California Seed Association Spinach Seed Committee

February, 2018
Spinach Seed Committee

History

- California Seed Association Mid Year 2012 ~ Initial meeting to discuss need for a committee devoted to spinach seed
  - March 2013 ~ Spinach Seed Fund letter of Solicitation sent to CSA members
    - Started with 20 members and a research fund of $49,500
Spinach Seed Committee

Goal

To identify research needs and/or special projects for spinach seed and to establish a sustainable source of funding to support these projects.
Spinach Seed Committee
Objectives

• To identify research needs to address current and anticipated issues that could potentially prevent the movement and availability of spinach seed for the leafy greens market in the U.S.
• Educate CSA members on current issues associated with spinach production in the U.S.
Spinach Seed Committee
Structure

**Membership:** There are currently 19 paid members representing: seed producers, dealers/distributors and associates

- **Dues:** Voluntary annual contributions - due April 15
  - Seed Producers ~ $5000
  - Seed Dealers/Distributors ~ $1000
  - Associates ~ $1000

- Monies are collected and held in a separate bank account by the California Seed Association for the exclusive use by the Spinach Committee.
- **Voting:** One vote per paid member company
- We have $181,000 available for research
Research Proposal Guidelines

- Proposals must be submitted to committee chair two months before each meeting
  - Proposals shared with voting members prior to the meeting
  - At the CSA meeting we discuss proposals merits and vote on funding approval or denial
The Current Spinach Seed Committee Structure

Chairperson: Dale Krolikowski, Germains Seed Technology, Inc.
Vice chair: Pine Higgins, Enza Zaden, USA

Scheduled Meetings: Twice a year in conjunction with the CSA midyear and annual meetings.
Spinach Seed Committee
Projects Funded to date

• Growth Chamber for UC Extension ~Salinas
• Dr. Jim Correll, Univ Arkansas
  o DM race Identification
• Dr. Allen Van Deynze: Spinach Genome for targeted traits, UC Davis
  o Downey Mildew and Cadmium Uptake
Spinach Seed Committee
Current Projects

- Review and prioritization of issues of concern...
  - #1 Downy Mildew
    - DNA Marker Diagnostics
    - Epidemiology of Downy Mildew
    - Effective organic treatments (foliar & seed)
Spinach Seed Committee
Past projects that have been completed

- Update Fact Sheets
- *Verticillium dahliae*
- Downy Mildew
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Spinach Seed Committee
Future Projects

Potential projects being prepared
Standardized testing Downy Mildew oospores on seed and viability of spores
With ISHI

- Evaluate Downey Mildew infected seeds grown in commercial field with no history of Downy Mildew

- We are currently accepting proposals. They are needed before March 1st
How to Submit a Research Proposal?

Submit to:
California Seed Association
1521 I Street
Sacramento, California 95814
Fax: (916) 446-1063
Office: (916) 441-2251
www.calseed.org
Attn: Spinach Seed Committee
Questions?