

# California Department of Food and Agriculture

## Marketing Branch

### Approval of Meeting Minutes and Actions

Program:	California Pistachio Research Board
Meeting Date:	November 4, 2021
Meeting Location:	Videoconference and Teleconference

**Notable Actions:**

2021 1104	#02	Motion to recommend the appointment of Christine Milgrom as public member of the Board. <a href="#">[Approved by Department Order on November 16, 2021]</a>
2021 1104	#03	Motion to fund Zaccaria’s proposal “Investigating the effects of winter cover cropping on radiation balance, soil-water dynamics, and water productivity of mature micro-irrigated pistachio orchards” for \$96,825.
2021 1104	#04	Motion to fund Brar’s three proposals as follows: a) “Do cover crops help lower canopy temperatures and enhance chill accumulation in Pistachios?” for \$47,451, b) “Metabolomics analysis of bud and shoot samples during the dormant period from two pistachios cultivars for \$62,612, for a total of \$110,063 the 2021-2022 fiscal year, and c) “Early to bed? Managing dormancy induction to enhance chill accumulation and endodormancy in Pistachios” for \$44,886 for the 2022-2023 fiscal year.
2021 1104	#05	Motion to sponsor the 8th International Symposium on Almonds and Pistachios for \$5,000.

**APPROVED**

**SECRETARY OF FOOD AND AGRICULTURE**

**BY:**   
 Joe Monson, Branch Chief  
 Marketing Branch

**DATE:** JANUARY 21, 2022



**MEETING MINUTES  
CALIFORNIA PISTACHIO RESEARCH BOARD  
Board of Directors Meeting**

**November 4, 2021 – 1:30 p.m.  
Video/Teleconference Meeting via Zoom**

**Roll Call**

Chairman Tom Coleman called the meeting to order at 1:30 p.m. A complete board roster is shown below with an \* indicating those in attendance. A quorum was established.

Members	Alternates	Advisory Committee
* Tom Coleman, Chairman	1 <sup>st</sup> Alternate	Robert Beede
* Gerrid Climer	* Zack Raven	Carl Fanucchi
* Jeremy Blackwell	2 <sup>nd</sup> Alternate	* Todd Fukuda
* Rob Goff	* Erik Wilkins	Mike Harvey
* Doug Mueller	3 <sup>rd</sup> Alternate	* Brad Higbee
Brian O'Neill	Clay Beck	* Michael Naito
* Mike Smith	4 <sup>th</sup> Alternate	Anthony Rabo
Rod Stiefvater	* Joseph Coelho	
* Todd Tracy		
* Christine Milgrom		

\*indicates those members, alternates and advisors in attendance.

Others Present: Shane Bickner, Kirk Squire, Thomas Jones, Mirek Wilczek (CDFA), Juanita Owens, and Bob Klein.

**Approval of the June 22, 2021 Meeting Minutes**

**Board Motion 2021-11-04 #1**

It was moved by Doug Mueller and seconded by Gerrid Climer to approve the June 22, 2021, minutes as written. The motion passed unanimously with no abstentions.

**Public Comments on Agenda Items**

There were no comments on agenda items from the public.

**CDFA Report**

Mirek Wilczek informed the Board that preparations are being made for a continuation hearing to take place in January after the Pistachio Day meetings (the CPRB has continuation hearings every five years).

**Manager's Report**

Bob Klein reported the following:

1. Researcher Luisa Cheng passed away earlier this year. Bob signed paperwork that will allow another researcher to take over her project.
2. Analytical tests on nuts for aflatoxin and OTA show that levels of OTA are similar to aflatoxin. The 5ppb tolerance the EU is talking about for OTA testing will have the same challenges as aflatoxin.
3. Bob Klein has been meeting with the USDA to discuss internal kernel discoloration. This could lead to a need to change the grades and standards for pistachios.
4. The ACP formed a committee to oversee the hiring of replacements for Juanita and Bob as they approach retirement. Bob will be sending drafts of job descriptions to this committee for review.

### **Public Member Appointment**

The public member term has expired. Christine Milgrom has agreed to the continuation of her appointment.

### **Board Motion 2021-11-04 #2**

It was moved by Doug Mueller and seconded by Mike Smith to appoint Christine Milgrom as the public member. The motion passed unanimously with no abstentions.

This action requires separate approval by the Department

### **Fall Research Projects**

Bob Klein sent a request for proposals in August, for research to begin in November of 2021. The research was to cover areas related to post harvest, such as, cover crops and dormancy/chill. The Board received six proposals (from Bali, Wilson, Zaccaria, and Brar). The Bali, Wilson, and Zaccaria projects were discussed together (similar projects using the same block). Out of these three, there was a motion to approve the Wilson and Zaccaria projects, however, only the Zaccaria project received a second. The three Brar projects were approved, however, it is too late to begin the dormancy induction project this year. This project was approved for the next fiscal year.

### **Board Motion 2021-11-04 #3**

It was moved by Gerrid Climer and seconded by Zack Raven to fund Zaccaria's proposal, "Investigating the effects of winter cover cropping on radiation balance, soil-water dynamics, and water productivity of mature micro-irrigated pistachio orchards", for \$96,825. The motion passed unanimously with no abstentions.

### **Board Motion 2021-11-04 #4**

It was moved by Doug Mueller and seconded by Zack Raven to fund Brar's 3 proposals as follows:

- a) "Do cover crops help lower canopy temperatures and enhance chill accumulation in Pistachios?" - \$47,451, and
- b) "Metabolomics analysis of bud and shoot samples during the dormant period from two pistachios cultivars - \$62,612, for a total of \$110,063 this year, and
- c) "Early to bed? Managing dormancy induction to enhance chill accumulation and endodormancy in Pistachios" - \$44,886 – for the fiscal year 2022-2023.

The motion passed unanimously with no abstentions.

### **Funding Request ISHS Symposium**

The 8th International Society of Horticultural Science International Symposium on Almond and Pistachio is taking place June 19-24, 2022, at UC Davis. The Board was asked to consider sponsorship for this event. The Board agreed to contribute \$5,000.

### **Board Motion 2021-11-04 #5**

It was moved by Christine Milgrom and seconded by Erik Wilkins to sponsor the 8<sup>th</sup> International Symposium on Almonds and Pistachios for \$5,000. The motion passed unanimously with no abstentions.

### **2021 Crop – Research Needs**

The main concern from the 2021 crop is the timing of pesticide applications for residue issues. The ACP will be asked to provide guidance on AI's and MRL's for growers.

### **Visa Sponsorship**

Farm advisors asked if the Board could help pay for work visa expenses. The UC only does this for specialists. There has been no assistance for advisors and other staff that want to stay here to work. It was determined that the CPRB has no authority to assist with this request.

### **Weather Stations**

Bob Klein has been talking with Semios about setting up 35 weather stations. Semios would like to start with ten stations and add more after everything works as expected. The cost is still unknown. Semios would like access to the data to be password protected on a website. Tom Coleman suggested a weekly PDF report posted on the CPRB website as an alternative option.

**Other Business**

Bob Klein reminded the Board that research proposals will include fifteen-minute video presentations. Board members will review videos on their own and classify the proposals as yes, no, or need more information.

**Public Comment**

There were no public comments.

**Topics for Future Consideration**

No additional topics were mentioned.

**Scheduling of Future Meetings**

Bob Klein expects to schedule a meeting for early February to discuss the proposals.

There being no other business, the meeting was adjourned at 2:35 p.m.

**Certification**

I, Bob Klein, Manager of the California Pistachio Research Board, do hereby certify that, to the best of my knowledge, the foregoing is a true and correct account of the meeting of the California Pistachio Research Board conducted on November 4, 2021.

Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
Bob Klein, Manager - California Pistachio Research Board