

OLIVES NEW ZEALAND
MINUTES SYNOPSIS OF EXECUTIVE MEETING
SUNDAY 5TH OCTOBER 2014
JAMES COOK HOTEL, WELLINGTON
8.30AM - 10.50AM

1. Present

Andrew Taylor (President), Kay McKelvie (Vice President), Craig Leaf-Wright (Treasurer), Bob Marshall, John Dunlop, Allan Frazer, Gayle Sheridan

2. Apologies

Tony Millar

3. Minutes of the August Meeting

Action Points

Manzate – John reported on the data he had obtained about Manzate. He confirmed that Spain and Greece had 14 and 7 days with-holding periods respectively but limited the number of sprays per annum for olives. He noted that the product is used extensively on other crops. John had spoken with the AOA specialist who said that Strobry and Copper Oxychloride were registered for use on olives in Australia and Manzate was used on other crops up to 21 days prior to harvest. John said he had also spoken with companies in New Zealand and they might be interested in a joint venture doing residue tests. John said from his research it is apparent that the 90 days specified in the Food Safety Template is unreasonable and needs to be changed.

John will provide a written report on his findings so that this could be made available to anyone interested.

There was general discussion about with-holding periods for Manzate and parallels with other crops. Also that members are currently being required to stop spraying at a time when they really need to continue spraying.

The following motion was carried.

As a result of ongoing investigations the Executive recommends a with-holding period of 28 days for all fungicides. In reaching this decision the Executive has taken into account the report prepared by John Dunlop and the decision follows local and overseas horticultural practice.

Health Star Rating Systems – A reply had been received from MPI advising a system had been implemented to enable submissions on anomalies. Olives NZ would make a submission accordingly.

4. Financial Report

Craig said there was little to report as there were a large number of invoices to come for both certification and the awards, and these were two of the biggest items in the budget.

5. Executive Officer Report

Gayle spoke to her report which had been circulated with the Agenda pack.

Financial Systems

There were no outstanding debtors. There were quite a lot of funds tied up in merchandising stock (bags, calendars, HB cards, etc.). If these were not sold out by the end of the year then stock would need to be included in the annual financial accounts.

Focus Grove Project

The next SFF Funding Round closes on 10th October and Bob volunteered to review the last application, update and submit for the current round.

Auckland Funds

Robert Dean has advised that there is agreement for the balance of the Auckland funds to be donated to Olives New Zealand as follows.

Olives Auckland Inc. agrees to donate the balance of their funds towards sponsorship of Olives New Zealand Focus Groves Project. This is subject to acceptance by Olives NZ Executive at an Executive meeting that funds provided by Olives Auckland Inc. will be used solely for the "Focus Grove Project"

The following motion was carried.

The Olives New Zealand Executive agrees that the balance of funds from Olives Auckland Inc be accepted solely for use for the Focus Grove Project. The Executive wishes to formally acknowledge appreciation of this donation.

Awards

It was great to receive a total of 92 entries for the awards. There were 74 medals awarded; 11 Gold, 57 Silver, 6 Bronze plus 7 Best in Class.

Charts showing the break-down of medals by region and category showed that Wairarapa had performed very well. Some 20% of entries did not receive an award which was significantly higher than previous years at 10%.

There had been 80 registrations for the Awards dinner with about four not attending. Gayle had thus far received only excellent feedback from attendees on the venue and format.

Gayle had advised that Lot 8 were interested in donating a new trophy. Andrew asked the Executive to think about the potential area for a new award.

Gayle had included in her report a recommendation that a new category for flavoured oils be added to the awards on the basis that this was an area of growth for members. It was agreed that Gayle should prepare a paper on adding flavoured oils to the annual awards. Andrew said at some point we should also look at including table olives.

Wellington Tasting Seminar

15 people attended the seminar but 18 registrations had been received. There had been very good feedback from the attendees and interesting to see the parallels between the IOC process and our awards judging process.

Marketing

Gayle expressed her thanks to Allan for arranging the meeting with Beef and Lamb as this had been very valuable. One of their key suggestions had been to join the Food Writers Guild and attend their AGM. Funding was approved for Gayle to join the Guild and attend their AGM.

Gayle noted she needed to get on with the recipe cards and would look to rationalise these as some of the recipes on the calendar were really chef only.

Bob commented that he had very good feedback on the Health Benefit cards and John said he had the same on the woven bags.

Certification

Certification figures were well ahead of the previous three years and there were still some samples to be submitted. It is hoped that the 2014 retained samples could be sent off to cool storage by the end of the month and the 2012 samples would be released at this time.

6. 2014 Executive Priorities

Productivity

Andrew and Stuart Tustin hoped to visit the remaining Focus Groves in October as timing had been an issue in September.

Processing

Confirmation from Fernando Martinez that he was available for 2015 Conference. Fernando was very experienced in processing as well as being Head of the IdG Panel. There was perhaps potential that he could be involved in the professional development of our judges. Day one of conference would be at the Sudima and day two at Barry Wade's processing facility.

Gayle would look at a flavoured oils workshop as an alternative to the processing workshop. This could be run at the Sudima.

Conference dates are 28/29 March 2015.

Marketing

This had been covered earlier in the meeting.

It was agreed that a review of 2014 marketing be carried out at the November meeting.

7. General Business

Nil

Andrew thanked everyone for their attendance and participation.

For Information - New Members

Ben and Dianne Stockbridge, Kapiti

NEXT MEETING

20th November 2014 – Teleconference starting at 7pm