

Note: Subcommittee notes may include preliminary discussions regarding substances considered for addition to or removal from the National List. They do not represent official National Organic Program (NOP) policy/regulations or NOSB recommendations. Proposals must be voted on by the full Board, to become recommendations to the USDA. Please see the NOP website for official NOP policy, regulations, and status of substances used in organic production and handling.

**Executive Committee (EC) Meeting Notes and
Summary of National Organic Standards Board (NOSB) Subcommittee Activities
Tuesday, December 17, 2024 4:00 pm ET**

Present: Amy Bruch (ADB), NOSB Chair; Allison Johnson (AJ), NOSB Vice Chair & Handling Chair; Nate Lewis (NL), NOSB Secretary & PDS Chair; Brian Caldwell (BC), Livestock Chair; Franklin Quarcoo (FQ), Materials Chair; Kyla Smith, CACS Chair; Logan Petrey (LP), Crops Chair; Jerry D'Amore (JD) - observer

Absent: None

Staff: Jennifer Tucker (JT); Erin Healy (EH); Jared Clark (JC); Michelle Arsenault (MA); Andrea Holm (AH); Heather Kumar (HK)

Agenda

- Review November 19, 2024 notes
- Chairs Report/Questions for NOP (ADB)
 - Reminders for Subcomm Chairs
 - New member training - feedback
 - February 13, 2025 - deadline to submit Spring meeting documents
 - Potential panels at Spring 2025 (Seed/induced mutagenesis/breeding, Swine)
 - NOP Questions
 - New member announcements
 - New member training, guides, training options
 - Sharepoint access, breakout training sessions?
- NOP news and updates (JT/EH/JC)
 - NOP Program Updates
- Food Technologist update (JC/HK)
- Advisory Committee Specialist (ACS) update (MA)
 - FRN for Spring meeting
- Subcommittee Reports/Updates (5 minutes each)
 - Crops (CS) (LP)
 - Compliance, Accreditation, & Certification (CACS) (KS)
 - Handling (HS) (AJ)
 - Materials/GMO ad hoc (MS/GMO) (FQ)
 - Policy Development (PDS) (NL)
 - Livestock (LS) (BC)
- Additional Items
- Adjourn

Discussion

- **November 19, 2024 notes** were accepted as written
- **Chairs Report/Questions for NOP (ADB)**
 - Reminders for Subcommittee Chairs.
 - The Chair provided reminders about deadlines and organizing the work agendas.
 - The Chair relayed guidance from NOP regarding work agenda requests. It's helpful to keep three things to keep in mind when developing requests to add items to the work agenda: What problem is the NOSB trying to solve, what is the return-on-investment (ROI), and how will it make it easier for farmers.

- New member training. No update at this time, but NOP is anticipating the announcements of new NOSB members before the end of the current administration. The NOSB Chair opened the floor for questions or ideas about how to structure and improve the training. New member training materials from the previous training are on the NOSB Sharepoint site, as a base for the next training. The former NOSB Chair offered to review the training curriculum and provide feedback. She noted that it's important to provide as much boots-on-the-ground, practical, logistical training, which is better delivered by fellow Board members, and then NOP can focus on the technical aspects. The PDS is in the midst of updating the member guide and needs to finalize a few templates. NOP and the NOSB Officers will collaborate as they develop training materials, and NOSB members were invited to contribute.
- February 13, 2025 - deadline to submit Spring meeting documents.
- Ideas for potential panels at Spring 2025 NOSB meeting - Seed/induced mutagenesis/breeding, swine. The Chair reminded the Board members to think about the following when considering a panel: What is the goal, and what problems are they trying to solve. The NOSB will bring a short list of ideas for panels to the next Executive Call (based on Subcommittee conversations).
- NOP Questions
 - New member announcements. No update at this time.
 - New member training, guides, training structure. The NOSB is seeking ways to assist the NOP as it prepares for training. Members discussed hybrid training, and the NOP noted that it may record some of the sessions, and provide that to all members.
 - Sharepoint access, breakout training sessions? The NOP has a governance structure for using Sharepoint, and once all members have access, NOP may schedule a formal training. The NOSB may also add information to the new member guide.
- **NOP news and updates (JT/EH/JC)**
 - The Market Development Rule (MDR) for mushrooms and pet food has a publication date of next week. This rule was supported by the community, and will open markets and create more opportunities for producers.
 - The Nomination package seeking five new NOSB members is under review.
 - The transition team for the incoming administration has started the process, which includes briefings with USDA leadership. The NOP is preparing briefing materials as well.
 - The NOP continues to focus on Strengthening Organic Enforcement (SOE) implementation. The NOP shared data regarding imports, and noted that beef is a top import. The vast majority of beef comes from Australia and Uruguay.
 - As NOP looks ahead to 2025, its priorities are SOE implementation, monitoring, equivalency arrangement reviews, Sound & Sensible risk-based oversight, and continued NOSB support.
- **Food Technologist update (JC/HK)**
 - The Food Technologist has two projects: Compiling a list of substances on the National List that are mined, and a parasitocides lit review.
- **Advisory Committee Specialist (ACS) update (MA)**
 - FRN for Spring meeting. NOP sent calendar invitations for various meetings, and will resend updates after the new members join. The Spring meeting will likely be announced after late January.
 - The next call for nominations will be published in spring 2025. The call is for five members, who will start in January 2026.
 - The NOSB Chair would like to invite the new members to shadow/observe Subcommittee calls if they can, and if they are announced between now and January 24, when they officially begin their terms.
- **Subcommittee Reports/Updates (5 minutes each)**

- Crops (CS) (LP). The Crops Subcommittee has a long list of sunset reviews, and is working their way through them. In addition to sunset reviews, they have a petition review and several other projects.
- Compliance, Accreditation, & Certification (CACS) (KS). The CACS has four work agenda items: Risk-based certification, consistency in organic seed use, and residue testing, which has two parts (one on a framework and one on regulatory language). The CACS is mapping out the path for the next two meetings and will determine the next steps for the seed document. They will likely not have a spring document, but have been talking about inviting a panel to the spring meeting.
- Handling (HS) (AJ). The HS is making good progress on its long list of sunset reviews and also has a petition review and a couple of other projects. The HS plans on developing a discussion document on L-Malic acid to test out a commercial availability annotation. Additionally, the HS plans to have a proposal for the Spring meeting proposing a technical correction to the CAS numbers for fish oil.
- Materials/GMO ad hoc (MS/GMO) (FQ). The MS assigned research priority liaisons to the other Subcommittees, and had a long conversation about induced mutagenesis. The Subcommittee plans to have a discussion document on induced mutagenesis at the spring 2025 meeting. Members also discussed inerts, and how they will conduct sunset reviews going forward.
- Policy Development (PDS) (NL). PDS is trying to extract as much knowledge as possible from the five outgoing members via exit interviews, including sharing ideas about the role of the Food Technologist. The PDS is almost done updating the member guide, and has been identifying parts of the Policy and Procedures manual (PPM), that may need refreshing (i.e., TR process, annotation process, Sharepoint site, etc.).
- Livestock (LS) (BC). The LS discussed sunset reviews and potential work agenda items and will put swine on hold for now, although members noted that it could be an opportunity for hog and grain producers to expand their markets. The LS also discussed a potential work agenda item on integrating crops and livestock, and narrowing the scope of the original idea to focus on tree crops. The group will discuss again and then bring it to the Executive Committee for approval. The LS invited guest speakers from the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) to the January 7 call, to talk more about nonsteroidal anti-inflammatory drugs (NSAIDS) and use in Livestock.
- **Additional Items.** None.
- **The meeting was adjourned**

[Previous ES Notes](#)

Future call schedule (3rd Tuesday 4:00 PM ET | 1:00 PM PT, except where noted)

November 19, 2024

December 17, 2024

January 21, 2025

February 18, 2025

March 18, 2025

April 15, 2025

May 20, 2025

June 17, 2025

July 15, 2025

August 19, 2025

September 16, 2025

October 21, 2025

November 18, 2025

December 16, 2025

[NOSB Work Agenda](#)

Milestones

Spring 2025 Milestones	Target dates (tentative)	Weeks PTM (prior to meeting)
NOP - Publish FRN, Open public comment	~Jan 24, 2025	16 -20
NOP - Draft Spring 2025 NOSB meeting tentative agenda	Feb 7, 2025	~ 10
NOSB - Spring 2025 proposals due to NOP	Feb 13, 2025	~ 9
NOP - Post proposals	Mar 3, 2025	7.5
Public comment closes	Apr 2, 2025	3.5
NOP - Send compiled public comments to NOSB	Apr 5, 2025	3
Public comment webinars	Apr 22 & 24, 2025	1
Spring 2025 NOSB meeting - Tempe, AZ	Apr 29 - May 1, 2025	0
Final recommendations due	May 29, 2025	30 days post meeting

Fall 2025 Milestones	Target dates (tentative)	Weeks PTM (prior to meeting)
NOP - Publish FRN, Open public comment	~May 15, 2025	24
NOP - Draft Fall 2025 NOSB meeting agenda	Aug 8, 2025	~11
NOSB - Fall 2025 proposals due to NOP	Aug 20, 2025	~9
NOP - Post proposals	Sept 8, 2025	~8
Public comment closes	Oct 8, 2025	~4
NOP - Send compiled public comments to NOSB	Oct 14, 2025	~3
Public comment webinars	Oct 28 & 30, 2025	1
Fall 2025 NOSB meeting - Omaha, NE	Nov 4 - 6, 2025	0
Final recommendations due	Nov 28, 2025	~30 days post

Note: Subcommittee notes may include preliminary discussions regarding substances considered for addition to or removal from the National List. They do not represent official National Organic Program (NOP) policy/regulations or NOSB recommendations. Proposals must be voted on by the full Board, to become recommendations to the USDA. Please see the NOP website for official NOP policy, regulations, and status of substances used in organic production and handling.

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Absent: Michelle Arsenault (MA); Heather Kumar (HK)

Staff: Jennifer Tucker (JT); Erin Healy (EH); Jared Clark (JC); Andrea Holm (AH)

Agenda

- Review October 8, 2024 notes
- Chairs Report/Questions for NOP (ADB)
 - New Semester Kickoff
 - Review Fall Board Meeting to Inform the Future
 - Process and Deadline Focus
 - New Subcommittee rosters
 - NOP Questions
 - SharePoint
 - Seed
 - New Member Timeline
- NOP news and updates (EH/JC)
 - Rulemaking update
 - NOP Program Updates
 - SharePoint Access
- Food Technologist update (JC/HK)
- Advisory Committee Specialist (ACS) update (JC for MA)
 - Ann processed all travel but if you haven't seen a deposit into your account, please email Ann to let her know.
 - Recommendation coversheet templates are in Cloudvault.
 - See new timelines below for 2025
- Subcommittee Reports/Updates (5 minutes each)
 - Livestock (LS) (BC)
 - Crops (CS) (LP)
 - Compliance, Accreditation, & Certification (CACS) (KS)
 - Handling (HS) (AJ)
 - Materials/GMO ad hoc (MS/GMO) (FQ)
 - Policy Development (PDS) (NL)
- Additional Items
- Adjourn

Discussion

- **Review October 8, 2024 notes** were approved as written
- **Chairs Report/Questions for NOP (ADB)**
 - New Semester Kickoff

- Review Fall Board Meeting to Inform the Future – Members were impressed with how well the meeting ran and commented that the streamlined sunset process went well. A member asked if there is any additional framework (i.e., mechanism for determining if something is available or not) for the Board to evaluate commercial availability. NOP replied that historically the Board has relied on public comments for that information. A member discussed a comment at the meeting about stakeholder engagement. The comment pointed out there are lots of NOSB documents, they are very in depth, and suggested that the Board write an executive summary to help commenters. Members enjoy having in-person public comments and it brings people to the meeting, but there are concerns about several commenters from the same organizations taking up in-person speaking slots. Members are thinking of ways to improve that for future meetings and will continue having in person comments.
 - Process and Deadline – Cover letters and sunset recommendations due Friday, November 22. Email Michelle, Subcommittee Chair, Kyla Smith, and Jared when sending them in. Documents to discuss in Subcommittees need to be circulated by Friday before the subcommittee meeting and agendas circulated Wednesday before the subcommittee meeting.
 - New Subcommittee rosters – The Chair sent out subcommittee assignments. New members are not assigned to more than two subcommittees, so be aware of bandwidth when thinking of introducing new topics.
- NOP Questions
 - SharePoint – discussed below in NOP section.
 - Seed – Organic seed is a CACS work agenda topic. Is there a time when NOP needs or wants a recommendation? Program doesn't think there is a rush to get a recommendation done, and CACS can continue work as usual.
 - New Member Timeline – When can we expect the appointment of new members? We expect new members to be announced before the departing members rotate off.
- **NOP news and updates (EH/JC)**
 - Rulemaking update – Market Development Final Rule (mushrooms and pet food) is moving through departmental clearance.
 - NOP Program Updates – What happens during transition? Generally, all political staff leave at the end of the term. Career staff generally cover the political roles while the political nominees work through confirmation. Once political appointees are in place, the career staff move back to their previous roles.
 - SharePoint Access – December 1st is the agreed upon date for NOSB members to start the process if they haven't already. NOP Standards division and current NOSB members have access to the SharePoint site. We will adjust permissions as new members join the Board and current members rotate off. PDS would like to add language to the PPM about SharePoint. NOP will share language from SharePoint Site Governance Plan that will be drafted within 6-8 months of Board members using the site.
- **Food Technologist update (JC)**
 - Parasiticide literature review in progress.
- **Advisory Committee Specialist (ACS) update (JC for MA)**
 - The USDA travel coordinator processed all travel vouchers but if you haven't seen a deposit in your account, please email her to let her know.
 - Recommendation coversheet templates are in Cloudvault.
 - See new timelines below for 2025 NOSB meetings
- **Subcommittee Reports/Updates (5 minutes each)**

- **Livestock (LS) (BC)** – got through a few of their sunsets already. Working through new requests for work agenda items including swine and integration of livestock and crops. Talked about the recommendation for meloxicam.
- **Crops (CS) (LP)** – Crops found the aquatic plant TR sufficient. Looked at potassium hypochlorite TR, reviewed questions/feedback on compostables TR, working on a discussion document on consistency in compost for spring meeting.
- **Compliance, Accreditation, & Certification (CACS) (KS)** – Went through work plan agenda, passed crop insurance document, four additional work agenda items still on the docket. The CACS will work on residue testing this semester with the goal of a proposal. The CACS will also work on risk-based certification this semester. Still working on seed, not sure if they will have a document for spring. The capacity and constraints work agenda item is on hold for the moment.
- **Handling (HS) (AJ)** – Handling has a long list of sunset reviews, and they are progressing through them. They are planning on having an ethylene annotation change proposal, L-malic acid, and fish oil CAS number update ready for spring.
- **Materials/GMO ad hoc (MS/GMO) (FQ)** – Materials talked about a potential new work agenda item on fermentation, and a potential project for the food technologist on sanitizers. They also discussed how to do sunset reviews for inerts given the fall 2024 recommendation.
- **Policy Development (PDS) (NL)** – Working on establishing guidelines/governance plan for SharePoint to add to the Policy and procedures Manual (PPM). They are working through the exit interview process for outgoing board members. Discussing an interim AI policy based on what USDA already has in place and what other FACA Boards are doing. Working on ideas for new member training. PPM future updates – TR process, participation and accountability, updated annotation process, consent agenda/fast track process for sunsets, executive summary.
- **Additional Items.** None.
- **The meeting was adjourned**

[Previous ES Notes](#)

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October 8, 2024 - note date change

November 19, 2024

December 17, 2024

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[NOSB Work Agenda](#)

Milestones

Spring 2025 Milestones	Target dates (tentative)	Weeks PTM (prior to meeting)
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NOP - Post proposals	Sept 9, 2025	~8
Public comment closes	Oct 8, 2025	~4
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Fall 2025 NOSB meeting - Omaha, NE	Nov 4 - 6, 2025	0
Final recommendations due	Nov 28, 2025	~30 days post

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**Executive Committee (EC) Meeting Notes and
Summary of National Organic Standards Board (NOSB) Subcommittee Activities
Tuesday, October 8, 2024 4:00 pm ET**

Present: Kyla Smith, NOSB Chair; Amy Bruch (ADB), NOSB Vice Chair & CACS Chair; Brian Caldwell (BC), Livestock Chair; Franklin Quarcoo (FQ), Materials Chair; Allison Johnson (AJ), Handling Chair; Nate Lewis (NL), NOSB Secretary & PDS Chair; Logan Petrey (LP), Crops Chair; Jerry D'Amore (JD) - observer

Absent: Erin Healy (EH)

Staff: Jared Clark (JC); Michelle Arsenault (MA); Heather Kumar (HK)

Agenda

- Review September 17, 2024 notes
- Chairs Report/Questions for NOP (KS)
 - Fall NOSB Meeting reminders: Agenda, streamlined sunset summaries (S³), annotation voting process (sunset first?), Inerts questions (see Nate L)
 - Comment webinar practice/run of show: Oct 9, 11
 - Slides for meeting? Send to Andrea/Michelle ASAP, and no later than Friday 10/18
 - Logan - virtual
- NOP news and updates (JC)
 - Rulemaking update
 - Petitions update
 - NRCS speaker update
- Food Technologist update (JC)
 - Public comment summaries
- Advisory Committee Specialist (ACS) update (MA)
 - Fall Meeting - COI/DOI, travel, election process
- Subcommittee Reports/Updates (5 minutes each)
 - Policy Development (PDS) (NL)
 - Livestock (LS) (BC)
 - Crops (CS) (LP)
 - Compliance, Accreditation, & Certification (CACS) (ADB)
 - Handling (HS) (AJ)
 - Materials/GMO ad hoc (MS/GMO) (FQ)
- Additional Items
- Adjourn

Discussion

- **September 17, 2024 notes** were accepted as written
- **Chairs Report/Questions for NOP (KS)**
 - **Fall NOSB Meeting reminders.** The Chair reviewed the following topics: NOSB meeting agenda, streamlined sunset summaries (S³), annotation voting process (re: review sunsets first, then discuss the annotation changes or vice-versa?), and inerts questions (see lead author for questions).
 - **Comment webinar practice/run of show: Oct 9 & 11.** Reminder - during comment webinars please ask questions and minimize comments. The Chair will keep time, so we don't run long.
 - **Slides for meeting.** Send to Andrea/Michelle ASAP, and no later than Friday 10/18.

- **Logan Petrey** will participate virtually, as she is recovering from Hurricane Helene.
- **NOP news and updates (JC)**
 - **Rulemaking update.** Market Development Rule is in clearance
 - **Petitions update.** There are currently 15 active petitions. Six are already under review by the NOSB, and the others are in various stages of review by NOP.
 - **NRCS speaker update.** Amanda Moore (National Resources Conservation Service) will speak at the NOSB meeting, and the NOP is awaiting confirmation of a second NRCS speaker, the Oregon State Conservationist.
- **Food Technologist update (JC)**
 - Public comment summaries. The Food Technologist will complete and send both the written comment summaries as well as the summaries of oral comments.
- **Advisory Committee Specialist (ACS) update (MA)**
 - **Fall Meeting updates.** The ACS gave a brief update about the Conflicts of Interest declarations, travel, and the NOSB officer election process
- **Subcommittee Reports/Updates (5 minutes each)**
 - **Policy Development (PDS) (NL).** PDS is working on the NOSB member guide with the intent of having it ready for onboarding of new members. The Subcommittee is also working on the Food Technologist's workplan and where to house the list of those projects for transparency.
 - **Livestock (LS) (BC).** The LS didn't meet last week, but will meet in a couple of days to talk about meeting preparation. The LS Chair will follow up with members about the sunset process and annotation changes.
 - **Crops (CS) (LP).** Crops recently received a Technical Report (TR) for aquatic plant extracts and requested a TR on compostable plastics. The CS Chair will be virtual at the NOSB, and members are prepared to substitute in case of technical difficulties.
 - **Compliance, Accreditation, & Certification (CACS) (ADB).** The CACS will present one proposal, and three discussion documents at the Fall meeting.
 - **Handling (HS) (AJ).** The HS Vice Chair led the last meeting. The HS talked about classification of materials as it relates to fermentation, and scheduled the TR sufficiency for carbonates for the Late November call.
 - **Materials/GMO ad hoc (MS/GMO) (NL for FQ).** The Materials subcommittee met this morning and talked about the inerts proposal, as well as the transitioning of projects from members rotating off in January. The MS has three topics for the Fall meeting and discussed presentations. The NOSB Chair asked about inerts discussion that occurred earlier today: the group discussed the two options, and whether it had to be either/or, or if the NOP had the latitude to move forward with a solution that could be a combination of the two. The NOP will take into consideration all of the feedback when rulemaking.
- **Additional Items.** None.
- **The meeting was adjourned**

[Previous ES Notes](#)

Future call schedule (3rd Tuesday 4:00 PM ET | 1:00 PM PT, except where noted)

September 17, 2024

October 8, 2024 - note date change

November 19, 2024

December 17, 2024

[NOSB Work Agenda](#)

Milestones

Fall 2024 Milestones	Target dates (tentative)	Weeks PTM (prior to meeting)
NOP - Publish FRN, Open public comment	~May 24, 2024	21
NOP - Draft Fall 2024 NOSB meeting agenda	Aug 2, 2024	~10
NOSB - Fall 2024 proposals due to NOP	Aug 14, 2024	~9
NOP - Post proposals	Aug 30, 2024	~7.5
Public comment closes	Sep 30, 2024	~4.5
NOP - Send compiled public comments to NOSB	~Oct 3, 2024	~2
Public comment webinars	Oct 15 & 17, 2024	1
Fall 2024 NOSB meeting - Portland, OR	Oct 22 - 24, 2024	0
Final recommendations due	Nov 25, 2024	30 days post

Spring 2025 Milestones	Target dates (tentative)	Weeks PTM (prior to meeting)
NOP - Publish FRN, Open public comment	~Nov 17, 2024	16 -20
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Public comment webinars	Oct 28 & 30, 2025	1
Fall 2025 NOSB meeting - Omaha, NE	Nov 4 -6, 2025	0
Final recommendations due	Nov 26, 2025	~30 days post

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Absent: Jared Clark (JC);

Staff: Erin Healy (EH); Michelle Arsenault (MA); Heather Kumar (HK)

Agenda

- Review August 20, 2024 notes
- Chairs Report/Questions for NOP (KS)
 - October 8, 2024 - note date change for October Exec call
 - Public comment webinars - practice run-throughs (October 9 & 11) & reminders
 - Sunset report-out at Fall meeting
 - Work request for public comment summaries/due dates
 - State conservationist awareness of NRCS
- NOP news and updates (EH)
 - Rulemaking update
 - Guest Speakers
- Food Technologist update (JC)
- Advisory Committee Specialist (ACS) update (MA)
 - Fall Meeting - misc.
 - Travel
 - Status of 2027 Sunset templates
- Subcommittee Reports/Updates (5 minutes each)
 - Materials/GMO ad hoc (MS/GMO) (FQ)
 - Policy Development (PDS) (NL)
 - Livestock (LS) (BC)
 - Crops (CS) (LP)
 - Compliance, Accreditation, & Certification (CACS) (ADB)
 - Handling (HS) (AJ)
- Additional Items
- Adjourn

Discussion

- **August 20, 2024 notes** were accepted as written
- **Chairs Report/Questions for NOP (KS)**
 - **October 8, 2024 Exec call** - note date change for October Exec call
 - **Public comment webinars** - practice run-throughs (October 9 & 11) & reminders
 - **Sunset report-out at Fall meeting.** The group reviewed the proposed process for presenting sunsets at the Fall meeting in an effort to make the meetings more efficient. Members were supportive of this process and the group had a follow-up conversation about what materials will be candidates.
 - **Work request for public comment summaries/due dates.** The NOSB Chair submitted a request to the NOP to have the Food Technologist summarize comments and it was approved. The Food

Technologist will write a summary of the public comments in two stages: proposals and discussion documents, then sunsets. The Food Technologist will also take notes on the oral comment webinars to assist members. Due dates for summaries: October 11 and October 18.

- **State conservationist awareness of NRCS.** The NOSB asked that the Oregon State Conservationist be made aware that the NOSB will be convening in-person in Portland, and that the meeting will include NRCS presentations. NOP staff are meeting with NRCS tomorrow, and will alert them.
- **NOP news and updates (EH)**
 - **Rulemaking update.** SOE continues to be main focal point. September 19 is the full enforcement date. Lots of outreach, webinars, education and training along the way, so NOP is optimistic that it will be a smooth process.
 - **Nominations.** Currently under review. The NOP will announce the appointees as soon as the Secretary has made his decision.
 - **October 8 Exec call.** Erin will be out of the office, and Jared will cover.
 - **Guest Speakers**
 - **Customs broker speakers.** NOP asked that the NOSB prepare questions so it can recommend the appropriate person. CACS is looking to host the speaker during Subcommittee calls to help inform their proposal on residue testing.
 - **Market News.** Market news publishes price data for commodities, and hasn't focused on organic. They recently received funding to improve that, and NOP suggested inviting someone from market news to speak at the Spring NOSB meeting. The group will discuss this again before the Spring meeting to send the invitation.
 - **Market Development Rule.** Final draft is in clearance.
- **Organic Integrity Learning Center.** The NOSB asked that NOP relay feedback about the OLPS course, which they described as fantastic.
- **Food Technologist update (HK).** Four active requests: Parasiticides, 2027 sunset templates, mined materials, and fall public comment summaries.
- **Advisory Committee Specialist (ACS) update (MA)**
 - **Fall Meeting - misc.**
 - 25 in person comments, 3 hoping to be able to speak in person if there are any cancellations.
 - 85/100 people signed up for webinars as of last Friday. The registration period closes on September 30, or when it reaches the cap.
 - So far the NOSB has received 1084 written comments, most of which are a letter-writing campaign.
 - **Travel.** The USDA Travel Office has the basic travel info for the NOSB members to build the travel authorizations. The NOP asked that board members please send their flight requests.
 - **Status of 2027 Sunset templates.** The ACS completed the HS and CS templates, and will complete Livestock. The Food Technologist has finished adding the International Sections, and is waiting for feedback from the Standards Division.
 - **Declarations/Conflicts of Interest** - please send to ACS by October 11.
- **Subcommittee Reports/Updates (5 minutes each)**
 - **Materials/GMO ad hoc (MS/GMO) (FQ).** Did not meet in September. At its last call the group talked about Inerts. The Food Technologist assisted the MS with background research on inerts so the MS could present options to NOP about how to move ahead.
 - **Policy Development (PDS) (NL).** Working on member guide in real time so it is ready for new members in January. The PDS would like to block the dates for training (maybe in February?). The PDS continues to talk about how to incorporate equity work and what the goals of that should be.

- **Livestock (LS) (BC).** The LS has completed its sunset reviews, and has cancelled its next few calls. In January, the NOSB will lose two members with livestock experience, and the LS is hoping the new members will have that expertise.
- **Crops (CS) (LP). ADB for LP.** Crops met today. The CS is working on the TR request for compostables, and should have it finalized soon. It will help to inform the discussion document for the Spring 2025 meeting. The CS scheduled discussions for its 2027 sunsets and other work agenda items. Two sunsets might require more discussion, as they may garner more comments. The leads/Chair will flag those reviews that might be candidates for short summaries at the fall meeting.
- **Compliance, Accreditation, & Certification (CACS) (ADB).** The CACS Chair is interested in finding out who to reach out to if they have questions about residue testing. The Subcommittee is working on existing work agenda items, and finalized the questions for the NRCS speaker. The questions were sent to NOP ahead of its call with NRCS (tomorrow). The CACS also set goals for the upcoming semester, and is looking forward to onboarding new members and are aware of workload for the entire board during this time of transition.
- **Handling (HS) (AJ). The Handling work agenda** continues to consist of many sunset reviews. The HS completed the first 2027 sunset today, on colors. The Subcommittee members had a brief conversation about fermentation and will brainstorm on the next call. The TR for ethylene was found sufficient and the HS intends on having a proposal at the Spring meeting.
- **Additional Items.**
 - Racial equity. Members are speaking with outside organizations about best practices and how the NOSB can integrate that into the new Board member training and Board meetings.
- A member added thoughts about the Organic Transition Initiative and the challenges associated with recruiting new growers, and more so with retention and support. She specifically mentioned bankruptcy and bankruptcy laws, which are challenging for growers and the need for awareness of the potential risks.

The meeting was adjourned

[Previous ES Notes](#)

Future call schedule (3rd Tuesday 4:00 PM ET | 1:00 PM PT, except where noted)

August 20, 2024

September 17, 2024

October 8, 2024 - note date change

November 19, 2024

December 17, 2024

[NOSB Work Agenda](#)

Milestones

Fall 2024 Milestones	Target dates (tentative)	Weeks PTM (prior to meeting)
NOP - Publish FRN, Open public comment	~May 24, 2024	21
NOP - Draft Fall 2024 NOSB meeting agenda	Aug 2, 2024	~10
NOSB - Fall 2024 proposals due to NOP	Aug 14, 2024	~9
NOP - Post proposals	Aug 30, 2024	~7.5

Public comment closes	Sep 30, 2024	~4.5
NOP - Send compiled public comments to NOSB	~Oct 3, 2024	~2
Public comment webinars	Oct 15 & 17, 2024	1
Fall 2024 NOSB meeting - Portland, OR	Oct 22 - 24, 2024	0
Final recommendations due	Nov 25, 2024	30 days post

Spring 2025 Milestones	Target dates (tentative)	Weeks PTM (prior to meeting)
NOP - Publish FRN, Open public comment	~Nov 17, 2024	16 -20
NOP - Draft Spring 2025 NOSB meeting tentative agenda	Feb 7, 2025	~ 10
NOSB - Spring 2025 proposals due to NOP	Feb 13, 2025	~ 9
NOP - Post proposals	Mar 3, 2025	7.5
Public comment closes	Apr 2, 2025	3.5
NOP - Send compiled public comments to NOSB	Apr 5, 2025	3
Public comment webinars	Apr 22 & 24, 2025	1
Spring 2025 NOSB meeting - Tempe, AZ	Apr 29 - May 1, 2025	0
Final recommendations due	May 29, 2025	30 days post meeting

Fall 2025 Milestones	Target dates (tentative)	Weeks PTM (prior to meeting)
NOP - Publish FRN, Open public comment	~May 15, 2024	24
NOP - Draft Fall 2025 NOSB meeting agenda	Aug 8, 2025	~11
NOSB - Fall 2025 proposals due to NOP	Aug 20, 2025	~9
NOP - Post proposals	Sept 9, 2025	~8
Public comment closes	Oct 8, 2025	~4
NOP - Send compiled public comments to NOSB	~Oct 9, 2025	~3
Public comment webinars	Oct 28 & 30, 2025	1
Fall 2025 NOSB meeting - Omaha, NE	Nov 4 -6, 2025	0
Final recommendations due	Nov 26, 2025	~30 days post

Note: Subcommittee notes may include preliminary discussions regarding substances considered for addition to or removal from the National List. They do not represent official National Organic Program (NOP) policy/regulations or NOSB recommendations. Proposals must be voted on by the full Board, to become recommendations to the USDA. Please see the NOP website for official NOP policy, regulations, and status of substances used in organic production and handling.

**Executive Committee (EC) Meeting Notes and
Summary of National Organic Standards Board (NOSB) Subcommittee Activities
Tuesday, August 20, 2024 4:00 pm ET**

Present: Kyla Smith, NOSB Chair; Amy Bruch (ADB), NOSB Vice Chair & CACS Chair; Brian Caldwell (BC), Livestock Chair; Franklin Quarcoo (FQ), Materials Chair; Allison Johnson (AJ), Handling Chair; Nate Lewis (NL), NOSB Secretary & PDS Chair; Logan Petrey (LP), Crops Chair; Jerry D'Amore (JD) - observer; Nate Powell-Palm – observer; Wood Turner (WT) - observer

Absent:

Staff: Erin Healy (EH); Michelle Arsenault (MA); Jared Clark (JC); Heather Kumar (HK); Andrea Holm (AH)

Agenda

- Review July 16, 2024 notes
- Chairs Report/Questions for NOP (KS)
 - Annotation change process
 - Fall meeting agenda: public comment, speakers (customs broker?)
 - Inerts proposal
 - Pear Ester (kairomones/pheromones). Process for adding broader category of kairomones?
 - Comment summary feedback for Food Technologist
- NOP news and updates (EH)
 - Inerts
 - Rulemaking update
 - Meeting notice update
 - Nominations update
 - SharePoint Update
- Food Technologist update (JC)
- Advisory Committee Specialist (ACS) update (MA)
 - Fall meeting proposals - next steps
 - Fall Meeting agenda
 - Travel
- Subcommittee Reports/Updates (5 minutes each)
 - Handling (HS) (AJ)
 - Materials/GMO ad hoc (MS/GMO) (FQ)
 - Policy Development (PDS) (NL)
 - Livestock (LS) (BC)
 - Crops (CS) (LP)
 - Compliance, Accreditation, & Certification (CACS) (ADB)
- Additional Items
- Adjourn

Discussion

- **July 16, 2024 notes** were accepted as written.
- **Chairs Report/Questions for NOP (KS)**
 - **Annotation change process.** The work agenda item for annotation changes was approved some time ago, and the NOSB will codify the process for adding substances to the Subcommittee's

work agendas, so it is organized and transparent. There are two annotation change proposals on the Fall NOSB agenda.

- **Fall meeting agenda.** The agenda includes time for in-person public comment, TOPP presentations (Western region), and a customs broker speaker. The NOSB is working on questions for a customs broker, to assist NOP in identifying the appropriate person. The Board will continue to talk about efficiencies at the Fall meeting given the large number of sunset reviews and many other agenda items.
- **Inerts proposal.** The NOP sent a memo to the NOSB regarding options for reviewing inerts. The NOP asked that the Board develop a proposal for the Fall 2024 meeting, so NOP has enough time to implement potential rulemaking or guidance, ahead of the next sunset date of the List 4 Inerts. The lead author in Crops and the NOSB Chair offered to talk with members as needed so everyone feels comfortable with the options presented in the proposal.
- **Pear Ester (kairomones/pheromones).** The Crops Subcommittee is working on a petition to add pear ester to the National List, and as an extension of its work, asked NOP if it's possible to add a category to the National List akin to pheromones. The NOP suggested having the Crops Subcommittee submit a work agenda request. A member asked how many substances would be classified as kairomones.
- **Feedback for Food Technologist.** As we approach the Fall NOSB meeting, the Chair polled the Board members about the Spring 2024 comment summaries so they could give feedback to the Food Technologist. Members expressed appreciation for the comment summaries. One member noted that it's more helpful for his process to read and analyze the comments himself. The same member added that it was helpful to highlight the connections among various substances.
- **NOP news and updates (EH)**
 - **Inerts.** The NOP asked for clarification that the inerts recommendation, which the Board is working on, would be focused on List 4. The NOSB confirmed and will note that in their recommendation.
 - **Rulemaking update.** The Market Development Rule (MDR) is in progress.
 - **Fall NOSB Meeting notice update.** The notice is in clearance, and should be published by the end of month.
 - **Nominations update.** The applications are under review. The timeline for the rest of the year is unclear due to the upcoming election.
 - **SharePoint update (AH).** The NOP has been developing a Sharepoint site for the NOSB to replace all of the other software and platforms currently in use. The site will hold files, trackers, and a collaborate working space. Members asked questions about access and if they would be able to use it without having Microsoft Office Suite. The NOP indicated that members would still be able to access the site, create, and edit documents. The Chair mentioned that the PDS will be working on updates to the member guide and could include a section about using Sharepoint. NOP will send members an invitation to join so they can test some of the features, before it is officially rolled out.
 - **Food Technologist update (JC).**
 - The Food Technologist recently completed and sent the last iteration of inerts spreadsheet.
 - The NOP received search results from the National Ag. Library on parasiticides. There were 26,000 articles that were deemed "relevant", which the Food Technologist will sort through.
 - The NOP continues to work on the 2027 sunset templates international section.
 - The PDS will maintain and manage the process for NOSB work requests to the Food Technologist.
- **Advisory Committee Specialist (ACS) update (MA)**

- **Fall meeting proposals - next steps.** The NOP thanked the group for submitting the fall documents on time, and early. The next steps are for NOP to review the documents, suggest edits, and then bundle them for posting to the NOSB webpage for public inspection.
- **Fall Meeting agenda.** The NOSB Chair reviewed some of the Fall meeting agenda earlier in the call, and the NOP highlighted some of the logistics and meeting rooms. The agenda will be posted along with the proposals and discussion documents.
- **Travel.** The NOP will begin travel planning soon. It will likely be delayed given the proximity to the beginning of the Government Fiscal year.
- **Spring 2025 Milestones** (see table below).
- **Subcommittee Reports/Updates (5 minutes each)**
 - **Handling (HS) (AJ).** Handling has many sunset reviews for the Fall meeting and is teeing up the 2027 sunsets. The Subcommittee will be discussing several non-sunset topics such as fermentation, and a potential technical correction to a CAS # for fish oil.
 - **Materials/GMO ad hoc (MS/GMO) (FQ).** The MS voted on three documents for the Fall meeting: Inerts, excluded methods/induced mutagenesis, and research priorities.
 - **Policy Development (PDS) (NL).** The PDS will be working on updates to the member guide, and training materials for new members. The group chose to not bring forth the sunset efficiencies document (aka consent agenda) for the Fall 2024 meeting and instead may give verbal guidance to members to provide brief summaries of sunsets. The goal is to determine if it saves time.
 - **Livestock (LS) (BC).** Livestock met today to talk about bigger-picture items as they assess the work agenda for the coming semester. Topics included organic swine and parasiticides. A member also mentioned aquaculture and apiculture. The LS Chair noted that the LS would like to hear from Livestock producers about gaps or issues.
 - **Crops (CS) (LP).** The Crops Subcommittee completed its sunsets for the Fall 2024 meeting and will start work on the 2027 sunsets soon. The group will also be working on a TR request for compostables, as part of the Compost project.
 - **Compliance, Accreditation, & Certification (CACS) (ADB).** The CACS completed three discussion documents and a proposal for the Fall 2024 meeting. The Subcommittee pulled back one document (Organic Food System Capacity and Constraints) to reassess the scope and may bring it to a future meeting. The Chair noted that with five new Board members starting in January, it may be a good time to slow down and not take on extra projects. She also noted that they are focusing on fraud prevention as they move ahead with various projects.
- **Additional Items.** A member asked, on behalf of a stakeholder, a question about submitting anonymous complaints regarding potential fraud. The complaint form has an option for submitters to stay anonymous.
- **The meeting was adjourned**

[Previous ES Notes](#)

Future call schedule (3rd Tuesday 4:00 PM ET | 1:00 PM PT, except where noted)

July 16, 2024

August 20, 2024

September 17, 2024

October 15, 2024

November 19, 2024

December 17, 2024

[NOSB Work Agenda](#)

Milestones

Fall 2024 Milestones	Target dates (tentative)	Weeks PTM (prior to meeting)
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NOP - Post proposals	Aug 30, 2024	~7.5
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Public comment webinars	Oct 15 & 17, 2024	1
Fall 2024 NOSB meeting - Portland, OR	Oct 22 - 24, 2024	0
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Public comment closes	Apr 2, 2025	3.5
NOP - Send compiled public comments to NOSB	Apr 5, 2025	3
Public comment webinars	Apr 22 & 24, 2025	1
Spring 2025 NOSB meeting - TBD	Apr 29 - May 1, 2025 or May 6 - 8	0
Final recommendations due	May 29, 2025	30 days post meeting

Note: Subcommittee notes may include preliminary discussions regarding substances considered for addition to or removal from the National List. They do not represent official National Organic Program (NOP) policy/regulations or NOSB recommendations. Proposals must be voted on by the full Board, to become recommendations to the USDA. Please see the NOP website for official NOP policy, regulations, and status of substances used in organic production and handling.

**Executive Committee (EC) Meeting Notes and
Summary of National Organic Standards Board (NOSB) Subcommittee Activities
Tuesday, July 16, 2024 4:00 pm ET**

Present: Kyla Smith, NOSB Chair; Amy Bruch (ADB), NOSB Vice Chair & CACS Chair; Brian Caldwell (BC), Livestock Chair; Franklin Quarcoo (FQ), Materials Chair; Allison Johnson (AJ), Handling Chair; Nate Lewis (NL), NOSB Secretary & PDS Chair; Logan Petrey (LP), Crops Chair; Jerry D'Amore (JD) - observer;

Absent: Heather Kumar (HK)

Staff: Erin Healy (EH); Michelle Arsenault (MA); Jared Clark (JC)

Agenda

- Review June 18, 2024 notes
- Chairs Report/Questions for NOP (KS)
 - Proposal due date: August 15
 - Fall meeting agenda: public comment, speakers (customs broker?)
 - OLPS course update?
- NOP news and updates (EH)
 - CACS recommendation question
 - NOSB charter update
 - Certifier oversight update
 - Nominations update
- Food Technologist update (JC)
- Advisory Committee Specialist (ACS) update (MA)
- Subcommittee Reports/Updates (5 minutes each)
 - Compliance, Accreditation, & Certification (CACS) (ADB)
 - Handling (HS) (AJ)
 - Materials/GMO ad hoc (MS/GMO) (FQ)
 - Policy Development (PDS) (NL)
 - Livestock (LS) (BC)
 - Crops (CS) (LP)
- Additional Items
- Adjourn

- Adjourn

Discussion

- **June 18, 2024 notes** were accepted as written with no modifications.
- **Chairs Report/Questions for NOP (KS)**
 - Proposal due date: August 15
 - Fall meeting agenda: public comment, speakers (customs broker?), proposed ideas for agenda at fall meeting.
 - The TR Template is under review at NOP, and the NOSB wanted to know about aligning the International Acceptance section with what the Board includes in the sunset template. A member suggested including the dates of the International Rules to make sure it is the most current.
 - OLPS course in Learning Center update. The learning module is currently under review .
- **NOP news and updates (EH)**

- CACS recommendation question. The NOP asked how the NOSB would like to disseminate the Spring 2024 recommendation on Supporting Transition to Organic. The NOP will write a cover letter to send it to the Secretary and other agencies identified in the recommendation.
- NOSB charter update. The Charter was renewed July 5, 2024, and expires in 2 years.
- Certifier oversight update. The NOP updated the NOSB on a recent surrender by a certifier, which effected approximately 300 operations, primarily in Australia and China. The choice to surrender happened quickly, and NOP seeks to support the affected operations during the transition. The NOP emphasized that this is an example of a positive outcome of the Strengthening Organic Enforcement Rule (SOE).
- Nominations update. Applications are under review. The NOP did extensive outreach and received approximately 45 applications from a strong group of candidates.
- Market Development Rule (Mushrooms and Pet Food) is in progress.
- The CACS Chair asked a question about the Automated Commercial Environment (ACE) system and authenticity of import certificates.
- Food Technologist update (JC).
 - The Food Technologist recently began providing updates during Subcommittee calls, which has been very helpful to both she and the NOSB members.
The following projects are underway and are at various stages of completion: Inerts (Next phase of spreadsheet was sent to the Materials Subcommittee a couple of weeks ago); List of NL substances that are manufactured via mining; and an update to the International Use section for the 2027 sunset templates.
 - The USDA AgLibrary is working on a literature review on parasiticides.
- Advisory Committee Specialist (ACS) update (MA)
 - Travel for fall. Likely done in early October given the end of the Government fiscal year and the dates of the Fall meeting, which are a week earlier than normal.
 - Please finalize sunsets/proposals for the Fall 2024 as soon as they are voted out of Subcommittee, so NOP can begin reviewing them.
- Subcommittee Reports/Updates (5 minutes each)
 - Compliance, Accreditation, & Certification (CACS) (ADB). The CACS will bring 5 items to the Fall 2024 meeting: Three proposals, and two newly added work agenda items, which will be presented as discussion documents. The 3 proposals are: Residue Testing for a Global Supply Chain; Climate Induced Farming Risk and Crop Insurance; and Organic Food System Capacity and Constraints. The CACS is keeping in mind timelines for completion of these documents to coordinate with the NOP Handbook updates and rulemaking. The CACS added three extra calls this month: One extra Subcommittee call; a call with the NOP Accreditation Division Director to talk about risk-based certification; and a call tomorrow with staff from the Compliance & Enforcement Division (CED) to talk about residue testing. All parties are seeking to keep the lines of communication open, so they aren't duplicating work.
 - Handling (HS) (AJ). Handling has a large workload, and added an extra Subcommittee call this month. During today's call the HS completed several sunset reviews, and the L-Malic re-classification, which has been on the work agenda for years. The HS also will submit two proposals for the Fall 2024 meeting, one on petition for ethylene and one on a petition to remove the annotation for potassium phosphate.
 - Materials/GMO ad hoc (MS/GMO) (FQ). Last met in early July to continue work on excluded methods/induced mutagenesis, and inerts. The MS Chair thanked the NOP Food Technologist for the assistance with the inerts project.
 - Policy Development (PDS) (NL). The PDS is engaging with the Equity Commission and would like to invite a speaker to a future NOSB meeting. The Subcommittee is working on a document to look at improving the efficiency of the sunset review process, by minimizing the discussion time

at the Fall meeting, and moving quickly to votes. The PDS will submit a discussion document for the Fall meeting, and may implement any changes at the Spring 2025 meeting. The PDS will also work on a process to manage the Food Technologist work requests.

- Livestock (LS) (BC). LS finished most of its sunset reviews and have a few more to complete. They are spending extra time reviewing the sunset for vitamins, as some are produced with excluded methods. The LS also will submit a proposal on a petitioned material - meloxicam - for the Fall meeting.
- Crops (CS) (LP). Earlier today Crops finished the TR sufficiency for ferric phosphate, completed its list of research priorities, and voted on several sunset reviews. The CS has two more calls (one regularly scheduled and one added) to complete two petitions (Pear Ester and Carbon Dioxide), a proposal on Compost, and two sunset reviews.
- **Additional Items.** The NOSB Chair will be out of office next week.
- **The meeting was adjourned**

[Previous ES Notes](#)

Future call schedule (3rd Tuesday 4:00 PM ET | 1:00 PM PT, except where noted)

June 18, 2024

July 16, 2024

August 20, 2024

September 17, 2024

October 15, 2024

November 19, 2024

December 17, 2024

[NOSB Work Agenda](#)

Milestones

Fall 2024 Milestones	Target dates (tentative)	Weeks PTM (prior to meeting)
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NOP - Send compiled public comments to NOSB	~Oct 3, 2024	~2
Public comment webinars	Oct 15 & 17, 2024	1
Fall 2024 NOSB meeting - Portland, OR	Oct 22 - 24, 2024	0
Final recommendations due	Nov 25, 2024	30 days post

Note: Subcommittee notes may include preliminary discussions regarding substances considered for addition to or removal from the National List. They do not represent official National Organic Program (NOP) policy/regulations or NOSB recommendations. Proposals must be voted on by the full Board, to become recommendations to the USDA. Please see the NOP website for official NOP policy, regulations, and status of substances used in organic production and handling.

**Executive Committee (EC) Meeting Notes and
Summary of National Organic Standards Board (NOSB) Subcommittee Activities
Tuesday, June 18, 2024 4:00 pm ET**

Present: Kyla Smith, NOSB Chair; Amy Bruch (ADB), NOSB Vice Chair & CACS Chair; Brian Caldwell (BC), Livestock Chair; Franklin Quarcoo (FQ), Materials Chair; Allison Johnson (AJ), Handling Chair; Jerry D'Amore (JD) - observer; Carolyn Dimitri (CD) - observer; Dilip Nandwani (DN) - observer; Wood Turner (WT) - observer

Absent: Nate Lewis (NL), NOSB Secretary & PDS Chair; Logan Petrey (LP), Crops Chair

Staff: Erin Healy (EH); Michelle Arsenault (MA); Jared Clark (JC); Heather Kumar (HK)

Agenda

- **Review May 21, 2024 notes**
- **Chairs Report (KS)**
 - Update on TRs (new templates, in process, # left)
 - Summer schedules
- **NOP news and updates (EH)**
 - Rulemaking updates
 - Seed brief
 - EPA response to Nitrogen Rule
- **Food Technologist update (JC)**
- **Advisory Committee Specialist (ACS) update (MA)**
 - 2027 sunset templates - in preparation
- **Subcommittee Reports/Updates (5 minutes each)**
 - Crops (CS) (ADB for LP)
 - Compliance, Accreditation, & Certification (CACS) (ADB).
 - Two potential work agenda requests.
 - Handling (HS) (AJ)
 - Materials/GMO ad hoc (MS/GMO) (FQ)
 - Policy Development (PDS) (ADB for NL)
 - Consent agenda. Will be in development in PDS and plan to launch it next year.
 - Livestock (LS) (BC)
- **Additional Items**
- **Adjourn**

Discussion

- **May 21, 2024 notes** were accepted as written.
- **Chairs Report (KS)**
 - Update on TRs. The NOSB asked for an update regarding the number of outstanding TRs, so they can keep that in mind for any future requests. NOP noted that the TR request for carbonates was separated into two TRs.
 - Summer schedules. Please let Subcommittee Chairs know if members will be out to ensure we have quorum to vote.
- **NOP news and updates (EH)**
 - Rulemaking updates. The NOP received Approximately 3370 comments on the Market Development Rule, and is currently analyzing them.
 - Strengthening Organic Enforcement (SOE) import fraud comments. NOP is investigating all complaints, and is working with certifiers.

- Seed Guidance. The CACS has a work agenda request on seed, and is collaborating with the NOP to ensure the previous NOSB recommendations are taken into consideration when developing the documents. The CACS intends on soliciting stakeholder feedback as the projects move forward.
- EPA response to Nitrogen Rule. NOP received and posted the EPA response and is working towards writing a proposed rule. We expect clearance for this rule to take longer than usual given that it is an election year.
 - Phase two of the NOP Handbook updates was approved and NOP will be working on that for the next 4 - 6 months.
- **Food Technologist update (JC/HK).** The Food Technologist is working on several projects for the NOSB, and has been collaborating with the National Agricultural Library. Projects include inerts, parasiticides, and mined substances that are on the National List. The NOSB Chair invited the Food Technologist to reach out if there are questions.
 - **Advisory Committee Specialist (ACS) update (MA)**
 - 2027 sunset templates - in preparation
 - Fall NOSB proposals are due to NOP August 15. Please start sending them to NOP as they are completed and voted out of Subcommittee.
 - **Subcommittee Reports/Updates (5 minutes each)**
 - Crops (CS) (LP). The CS had a brief meeting today and completed two sunsets. Crops is also working on two petitions: carbon dioxide and pear ester.
 - Compliance, Accreditation, & Certification (CACS) (ADB). The Subcommittee approved two work agenda requests on its last call, for Consistency in Organic Seed Use, and Risk-Based Certification. Based on today's discussion, the Executive Team approved the request and will seek NOP's official approval to add them to the work agenda.
As for the Consistency in Organic Seed Use project, the CACS may produce a discussion document for the Fall 2024 meeting followed by a proposal for Fall 2025. While working on this project, the NOP asked that the Subcommittee take into consideration the previous NOSB recommendations that have not yet been implemented (2018 Strengthening the organic seed guidance to amend §205.204, 2019 Strengthening the organic seed guidance (NOP 5029), and 2019 Genetic Integrity Transparency of Seed Grown on Organic Land). The NOP noted that it is working on updating the Handbook guidance documents, and highlighted the timeline for implementation given that it is an election year. A member mentioned information from stakeholders about new EU regulations regarding the use of organic seed. The CACS will incorporate questions about past NOSB recommendations into the new work to solicit feedback from commenters.
The Risk-Based Certification work agenda request was proposed based on conversations about the implementation of SOE and the need to balance oversight with the burden on smaller farmers, using a risk-based approach. The CACS is planning on presenting a discussion document at the Fall 2024 meeting. In addition to the two discussion documents, the Subcommittee will also have three proposals at the Fall meeting.
 - Handling (HS) (AJ). The Handling Subcommittee has ~28 sunsets under review at various stages of completion for the Fall meeting. The HS is also working on two petitions. One requesting an amendment on the annotation for potassium phosphate, for which the HS is conducting background research, and one requesting an annotation change for ethylene to allow use in potato and onion storage.
 - Materials/GMO ad hoc (MS/GMO) (FQ). The Materials Subcommittee is hosting a guest speaker from the EPA on its next call to discuss inerts. The MS is also working on research priorities for Fall 2024.

- Policy Development (PDS) (ADB for NL). On its last call, the PDS hosted Cecilia Hernandez, the designated Federal Officer for the USDA Equity Commission. The Equity Commission made 66 recommendations and the USDA is working on implementation. The PDS would like to invite a speaker to the Fall meeting to talk about equity. The PDS is also planning on taking over the duty of managing the work requests for the Food Technologist and is also working on a proposal for the Spring 2025 meeting on a consent agenda, to help streamline discussions and voting at the NOSB meetings.
- Livestock (LS) (BC). The LS is working on sunset reviews, and a petition for meloxicam. Meloxicam was petitioned by a group of primarily veterinarians, and is used for pain relief. The LS felt they had comprehensive information to move forward, and will not request a TR. One topic the LS is grappling with during the sunset review is vitamins made with excluded methods.
- **Additional Items.** The NOSB Vice Chair encouraged her fellow NOSB members to include the Food Technologist in discussions as needed, as she is working on various projects.
- **The meeting was adjourned**

[Previous ES Notes](#)

Future call schedule (3rd Tuesday 4:00 PM ET | 1:00 PM PT, except where noted)

May 21, 2024

June 18, 2024

July 16, 2024

August 20, 2024

September 17, 2024

October 15, 2024

November 19, 2024

December 17, 2024

[NOSB Work Agenda](#)

Milestones

Fall 2024 Milestones	Target dates (tentative)	Weeks PTM (prior to meeting)
NOP - Publish FRN, Open public comment	~May 24, 2024	21
NOP - Draft Fall 2024 NOSB meeting agenda	Aug 2, 2024	~10
NOSB - Fall 2024 proposals due to NOP	Aug 14, 2024	~9
NOP - Post proposals	Aug 30, 2024	~7.5
Public comment closes	Sep 30, 2024	~4.5
NOP - Send compiled public comments to NOSB	~Oct 3, 2024	~2
Public comment webinars	Oct 15 & 17, 2024	1
Fall 2024 NOSB meeting - Portland, OR	Oct 22 - 24, 2024	0
Final recommendations due	Nov 25, 2024	30 days post

Note: Subcommittee notes may include preliminary discussions regarding substances considered for addition to or removal from the National List. They do not represent official National Organic Program (NOP) policy/regulations or NOSB recommendations. Proposals must be voted on by the full Board, to become recommendations to the USDA. Please see the NOP website for official NOP policy, regulations, and status of substances used in organic production and handling.

**Executive Committee (EC) Meeting Notes and
Summary of National Organic Standards Board (NOSB) Subcommittee Activities
Tuesday, May 21, 2024 4:00 pm ET**

Present: Kyla Smith, NOSB Chair; Amy Bruch (ADB), NOSB Vice Chair & CACS Chair; Nate Lewis (NL), NOSB Secretary & PDS Chair; Brian Caldwell (BC), Livestock Chair; Franklin Quarcioo (FQ), Materials Chair; Kim Huseman (KH) - observer; Nate Powell-Palm (NPP) - observer

Absent: Allison Johnson (AJ), Handling Chair; Logan Petrey (LP), Crops Chair

Staff: Erin Healy (EH); Michelle Arsenault (MA); Jared Clark (JC); Heather Kumar (HK)

Agenda

- **Review April 16, 2024 notes**
- **Chairs Report (KS)**
 - Debrief NOSB meeting
 - 2027 sunset reviews - TR determinations
 - June Subcomm calls - moved from June 11 to June 25
 - Portland meeting:
 - In person public comments.
 - Possible field trip - TBD. Looking at options if there is interest.
 - Panels/Speakers. TOPP. Equity speaker?
 - Sunset voting process at Fall meeting (i.e. consent calendar). Implement at Fall 2024 or Fall 2025?
- **NOP news and updates (EH)**
 - Rulemaking updates
 - EPA update
- **Food Technologist update (JC)**
- **Advisory Committee Specialist (ACS) update (MA)**
 - Final recs due May 31
 - 2027 sunset templates - in preparation
 - Transcripts
- **Subcommittee Reports/Updates (5 minutes each)**
 - Livestock (LS) (BC)
 - Crops (CS) (ADB for LP)
 - Compliance, Accreditation, & Certification (CACS) (ADB)
 - Handling (HS) (NL for AJ)
 - Materials/GMO ad hoc (MS/GMO) (FQ)
 - Policy Development (PDS) (NL)
- **Additional Items**
- **Adjourn**

Discussion

- **April 16, 2024 notes** were approved with no changes.
- **Chairs Report (KS)**
 - Debrief NOSB meeting. The NOSB Chair invited members to share thoughts about the Spring 2024 meeting. Members noted that it went well, and they had good conversations.

- 2027 sunset reviews - TR determinations. The Subcommittees have discussed all of the 2027 sunset substances, and the NOSB Chair will verify the questions for the limited scope TRs, finalize the list, then send it to the NOP next week.
- June Subcommittee calls – Materials, CACS, and PDS call were moved from June 11 to June 25.
- PDX meeting:
 - In-person public comments. Most members are supportive of keeping in-person public comments, at least through the Fall 2024 meeting, to get a sense of what it's like during a meeting when there are also many votes to take. The NOSB will then decide if this will be incorporated into the agenda going forward.
 - Possible field trip. Looking at options and if there is interest. Members were supportive of the idea and expressed interest. Options range from ports to farms to grain terminals in the area.
 - Panels/Speakers. In addition to the TOPP presentations, the NOSB is discussing other potential speakers, such as a representative from the equity commission.
 - Sunset voting process at Fall meeting (i.e., consent agenda). The Subcommittees have been discussing the idea of using a consent agenda for voting on multiple sunsets at once to save time. The NOSB proposed a similar idea before (see Fall 2020 discussion document). The possible list would include substances that are not controversial, were voted out of Subcommittee unanimously, and voted on unanimously by the NOSB at its prior sunset. The goal is to open up discussion time at the Fall meeting for other items. The Board will think through the details and logistics and discuss this again. One member suggested adopting this for the Spring 2025 meeting instead of mid-sunset cycle. The PDS drafted a proposal and will circulate it to other Subcommittees.
- **NOP news and updates (EH)**
 - The NOP congratulated Board members for a successful meeting. Also commended the compost panel, which was very helpful and informative.
 - Rulemaking updates. The public comment period for the Marketing Development Proposed Rule (petfood and mushrooms) closed May 10. NOP received ~ 3400 comments, and comment analysis is underway.
 - The NOSB nominations notice was published April 29, and applications will be accepted for 60 days. The NOP encouraged members to share the notice with their stakeholders. The NOP is also working on translating the nominations page into Spanish.
 - Request for support on Subcommittee calls. Jo Mirenda, Standards staff, will join Subcommittee calls going forward.
 - Seeds. NOP is exploring options for possible future work, if any. The CACS Chair noted that she will relay that information to the Subcommittee members, as they have been discussing possible work agenda items.
 - Strengthening Organic Enforcement (SOE) is still a top priority and NOP continues to do outreach. So far everything is going well.
- **EPA update.** The NOP consulted with the EPA, as per OFPA, regarding the NOSB recommendations on nitrogen and may have an update for the NOSB soon.
- **Food Technologist update (JC).** The Food Technologist has several projects underway. Research on parasiticides, analysis of inerts, finalization of the 2027 sunset templates, and a project to research mined substances that are on the National List.
- **Advisory Committee Specialist (ACS) update (MA)**
 - Final recommendations from the Spring meeting are due May 31, 2024.
 - 2027 sunset templates - in preparation. Working with the Food Technologist to complete the templates.
- **Subcommittee Reports/Updates (5 minutes each)**

- Livestock (LS) (BC). On the last call, the LS scheduled discussions for its 2026 sunsets, determined needs for TRs for the 2027 sunsets, and did a read-out of the Spring meeting.
- Crops (CS) (ADB for LP). The Crops Subcommittee completed its TR determinations for the 2027 sunsets, and is almost done compiling questions for the limited scope TRs. The CS planned out its schedule and workload for future calls and the Fall 2024 meeting. The CS received the TR for pear ester this week, deemed the TR for ferric phosphate insufficient at this time, and is advancing the proposal on compost. The planned trajectory for compost includes a proposal for the Fall 2024 meeting focused on definitions and practice standards, and possibly a proposal for the Spring 2025 meeting with a focus on the National List.
- Compliance, Accreditation, & Certification (CACS) (ADB). The CACS conducted work-planning on the last call. They had three discussion documents at the Spring 2024 meeting that they plan to advance to proposals for the Fall 2024 meeting. The CACS also discussed potential ideas for additional work agenda items, including organic seeds, risk management and risk matrices for various topics such as SOE and residue testing. The CACS also talked about other ideas for 2025 such as parasiticides, and input testing (compost).
- Handling (HS) (NL for AJ). The Handling Subcommittee completed the TR list for 2027 sunsets and scheduled all its remaining work agenda items. The HS has twenty-nine 2026 sunsets, two petitions (ethylene and potassium phosphate), and one other project for a reclassification of L-malic acid that they may begin work on.
- Materials/GMO ad hoc (MS/GMO) (FQ). The MS heard from two guest speakers during the last call, about compost, and will host someone from the EPA at its next call about pesticide registration and inerts.
- Policy Development (PDS) (NL). The PDS heard from the Designated Federal Officer (DFO) of the Equity Commission who described their process and what they are doing. The PDS is interested in inviting someone from the equity commission to speak at the Fall 2024 NOSB meeting. The PDS is finalizing the PPM updates that were voted on and passed at the Spring meeting, and will begin work on updates to the member guide this summer and fall. Additionally, the Subcommittee will work on the workflow process for the Food Technologist, and will take over the duties of submitting requests to the NOP, instead of the NOSB Chair. Lastly, the PDS is exploring the use of a consent agenda for voting on sunsets, and will continue to discuss the details.
- **Additional Items.** None.
- **The meeting was adjourned**

[Previous ES Notes](#)

Future call schedule (3rd Tuesday 4:00 PM ET | 1:00 PM PT, except where noted)

April 16, 2024

May 21, 2024

June 18, 2024

July 16, 2024

August 20, 2024

September 17, 2024

October 15, 2024

November 19, 2024

December 17, 2024

[NOSB Work Agenda](#)

Milestones

Fall 2024 Milestones	Target dates (tentative)	Weeks PTM (prior to meeting)
NOP - Publish FRN, Open public comment	~May 24, 2024	21
NOP - Draft Fall 2024 NOSB meeting agenda	Aug 2, 2024	~10
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Public comment closes	Sep 30, 2024	~4.5
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Public comment webinars	Oct 15 & 17, 2024	1
Fall 2024 NOSB meeting - Portland, OR	Oct 22 - 24, 2024	0
Final recommendations due	Nov 25, 2024	30 days post

Note: Subcommittee notes may include preliminary discussions regarding substances considered for addition to or removal from the National List. They do not represent official National Organic Program (NOP) policy/regulations or NOSB recommendations. Proposals must be voted on by the full Board, to become recommendations to the USDA. Please see the NOP website for official NOP policy, regulations, and status of substances used in organic production and handling.

**Executive Committee (EC) Meeting Notes and
Summary of National Organic Standards Board (NOSB) Subcommittee Activities
Tuesday, April 16, 2024 4:00 pm ET**

Present: Kyla Smith, NOSB Chair; Amy Bruch (ADB), NOSB Vice Chair & CACS Chair; Nate Lewis (NL), NOSB Secretary & PDS Chair; Brian Caldwell (BC), Livestock Chair; Allison Johnson (AJ), Handling Chair; Logan Petrey (LP), Crops Chair; Franklin Quarcoo (FQ), Materials Chair; Jerry D'Amore (JD) - observer; Kim Huseman (KH) - observer; Wood Turner (WT) - observer

Absent: Jennifer Tucker (JT)

Staff: Erin Healy (EH); Michelle Arsenault (MA); Jared Clark (JC); Heather Kumar (HK); Esu Obu (EO)

Agenda

- **Review March 19, 2024 notes**
- **Chairs Report (KS)**
 - NOSB meeting agenda overview (see attached)
 - 2027 sunset reviews/annotation change info
 - Compost panel. Add questions. Finalize list at Crops call April 16.
 - Transition planning for January 2025
- **NOP news and updates (EH)**
 - Rulemaking updates
- **Food Technologist update (JC)**
- **Advisory Committee Specialist (ACS) update (MA)**
 - Spring meeting updates/questions
 - Nominations timeline/outreach
- **Subcommittee Reports/Updates (5 minutes each)**
 - Policy Development (PDS) (NL)
 - Livestock (LS) (BC)
 - Crops (CS) (LP)
 - Compliance, Accreditation, & Certification (CACS) (ADB)
 - Handling (HS) (AJ)
 - Materials/GMO ad hoc (MS/GMO) (FQ)
- **Additional Items**
- **Adjourn**

Discussion

- **March 19, 2024 notes** were approved as written.
- **Chairs Report (KS)**
 - NOSB meeting agenda overview (see attached)
 - 2027 sunset reviews/annotation change info. Reminder to group that the Food Techs have flagged any sunsets that may be candidates for annotation changes, which may affect TR requests. Each of the Subcommittees have a couple meetings after the NOSB meeting to finish. The NOSB Chair will send the list to the NOP in May.
 - Compost panel. The Crops Subcommittee will finalize the list of questions for the panelists on its April 16 call. The lead will make some final edits and circulate the list of questions by close of business today.

- Transition planning for January 2025. The NOSB members flagged gaps in knowledge/expertise that will occur when 5 members rotate off in January 2024, and the Chair will send that to the NOP for consideration. The NOSB would like to work in collaboration with NOP for new member training.
- **NOP news and updates (EH)**
 - Rulemaking updates. The Market Development Rule (MDR) (mushrooms and petfood) is open for comment. Comment closes May 10.
 - The Federal Register Notice (FRN) announcing the call for nominations should be published soon, and will be open for 60 days.
 - NOP noted several work agenda items that include compost: the NOSB proposal; a petition; and the market development rule (MDR) in the mushroom standards. NOSB asked for guidance as they proceed, so the work does not conflict. NOP explained that the two issues (mention of compost in the MDR proposed rule and the petition asking for a change to the definition of compost) are separate and do not overlap.
- **Food Technologist update (JC).**
 - Summary of written comments will be sent soon. Will summarize oral comments next week.
 - Parasiticides literature review. Received request and will begin work.
 - 2027 sunsets - populating information such as international standards into the templates.
 - Functional groups for inerts. This is a complex project, and the NOP does not have a date set for deliverables.
- **Advisory Committee Specialist (ACS) update (MA)**
 - Spring meeting updates/questions. Members had no additional questions.
 - Nominations timeline/outreach. Reiterated the timeline discussed above. The nominations will be open for 60 days, and ideally the Secretary will make appointments later this year.
- **Subcommittee Reports/Updates (5 minutes each)**
 - Policy Development (PDS) (NL). Heading into the Spring meeting with a proposal for PPM updates. The PDS has several projects on which they are interested in working. Developing a process for managing the requests for the Food Techs work, instead of having the NOSB Chair facilitate that; exploring ways to engage with the equity commission; and updating the member guide. The NOP/PDS is seeking to finish the updates to the member guide before the new members come on board in January. As part of the member guide and new member training, the group would like to add components about Board culture. The PDS would like to extend an invitation to L'Tonya Davis, USDA Equity Commission, or someone on her staff, to speak to the PDS Subcommittee. The PDS is curious about the equity commission report and how it is being implemented at USDA.
 - Livestock (LS) (BC). Working through sunsets. Most of the sunset substances are used infrequently for pain management, and are restricted to use based on a recommendation from a veterinarian. The LS will not request new TRs for many of the substances. The Chair asked that members flag any substances that they would like other members to focus on. The LS Chair also noted that stakeholders commented on the delay in posting some of the TRs.
 - Crops (CS) (LP). The Crops Subcommittee met today and completed all its agenda items for the Spring meeting. The CS will complete the TR determinations for the 2027 sunsets by May. The CS discussed compost at length today, and will move some of the Spring meeting agenda items around to discuss compost last.
 - Compliance, Accreditation, & Certification (CACS) (ADB). For the Spring meeting, the CACS has one proposal and 3 discussion documents. The CACS is discussing the addition of one more agenda item and may bring that to the next Executive call for approval. The CACS Chair clarified that some commenters submitted written comments conflating residue testing, which the CACS is working on, with some outside work that it is not working on. Please disregard.

- Handling (HS) (AJ). The Chair noted that the HS is forging ahead with sunsets, and have discussed the level of rigor of old TAPS and if there is other criteria they should consider. The HS has a couple of petitions in progress, sent a request for limited scope TR for ethylene, and has received a petition for an annotation change for potassium phosphate. Mined materials has become an area that the HS has discussed several times, and the HS wants to request background research from the Food techs. The list of topics on the Spring agenda was rearranged to group similar substances for ease of discussion.
- Materials/GMO ad hoc (MS/GMO) (FQ). The MS is working on a number of items: induced mutagenesis, excluded methods and inerts. The MS discussed inviting speakers to future MS calls, who can speak to different aspects of inerts, including someone from EPA who might be able to speak to inert registration. NOP offered to share the list of contacts although it's been difficult to connect with a specific person. The NOSB Chair asked if there is anyone else outside of EPA that they would be able to engage with. If so, they would like to invite someone to the June MS call.
- **Additional Items.** None.
- **The meeting was adjourned**

[Previous ES Notes](#)

Future call schedule (3rd Tuesday 4:00 PM ET | 1:00 PM PT, except where noted)

March 19, 2024

April 16, 2024

May 21, 2024

June 18, 2024

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[NOSB Work Agenda](#)

Milestones

Spring 2024 Milestones	Target dates (tentative)	Weeks PTM (prior to meeting)
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NOP - Post proposals	Mar 5, 2024	7.5
Public comment closes	Apr 3, 2024	3.5
NOP - Send compiled public comments to NOSB	Apr 5, 2024	3
Public comment webinars	Apr 23 & 25, 2024	1

Spring 2024 NOSB meeting - Milwaukee, WI	Apr 29 - May 1, 2024	0
Final recommendations due	May 29, 2024	30 days post meeting

Fall 2024 Milestones	Target dates (tentative)	Weeks PTM (prior to meeting)
NOP - Publish FRN, Open public comment	~May 24, 2024	21
NOP - Draft Fall 2024 NOSB meeting agenda	Aug 2, 2024	~10
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**Executive Committee (EC) Meeting Notes and
Summary of National Organic Standards Board (NOSB) Subcommittee Activities
Tuesday, March 19, 2024 4:00 pm ET**

Present: Kyla Smith, NOSB Chair; Amy Bruch (ADB), NOSB Vice Chair & CACS Chair; Nate Lewis (NL), NOSB Secretary & PDS Chair; Brian Caldwell (BC), Livestock Chair; Allison Johnson (AJ), Handling Chair; Franklin Quarcoo (FQ), Materials Chair; Jerry D'Amore (JD) - observer; Kim Huseman (KH) - observer; Wood Turner (WT) - observer

Absent: Jennifer Tucker (JT); Erin Healy (EH); Logan Petrey (LP), Crops Chair

Staff: Michelle Arsenault (MA); Jared Clark (JC); Heather Kumar (HK); Esu Obu (EO)

Agenda

- **Review February 20, 2024 notes**
- **Chairs Report (KS)**
 - NOSB meeting agenda overview (see attached)
 - Oral comment webinars, in-person comments, compost panel
 - 2027 sunset reviews/annotation change info
 - Compost panel.
 - Field Trip Invitation
 - Expertise/gaps in membership
- **NOP news and updates (JC)**
 - Rulemaking updates. Strengthening Organic Enforcement (SOE), Market Development (mushrooms, pet food).
- **Food Technologist update (JC)**
- **Advisory Committee Specialist (ACS) update (MA)**
 - Spring meeting prep: Binders, COIs, Travel, comments
 - Nominations timeline/outreach
- **Subcommittee Reports/Updates (5 minutes each)**
 - Materials/GMO ad hoc (MS/GMO) (FQ)
 - Policy Development (PDS) (NL)
 - Livestock (LS) (BC)
 - Crops (CS) (ADB for LP)
 - Compliance, Accreditation, & Certification (CACS) (ADB)
 - Handling (HS) (AJ)
- **Additional Items**
- **Adjourn**

Discussion

- **February 20, 2024 notes** were approved as written.
- **Chairs Report (KS)**
 - NOSB meeting agenda overview
 - Oral comment webinars, in-person comments (will discuss process during the practice sessions for webinars)
 - Compost panel. NOP is currently coordinating with panelists for the Spring meeting. One invitee could not participate so Crops is seeking a person who could speak to manufacturing.
 - 2027 Sunset reviews. The Subcommittees are assessing the 2027 sunsets for TRs and plan to complete that by May.

- Field Trip Invitation. The NOSB was invited to take a field trip to a farm near Milwaukee either before or after the meeting. NOP will not sponsor the field trip but will set up a poll to gauge interest and availability.
- Call for nominations. The NOSB Chair asked members to send in a list of potential gaps in expertise, such as livestock, grain handling, or perhaps expertise related to upcoming work.
- **NOP news and updates (JC)**
 - The Strengthening Organic Enforcement (SOE) rule implementation day is this week. NOP has conducted lots of outreach and presentations, and is working closely with the Accredited Certifiers Association (ACA) to make sure certifiers are prepared and supported. NOP is collating questions to create a Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ) page.
 - Market Development Proposed Rule (pet food and mushrooms). The rule is open for comment and closes May 10, 2024. The group discussed how the rule aligns with what the NOSB recommended. The NOP noted that any variations may be highlighted in the preamble of the rule. For example, with regard to mushrooms, the NOSB recommendation required that agricultural products used as substrate be organic.
 - The NOP has developed consumer education tools for use in retail establishments and will send an Insider notice soon announcing that initiative.
 - The group discussed various grant funding opportunities and sharing those announcements with stakeholders.
- **Food Technologist update (JC)**
 - Working on inerts spreadsheet. This phase of the projects involves grouping inerts into functional groups.
 - Working on a request for research/literature search on parasiticides in livestock.
 - Ideas for additional work? The Food techs are already working on populating information in the 2027 sunset and might assist in posting written comments.
 - 2027 sunset templates. In addition to populating the international information, the Food Techs have been tasked with listing any sunsets that could be potential candidates for annotation changes/updates.
 - The NOSB has asked for assistance with written public comment.
- **Advisory Committee Specialist (ACS) update (MA)**
 - Spring meeting prep: The meeting binders were sent to board members last week. The NOP is compiling the Declarations of Interest ahead of the NOSB meeting, and travel planning is underway.
 - Nominations timeline. Once the announcement is published, applications will be accepted for 60 days. NOP hopes to post the notice this month.
- **Subcommittee Reports/Updates (5 minutes each)**
 - Materials/GMO ad hoc (MS/GMO) (FQ). The MS is discussing inert ingredients, and may invite speakers to future MS calls to provide additional information about use, manufacture, and research. The MS also entertained the thought of inviting someone(s) from EPA/USDA to provide a legal perspective. The MS asked if NOP could connect them with someone at the EPA.
 - Policy Development (PDS) (NL). The PDS completed a proposal for updates to the PPM, and is discussing ways to incorporate diversity, equity, inclusion and accessibility aspects (DEIA) into future Board work. The PDS will also look at ways to facilitate communication between the NOSB, NOP, and the Food Technologists, and may offer to be the vehicle for future work requests, rather than having the NOSB Chair take on that role.
 - Livestock (LS) (BC). The Livestock Subcommittee received a petition for meloxicam, which the LS Chair noted was submitted by a group of veterinarians rather than a manufacturer or pharmaceutical company. The LS will discuss petition sufficiency on its next call.

- Crops (CS) (ADB for LP). The CS will send feedback to NOP about the TR for ferric phosphate. The Subcommittee emphasized the need for independent information rather than relying on manufacturers data. Crops is also working on planning for the compost panel, as well as sunset reviews.
- Compliance, Accreditation, & Certification (CACS) (ADB). The CACS discussed several topics on its last call, including scoping questions and timing for a work agenda item; Future scheduling; the need for a USDA Organic Policy Advisor; and the technical support process and possible improvements. The CACS will propose a new work agenda item on the next Executive call, looking at climate smart agriculture for livestock. The goal would be to create educational materials about this topic.
- Handling (HS) (AJ). Handling has a busy work agenda. It is reviewing a couple of new petitions, awaiting a TR for one 2026 sunset, and assessing TR needs for 24 2027-sunset substances.
- **Additional Items.** None.
- **The meeting was adjourned**

[Previous ES Notes](#)

Future call schedule (3rd Tuesday 4:00 PM ET | 1:00 PM PT, except where noted)

February 20, 2024

March 19, 2024

April 16, 2024

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[NOSB Work Agenda](#)

Milestones

Spring 2024 Milestones	Target dates (tentative)	Weeks PTM (prior to meeting)
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Final recommendations due	May 29, 2024	30 days post meeting
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Fall 2024 Milestones	Target dates (tentative)	Weeks PTM (prior to meeting)
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**Executive Committee (EC) Meeting Notes and
Summary of National Organic Standards Board (NOSB) Subcommittee Activities
Tuesday, February 20, 2024 4:00 pm ET**

Present: Kyla Smith, NOSB Chair; Amy Bruch (ADB), NOSB Vice Chair & CACS Chair; Brian Caldwell (BC), Livestock Chair; Allison Johnson (AJ), Handling Chair; Logan Petrey (LP), Crops Chair; Jerry D’Amore (JD) - observer; Kim Huseman (KH) - observer; Carolyn Dimitri (CD) - observer; Wood Turner (WT) - observer

Absent: Nate Lewis (NL), NOSB Secretary & PDS Chair; Franklin Quarcoo (FQ), Materials Chair

Staff: Michelle Arsenault (MA); Erin Healy (EH); Jared Clark (JC); Heather Kumar (HK); Esu Obu (EO)

Agenda

- **Review January 16, 2024 notes**
- **Chairs Report (KS)**
 - Compost Panel
 - Draft NOSB meeting agenda
 - Proposal submission deadline and process
- **NOP news and updates (EH)**
 - NOP participation on Subcomm calls
 - Rulemaking updates
- **Food Technologist update (JC)**
- **Advisory Committee Specialist (ACS) update (MA)**
 - Upcoming deadlines (see tables below)
 - Spring meeting prep: Travel
 - Nominations timeline
 - May 7 Subcomm calls, June 11 calls (NOP all hands)
- **Subcommittee Reports/Updates (5 minutes each)**
 - Handling (HS) (AJ)
 - Materials/GMO ad hoc (MS/GMO) (FQ)
 - Policy Development (PDS) (NL)
 - Livestock (LS) (BC)
 - Crops (CS) (LP)
 - Compliance, Accreditation, & Certification (CACS) (ADB)
- **Additional Items**
- **Adjourn**

Discussion

- **January 16, 2024** were approved as written.
- **Chairs Report (KS)**
 - Compost Panel. The NOSB will invite a fourth panelist from either academia or Government.
 - Draft NOSB meeting agenda. The Spring agenda will include time for in-person comments, TOPP presentations, and a panel on compost.
 - Proposal submission deadline and process. The NOSB Chair thanked members for submitting their Spring documents on time, and early in some cases. The NOSB officers plan to talk about best practices and ways to improve the process to make it smoother. Please feel free to submit ideas for ways to improve the workflow during the “in-between times” (between the time proposals are due and the meeting).
- **NOP news and updates (EH)**

- Rulemaking updates. The Market Development rule is in clearance.
- The NOSB Chair encouraged the NOP to speak up on calls to provide feedback to help guide members during the proposal development process. She thanked the CACS representative for assisting with CACS documents.
- **Food Technologist update (JC).**
 - There are approximately 3 or 4 petitions in the queue, in varying stages of review by the NOP. The Food Technologists are assisting with petition review as a training opportunity, in between work projects for the NOSB, and it is not interfering with their NOSB work.
 - The NOP Food Technologists sent phase 2 of the inerts spreadsheet (synthetic/nonsynthetic determination) to the Materials Subcommittee, and are working on Phase 3, which will encompass functional groups.
 - The NOSB sent a request for a literature review on parasiticides in Livestock. NOP is currently working on scoping that project.
- **Advisory Committee Specialist (ACS) update (MA)**
 - Upcoming deadlines (see tables below)
 - Spring meeting prep: Travel planning is on hold until after March 1, which is the expiration date for the Continuing resolution.
 - Nominations timeline. The nominations will be announced this Spring, likely in March, and will be open for 60 days.
 - May 7 Subcommittee calls. Given these are the week immediately after the spring meeting, the Chairs may want to cancel or reschedule.
 - June 11 calls. NOP is hosting an all-hands meeting this week and will work with the Subcommittee Chairs to reschedule calls.
 - The NOP set a self-imposed deadline of March 19 to send the sunset lists to the HS, CS, and LS.
- **Subcommittee Reports/Updates (5 minutes each)**
 - Handling (HS) (AJ). The HS completed all its sunsets and have a couple of outstanding TRs to review. On its last call, the HS discussed the limited scope TR on yeast, microorganisms, and enzymes, which was focused on excluded methods. Members also discussed the idea of inviting speakers to Subcommittee calls and inviting stakeholder feedback on fermentation.
 - Materials/GMO ad hoc (MS/GMO) (WD for FQ). The MS completed the discussion documents on Research Priorities and Inerts, and the proposal on the TR template updates.
 - Policy Development (PDS) (ADB for NL). The Subcommittee completed a proposal on PPM updates, which consist of minor changes.
 - Livestock (LS) (BC). The LS completed its sunset reviews for the Spring meeting and cancelled today's call. The Subcommittee has one TR to review and may have a petition to review soon.
 - Crops (CS) (LP). The Crops Subcommittee did not have a call today. The CS has completed its sunset reviews for the Spring meeting and have discussed adding a fourth panelist to the compost panel, possibly someone from academia.
 - Compliance, Accreditation, & Certification (CACS) (ADB). The CACS is working on several large, complex topics that are not black and white. For the Spring meeting, they will present 3 discussion documents (Residue Testing for a Global Supply Chain, Climate Induced Farming Risk and Crop Insurance, and Organic Food System Capacity and Constraints), and one proposal on transition to organic. The CACS is looking forward to public comments on its work.
- **Additional Items.**
 - The USDA appointed a new Chief diversity officer. The NOSB has been discussing invitations to have someone speak at the NOSB meeting on diversity, equity, inclusion, and accessibility (DEIA) and the new chief diversity officer may be available to speak or may recommend someone in her office. The NOSB is interested in hearing from folks outside of USDA that perhaps consult

with USDA. <https://www.usda.gov/media/press-releases/2023/03/02/usda-announces-first-permanent-chief-diversity-and-inclusion>

- Oral comment period sign up. The NOP explained the sign-up procedure for the oral comment sessions.
- A member asked about changes in roles with regard to the Executive call, and whether the Deputy Administrator would continue to attend the calls.
- **The meeting was adjourned**

[Previous ES Notes](#)

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January 16, 2024

February 20, 2024

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April 16, 2024

May 21, 2024

June 18, 2024

July 16, 2024

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September 17, 2024

October 15, 2024

November 19, 2024

December 17, 2024

[NOSB Work Agenda](#)

Milestones

Spring 2024 Milestones	Target dates (tentative)	Weeks PTM (prior to meeting)
NOP - Publish FRN, Open public comment	~Nov 17, 2023	16 -20
NOP - Draft Spring 2023 NOSB meeting tentative agenda	Feb 9, 2024	~ 10
NOSB - Spring 2024 proposals due to NOP	Feb 15, 2024	~ 9
NOP - Post proposals	Mar 5, 2024	7.5
Public comment closes	Apr 3, 2024	3.5
NOP - Send compiled public comments to NOSB	Apr 5, 2024	3
Public comment webinars	Apr 23 & 25, 2024	1
Spring 2024 NOSB meeting - Milwaukee, WI	Apr 29 - May 1, 2024	0
Final recommendations due	May 29, 2024	30 days post meeting

Fall 2024 Milestones	Target dates (tentative)	Weeks PTM (prior to meeting)
NOP - Publish FRN, Open public comment	~May 24, 2024	21
NOP - Draft Fall 2024 NOSB meeting agenda	Aug 2, 2024	~10
NOSB - Fall 2024 proposals due to NOP	Aug 14, 2024	~9
NOP - Post proposals	Aug 30, 2024	~7.5
Public comment closes	Sep 30, 2024	~4.5
NOP - Send compiled public comments to NOSB	~Oct 3, 2024	~2
Public comment webinars	Oct 15 & 17, 2024	1
Fall 2024 NOSB meeting - Portland, OR	Oct 22 - 24, 2024	0
Final recommendations due	Nov 25, 2024	30 days post

Note: Subcommittee notes may include preliminary discussions regarding substances considered for addition to or removal from the National List. They do not represent official National Organic Program (NOP) policy/regulations or NOSB recommendations. Proposals must be voted on by the full Board, to become recommendations to the USDA. Please see the NOP website for official NOP policy, regulations, and status of substances used in organic production and handling.

**Executive Committee (EC) Meeting Notes and
Summary of National Organic Standards Board (NOSB) Subcommittee Activities
Tuesday, January 16, 2024 4:00 pm ET**

Present: Kyla Smith, NOSB Chair; Amy Bruch (ADB), NOSB Vice Chair & CACS Chair; Nate Lewis (NL), NOSB Secretary & PDS Chair; Brian Caldwell (BC), Livestock Chair; Allison Johnson (AJ), Handling Chair; Franklin Quarcoo (FQ), Materials Chair; Logan Petrey (LP), Crops Chair; Jerry D’Amore (JD) - observer; Kim Huseman (KH) - observer; Mindee Jeffery (MJ) - observer; Nate Powell-Palm (NPP) – observer; Carolyn Dimitri (CD) – observer; Wood Turner (WT) - observer

Absent:

Staff: Jennifer Tucker (JT); Michelle Arsenault (MA); Erin Healy (EH); Jared Clark (JC); Heather Kumar (HK); Esu Obu (EO)

Agenda

- **Review December 19, 2023 notes**
- **Chairs Report (KS)**
 - Draft NOSB meeting agenda: Compost Panel. In person oral comments. Equity Speaker.
 - Proposal submission deadline and process
 - NOSB members at ACA in San Antonio
- **NOP news and updates (JC for EH)**
 - Response to CACS work agenda request
 - Market Development Rule (Proposed Rule) (mushrooms, pet food)
 - SOE rollout update
 - Food Technologist work requests
- **Food Technologist update (JC)**
- **Advisory Committee Specialist (ACS) update (MA)**
 - Upcoming deadlines (see tables below)
 - Spring meeting prep: Travel
 - Nominations timeline
- **Subcommittee Reports/Updates (5 minutes each)**
 - Compliance, Accreditation, & Certification (CACS) (ADB)
 - Handling (HS) (AJ)
 - Materials/GMO ad hoc (MS/GMO) (FQ)
 - Policy Development (PDS) (NL)
 - Livestock (LS) (BC)
 - Crops (CS) (LP)
- **Additional Items**
- **Adjourn**

Discussion

- **December 19, 2023 notes** were approved with no changes.
- **Chairs Report (KS)**
 - The Chair shared ideas for the Spring meeting agenda and asked for feedback. The NOSB is thinking about hosting a panel on compost, a speaker on equity, and setting aside time for in-person oral comments. The group discussed blocking time and will move ahead with all three suggestions.

- The proposal submission deadline is February 15 in order to get something on the agenda for the Spring meeting, and the Chair reminded Subcommittee Chairs to send documents to the NOP as soon as they are finalized.
- The January 2 Subcommittee calls were moved to January 23, (HS, CS, LS, CACS). There is also a 5th Tuesday in January in case Subcommittees need extra time.
- Several NOSB members will be attending the Accredited Certifiers Association (ACA) training in San Antonio at end of January. There is a listening session on NOSB topics.
- **NOP news and updates (JC for EH)**
 - Market Development Rule (Proposed Rule) (mushrooms, pet food). In clearance at USDA. Under the new guidance from the Office of Management and Budget (OMB), the proposed rule was designated non-significant, so does not have to go to OMB.
 - Strengthening Organic Enforcement (SOE) final rule implementation update. The rule published one year ago, and the implementation deadline is in March 2024. The NOP has been focused on outreach about the rule and technology work (i.e. trade modules and export certificates). Additional components, such as the recommendation from the Board about GPS location identification, will be deferred for now, until the technology work is done. NOP noted that it is discussing the GPS recommendations and ways to incorporate it.
 - The NOP provided a verbal approval of the CACS work agenda request on “Organic Food System Capacity and Constraints” and will follow up with written approval.
 - Preparation for the ACA training is underway. Many NOP staff will be participating.
 - The Transition to Organic Partnership Program (TOPP) is thriving. The mentors/mentees component is growing and working well. A member asked about other metrics to measure success. Metrics include such things as number of events, people engaged, number of mentors and mentees, number of certified ops, outcomes, acreage added, attrition, number of organic system plans (OSPs) that get completed, etc. The NOP is launching a transitional producer plan (TPP) to help producers document their organic practices and materials use during transition. This will be announced and posted on the AMS website soon. The group also discussed the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) and its role in the TOPP program.
 - The NOP is preparing the next call for nominations for the NOSB. There will be 5 seats open as of January 24, 2025. The Board members flagged potential gaps in skillsets, as two of the members rotating off have expertise in livestock.
 - The NOP response to the Fall 2023 NOSB recommendations should be sent soon.
 - The Board expressed appreciation to the Food Technologists and their work gathering the information on international standards for the sunset reviews.
 - Technical Report (TR) template updates/Excluded methods. NOP addressed several aspects of this project that it finds challenging, and the group discussed issues and solutions. NOP offered several alternatives such as adding questions to the petition template instead of the TR template and noted the need to follow standard processes for requesting public comments through the proposal process; the process should be the same as when the PPM is updated. While members don’t want to see this delayed, they supported another public comment collection. Given that this is already on the work agenda, and the MS presented a discussion document at a previous meeting, the Subcommittee will move ahead with a proposal for the Spring 2024 meeting. The group supported this solution.
- **Food Technologist update (JC).** The work on international standards was completed and returned to the NOSB and the Food Technologists are now working on the inerts work request.
- **Advisory Committee Specialist (ACS) update (MA)**
 - Upcoming deadlines (see tables below)

- Spring meeting prep. The NOP is prepping various items for the Spring meeting, including the draft meeting agenda and travel. The NOP will send guidance about making travel arrangements after March 1, which is when the next Continuing Resolution expires.
- Nominations timeline. The call for applications will be published in the Spring - March or April - and will be open for 60 days. The NOP will send outreach materials to Board members to use for outreach to their stakeholders.
- **Subcommittee Reports/Updates (5 minutes each)**
 - Compliance, Accreditation, & Certification (CACS) (ADB). The Chair thanked the program for approving the work agenda request on Organic Food System Capacity and Constraints, and thanked the lead for developing the well thought out request. The CACS is working on several documents for the Spring meeting and has begun hosting guest speakers on its calls.
 - Handling (HS) (AJ). The HS has been reviewing an extensive list of sunset reviews, as well as three petitions. The Subcommittee voted to not add rye pollen extracts, magnesium carbonate, or magnesium carbonate hydroxide to the National List, and will bring the proposals and discussions to the full Board for a vote.
 - Materials/GMO ad hoc (MS/GMO) (FQ). The Food Technologists are working on the Inerts work request from the Board. The TR template update was discussed above.
 - Policy Development (PDS) (NL). The PDS continues to refine updates to the Policy and Procedures Manual (PPM) which will be presented at the Spring meeting. The group completed conversations about outgoing member interviews.
 - Livestock (LS) (BC). The LS is working on several sunset reviews and is on track to complete them prior to the Spring meeting.
 - Crops (CS) (LP). The Crops Subcommittee is working on completing its sunset reviews, research priorities, and one petition on carbon dioxide.
- **Additional Items.** None.
- **The meeting was adjourned**

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