Date: 5/22/08

Subject: Updates to Chapter 5 of the NOSB New Member Guide.

Chair: Rigoberto Delgado

Recommendation

The NOSB hereby recommends to the NOP the following:

Rulemaking Action:

Guidance Statement:

Other: XXX

Statement of the Recommendation (including Recount of Vote):

The Board recommends including the following changes to the NOSB New Member Guide:

1. Addition to Chapter 5, section B (Suggested Best Practices/Making the Most of Your Conference Calls and Meetings), of a descriptive paragraph and link to the final NOSB recommendations table.

2. Addition to Chapter 5 (Suggested Best Practices) of a new section called: f. List of common technical sources used by NOSB members.

NOSB Vote

Motion: to approve updates to the NOSB New Member Guide as described by the Chair of the Policy Committee

Moved by: Barry Flamm Second by: Hubert Karreman

Board vote: Yes - 14 No - 0 Abstain - 0 Absent - 1

Result: The ayes have it and the motion is agreed to.

Rationale Supporting Recommendation (including consistency with OFPA and NOP):

The updates should allow NOSB members to access critical sources of technical information.

Response by the NOP:
National Organic Standards Board (NOSB)
Policy Development Committee

Updates to the New Member Guide
April 3, 2008

Summary:

NOSB members suggested the addition of two sections to the New Member Guide which include adding a link to past Board recommendations and a list of common technical sources used by NOSB members. These updates will improve the process of conducting NOSB business and training of incoming NOSB members.

Recommendation:

The Policy Development Committee recommends two updates to the New Member Guide document:

1. Addition to Chapter 5, section B (Suggested Best Practices/Making the Most of Your Conference Calls and Meetings), of a descriptive paragraph and link to the final NOSB recommendations table.

2. Addition to Chapter 5 (Suggested Best Practices) of a new section called: f. List of common technical sources used by NOSB members.

Committee vote: Motion: 1st Rigo Delgado, 2nd Bea James

Yes: 4 No: 0 Abstain: 0 Absent: 0

Recommendation 1:

Include in Chapter 5, section B (Suggested Best Practices/Making the Most of Your Conference Calls and Meetings), a descriptive paragraph and link to the final NOSB recommendations table. The proposed paragraph would become the last in the section B and would read as follows:

In order to gain a better understanding of the format and type of recommendations produced by the Board, it is suggested to review the listing of past recommendations. These are found online in the NOSB website:

Recommendation 2:

Include a new section to Chapter 5, listing common technical resources used by NOSB members. The proposed section would be located immediately after section e and would include the following.

f. List of common technical sources used by NOSB members

Very often during the review process and discussions, NOSB members need to consult various sources of information. The following is a general list of common technical sources.

Federal Regulatory Agencies

U.S. Department of Agriculture National Organic Program
http://www.ams.usda.gov/nop

U.S. Department of Agriculture Agricultural Research Service
http://www.ars.usda.gov

U.S. Department of Agriculture Cooperative State Research, Education, and Extension Service
http://www.csrees.usda.gov

U.S. Department of Agriculture Food and Nutrition Service
http://www.fns.usda.gov/fns/

U.S. Department of Agriculture Food Safety and Inspection Service
http://www.fsis.usda.gov

U.S. Department of Agriculture National Agricultural Library Alternative Farming Systems Information Center
http://www.nalusda.gov/afsic/ofp/susagrsch.htm

U.S. Department of Agriculture Sustainable Agriculture Research and Education Program
http://www.sare.org/index.htm

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Integrated Risk Information System
http://www.epa.gov/iris

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Water
http://www.epa.gov/ow/

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Water Science
http://www.epa.gov/waterscience/

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Organic Agriculture Page
http://www.epa.gov/oecaagct/torg.html#National%20Organic%20Standards
Appropriate Technology Transfer to Rural Areas
http://www.attra.org

CABI Publishing (organic research abstracts)
http://www.organic-research.com/

Codex Alimentarius Commission
http://www.codexalimentarius.net
European Union (organic regulation)
http://www.organic-europe.net/europe_eu/default.asp#2092

Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations

Joint FAO/WHO Expert Committee on Food Additives (JECFA)

International Federation of Organic Agriculture Movements
http://www.ifoam.org

International Food Information Council Foundation
http://www.ific.org

Institute of Food Science and Technology
http://www.ifst.org

Organic Farming Research Foundation
http://www.ofrf.org

Organic Materials Review Institute
http://www.omri.org

Organic Trade Association
http://www.ota.com

Research Institute of Organic Agriculture (FIBL)
http://www.organic-europe.net

Rodale Institute
www.rodaleinstitute.org

The National Sustainable Agriculture Information Service
http://www.attra.org


Scirus:  http://www.scirus.com/
Food Ingredients: http://www.food-ingredients.com/

American Association of Bovine Practitioners: www.aabp.org

Veterinary Botanical Medical Association: www.vbma.org

American Veterinary Medical Association: www.avma.org

American Holistic Veterinary Medical Association: www.ahvma.org