give consent for personal information to be given out. Place inserts in other training manuals (ie ChemCert Victoria), with information about APVMA including an adverse reporting sheet and appropriate websites. It was NOTED that Health Canada is introducing mandatory registrant adverse experience reporting for pesticides.

ACTION 40.5

Tim to develop a revised plan on feedback mechanisms for adverse experiences. Due next meeting.

7.6 Chemical Review Update

Written reports noted, verbal reports on ectoparasitcides and 24D and Diazinon were held over

7.7 Labelling Committee Update

Held over.

8 APVMA REPORTS

8.1 Pesticides Program (Les Davies)

The paper by Mark Jenner, *Pesticides in Schools*, has been peer reviewed by David Loschke and Les Davies and been checked for clarity and completion. It is now awaiting feedback from an ACT focus group from schools and parents.

LD asked for feedback from the committee. It was originally designed to provide a national database of pesticide use in schools, inform school managers, provide a national database and improve national consistency in the use of pesticides.

The committee NOTED the project document:

- needed to be clear about the target audience
- needed indicators for hard or soft chemicals
- its web page presentation could be extrapolated into pamphlets and templates for proforma letters
- needed shaping in terms of the end-user and have those people involved
- could have wider application eg for OH&S representatives in schools

ACTION 40.6

The committee agreed to set up a process of CCC feedback directly to Les Davies

L Davies' email address: les.davies@apvma.gov.au . Phone: 6272 3893.

J Immig to send the committee members a copy of her book, *Safer Solutions*,

8.2 Veterinary Medicines Program

The committee NOTED the report

8.3 Quality Assurance Program

The committee NOTED the report

8.4 Board Update

Nil

8.5 APVMA committee updates.

8.5.1 Registration Liaison Committee:

The committee NOTED the teleconference minutes.

8.5.2 Industry Technical Committee:

The committee NOTED the Draft Report.

8.5.3 Industry Liaison Committee:

The committee NOTED the minutes of the last meeting.

8.5.4 Chemical issues

Nil

9. 2006 Meeting dates:

CCC41 Wednesday 29 November + Xmas Board function

10. Other Business

Some items were discussed at the CCC dinner before the meeting with Eva Bennett Jenkins and Peter Evans Convener of the SA taskforce on MSC attending.

Peter spoke about the experiences of those with MSC, the taskforce's work and strategies. Peter expressed his pleasure at having this opportunity and looked forward to constructively working with the APMVA.

Other topics covered included:

- the usefulness of the spray drift seminar and issues arising from that
 - governance changes to the APVMA arising from the Uhrig review ie the APVMA is to become a Commission with a single full-time commissioner and several part-time Commissioners
 - implications of the Banks review for future regulatory initiatives in particular the RIS process
- constraints on the APVMA's role as an operational agency in policy

processes

11. Close:

The Chair thanked members and staff for their attendance.

Meeting closed at 3pm.

Signed

Jenni Mack (Chair)

Secretariat