

FINAL MINUTES OF THE  
NATIONAL ORGANIC STANDARDS BOARD  
FULL BOARD MEETING  
INDIANAPOLIS, IN  
SEPTEMBER 18-20, 1996

1 **September 18, 1996**

2 The initial session of the National Organic Standards Board (NOSB) meeting was called to order  
3 at 11:45 a.m. by Chairperson Bob Anderson.

4 Members in attendance were: Betsy Lydon, Margaret Wittenberg, K. Chandler, Jean Afterman,  
5 Bob Anderson, Fred Kirschenmann, Kathleen Merrigan, Steve Pavich, Dean Eppley, and  
6 Michael Sligh. Joan Gussow, Rod Crossley and Jay Friedman joined in later that afternoon.  
7 Participating at this meeting as the certifying agency advisor to the NOSB was Brent Wiseman of  
8 the Texas Department of Agriculture. Gene Kahn was unable to participate in this meeting.

9 National Organic Program staff members present from USDA were: Harold Ricker, Michael  
10 Johnson, Toni Strother, and Karen Thomas. Also in attendance from the USDA was Eileen  
11 Stommes, Director of the Transportation and Marketing Division, Agricultural Marketing  
12 Service (AMS).

13 On the behalf of Lon Hatamiya, Eileen Stommes opened by welcoming everyone to the meeting.  
14 She thanked everyone for their patience, hard work and dedication. She also commended the  
15 Board's on its ability to find common ground on many of the more contentious issues that they  
16 have been faced with. Eileen then made a presentation to all the new Board members who were  
17 present at that time. Those members included Jean Afterman, Betsy Lydon, Steve Pavich, and  
18 Bob Anderson (reappointment). She closed by stating that the proposed rule is in its final  
19 drafting stages and is moving forward rapidly.

20 **USDA Staff Report** - Dr. Harold Ricker, Program Manager of the National Organic Program,  
21 was introduced by Bob Anderson. Dr. Ricker went on to introduce the rest of the USDA staff  
22 and he also announced that Grace Gershuny has moved to Vermont, but will continue to work for  
23 the USDA on a part-time basis. Regarding her position in Washington, there was a vacancy  
24 announcement open for it.

25 Next, Dr. Ricker reviewed the funding status for Fiscal Year 1996. In the next fiscal year (FY  
26 97), Congress has not appropriated any funding for advisory committees. The funding for  
27 advisory committees will come from each individual agency's own funding.

28 The nomination period has been extended for the following positions on the board:  
29 farmer/grower (1), handler/processor (1), consumer/public interest (1), environmentalist (1), and

30 scientist (1). Hal urged everyone to help seek out additional applicants. He did not specify when  
31 the proposed rule will be out, but he did note that the USDA is working to make the proposed  
32 rule accessible on the Internet. It will also be available in hard copy.

33 On the previous executive committee conference call, there was a discussion on what the Board  
34 can do during exparte. Dr. Ricker briefly reviewed some those issues again and Fred followed by  
35 asking if Board members should decline to speak on issues regarding the proposed rule. Dr.  
36 Ricker responded by saying be cautious, and Bob reiterated that Board members could comment  
37 as individuals, but not as a representative of the entire NOSB. Bob closed by noting that this  
38 meeting's agenda is very aggressive.

39 The session was adjourned at 12:10 p.m.

40 The meeting reconvened at 12:50 p.m. and Eileen briefly recognized and presented new Board  
41 member Joan Gussow with a certificate, who had just joined the meeting.

42 Joe Pierson, Indiana Assistant Commissioner of Agriculture, spoke briefly about the Commission  
43 and commended the Board on its direction and vision. He also went on to welcome everyone to  
44 Indianapolis, IN and to thank the Board for choosing Indianapolis as their meeting place.

45 The public input session followed Mr. Pierson and subsequently adjourned at 5:36 p.m. The  
46 public input testimony is on file with the USDA.

47 New Board member orientation followed the public input session at 6:10 p.m. NOSB members  
48 in attendance were: Dean Eppley, Steve Pavich, Rod Crossley, Kathleen Merrigan, Fred  
49 Kirschenmann, Michael Sligh, Bob Anderson, Jean Afterman, K. Chandler, Margaret  
50 Wittenberg, Joan Gussow, and Betsy Lydon. Brent Wiseman was also present. All of the USDA  
51 staff was present.

52 **ACCREDITATION COMMITTEE REPORT:**

53 Kathleen Merrigan stated that the "seal issue" was still a burning issue for the accreditation  
54 committee, especially whether or not private certifiers will be allowed to use their seals to  
55 represent different standards in the national program. The industry is divided on this issue, as  
56 well as the NOSB. Kathleen Merrigan noted that another committee issue is user fees.

57 **CROPS COMMITTEE REPORT:**

58 Steve Pavich did not come prepared to give a report, but did note that bio solids (sewage sludge)  
59 and planting stock for pineapples will be discussed at this meeting.

60 **INTERNATIONAL COMMITTEE REPORT:**

61 Michael Sligh noted that the criteria for determining international equivalency needed to be  
62 discussed and he also spoke briefly about the U.S. position on Codex.

63 **LIVESTOCK COMMITTEE REPORT:**

64 Fred Kirschenmann noted that the honey standards for livestock will need to be discussed on  
65 Friday.

66 **PROCESSING COMMITTEE REPORT:**

67 Margaret Wittenberg reviewed the processing committee issues: organic fiber, use of dyes in  
68 processing, and the use of incidental food additives.

69 After the committee updates, Bob proposed that the materials committee be reestablished. He  
70 reemphasized the legislative responsibility of the Board for materials. He also questioned why  
71 certain materials were included in the review books again, and Michael Johnson explained why  
72 they were included. These materials included: Sulphur Dioxide, pBO, Leather By-Products,  
73 and Killed Microbials.

74 Bob then looked for a sense from the Board of how they felt about the material reviews. Joan  
75 noted some concerns about the materials and reviewers, and Rod noted his inability to make  
76 decisions on some of the materials. Overall, the Board expressed discontent with some of the  
77 reviews and lumping of materials into categories. Michael Sligh then moved to reestablish the  
78 materials committee, and K. Chandler seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

79 Hal reminded all Board members to submit their expenses in a timely manner.  
80 The meeting was adjourned at 7:00 p.m.

81 **September 19, 1996**

82 The meeting was called to order at 8:10 a.m. by chairperson Bob Anderson.

83 NOSB Members in attendance were: Jean Afterman, Bob Anderson, K. Chandler, Rod Crossley,  
84 Dean Eppley, Joan Gussow, Fred Kirschenmann, Betsy Lydon, Kathleen Merrigan, Steve Pavich,  
85 and Michael Sligh. Participating as the certifying agency advisor was Brent Wiseman. Jay  
86 Friedman was not present.

87 Staff members present from USDA were: Harold Ricker, Michael Johnson, Toni Strother, Karen  
88 Thomas, and Eileen Stommes.

89 Technical Advisory Panel Coordinators present were: Zea Sonnabend, Lynn Coody, John

90 Brown, and Brian Baker.

91 **Materials Discussion**

92 Bob Anderson and Mike Johnson reviewed the Materials Oversight Working Group conclusions  
93 and the NOSB voting procedures. Mr. Johnson also noted that the synthetic/non-synthetic  
94 decision will be a simple majority and abstentions are counted as a "no" vote; absences don't  
95 count toward the majority and 2/3 of the NOSB must be present conduct a vote.

96 The following votes represent the NOSB materials review and voting that occurred during the  
97 remainder of the week. The notes detail the actual votes on each material and some included  
98 general comments and other discussion notes.

99 **Processing Materials**

100 **Calcium Sulfate** - Reviewed by Joe Montecalvo, Rich Theuer, Steve Taylor, William Zimmer,  
101 and Walter Jeffery. Determined to be synthetic; Vote: 12 aye / 1 absent. The NOSB's decision  
102 is to prohibit this material for use in organic food processing; Vote: 11 aye / 1 opposed / 1  
103 absent. The NOSB's decision is to also prohibit this material for use in foods "made with organic  
104 ingredients"; Vote: 12 aye / 0 opposed / 1 absent.

105 **Chymosin (microbial rennet bio-engineered form)** - Reviewed by Brian Baker, Joe  
106 Montecalvo, and Steve Taylor. Determined to be synthetic; Vote: 12 aye / 1 absent. The  
107 NOSB's decision is to prohibit this material for use in organic food processing; Vote: 11 aye / 1  
108 opposed / 1 absent. The NOSB's decision is to also prohibit this material for use in foods "made  
109 with organic ingredients"; Vote: 12 aye / 0 opposed / 1 absent.

110 **Chymosin (Enzyme Form)** - This material was tabled and sent back to the TAP.

111 **Clay, various (Fuller's Earth Attapulgite)** - Reviewed by Joe Montecalvo, Steve Taylor,  
112 James Johnson, David Pimental, and John Clark. There was no determination made on this  
113 material. Michael Sligh moved and it was seconded by K. Chandler to send the material back to  
114 the materials committee for further clarifications; Vote: Motion carried unanimously. The  
115 Board was unsure of its current use in organic food processing, and after clarification will send  
116 back to the TAP for further review.

117 **Enzymes: malted/barley** - Reviewed by Joe Montecalvo, Rich Theuer, and Steve Taylor.  
118 Determined to be non-synthetic; Vote: Unanimous. This material is prohibited for use in  
119 organic food processing; Vote: 5 aye / 8 opposed. **[Permitted from an organic source only.]**

120 **Enzymes: mold/fungal, yeast** - Reviewed by Joe Montecalvo, Rich Theuer, William Zimmer,  
121 and Steve Taylor. Rod Crossley moved and it was second by K. Chandler to send this material  
122 back to the materials committee for further classification; Vote: Motion carried unanimously.

- 123 **Enzymes: plant, animal** - Reviewed by Joe Montecalvo, Rich Theuer, and Steve Taylor.  
 124 Rod Crossley moved and it was seconded by K. Chandler to send this material back to the  
 125 materials committee for further classification; Vote: Motion carried unanimously.
- 126 **Magnesium Carbonate (synthetic)** - Reviewed by Joe Montecalvo, Rich Theuer, Steve Taylor,  
 127 and Walter Jeffery. Determined to be synthetic; Vote: Unanimous. This material is prohibited  
 128 for use in organic food processing (95% and above); Vote: 4 aye / 9 opposed. However, the  
 129 NOSB does allow for the use of this material in foods "made with organic ingredients" (95% and  
 130 below); Vote: 9 aye / 4 opposed.
- 131 **Magnesium Carbonate (non-synthetic)** - Determined to be non-synthetic. Vote: Unanimous.  
 132 Bob moved and it was seconded by Rod to send this material back to the TAP for more  
 133 information on the impurities and contaminants in the natural product. Vote: Motion carried  
 134 unanimously.
- 135 **Perlite** - Reviewed by Joe Montecalvo and James Johnson. Determined to be non-synthetic;  
 136 Vote: 9 aye / 2 opposed / 1 abstention / 1 absent. The NOSB's decision is to allow this material  
 137 for use in organic food processing; Vote: 12 aye / 1 opposed. Annotation: Filter aid in food  
 138 processing.
- 139  
 140 **Silicon Dioxide** - Reviewed by Rich Theuer, Joe Montecalvo, James Johnson, William Zimmer,  
 141 and Walter Jeffery. Determined to be synthetic; Vote: Unanimous. The NOSB's decision is to  
 142 allow this material for use in organic food processing; Vote: 10 aye / 3 opposed.
- 143 **Sulfuric Acid** - Reviewed by Joe Montecalvo, Rich Theuer, Steve Taylor, and Walter Jeffery.  
 144 Determined to be synthetic; Vote: Unanimous. This material is prohibited for use in organic  
 145 food processing; Vote: Unanimous. This material is also prohibited for use in foods labeled as  
 146 made with organic ingredients; Vote: Unanimous.
- 147 **Unmodified starches** - Reviewed by Joe Montecalvo, Rich Theuer, David Pimentel, and Steve  
 148 Taylor. Rod Crossley moved and it was seconded by Joan Gussow to send this material back to  
 149 the materials committee to further define; Vote: 9 aye / 2 opposed / 1 absent. Motion carried.
- 150 **Whey Protein (Non-Organically Produced)** - Reviewed by Joe Montecalvo, Rich Theuer,  
 151 David Pimentel, William Zimmer, and Steve Taylor. Determined to be non-synthetic; Vote: 12  
 152 aye / 1 absent. This material is prohibited for use in organic food processing; Vote: 5 aye / 8  
 153 opposed. **[Permitted from an organic source only.]**
- 154 **Crops Materials**
- 155 **Amino Acids** - Reviewed by Brian Baker and Paul Sachs. Rod Crossley moved and it was  
 156 seconded by Fred Kirschenmann to send this material back to the materials committee for further  
 57 classification; Vote: 9 aye / 4 opposed. Motion carried.

- 158 **Ammonium Soaps** - Reviewed by Paul Sachs, Brian Baker, and Bill Wolf.  
159 Determined to be synthetic; Vote: Unanimous. The NOSB's decision is to allow this material  
160 for use in organic crop production; Vote: 12 aye / 1 opposed. Annotation: Cannot come in  
161 contact with soil or edible portion of crop; to be used as an animal repellent only.
- 162 **Calcium Chloride (Extracted from brine)** - Reviewed by Brian Baker, Walter Jeffery, and  
163 Diana Tracy. Determined to be non-synthetic; Vote: 12 aye / 1 opposed. The NOSB's decision  
164 is that this material should not be placed on the Prohibited Natural(s) List; Vote: 1 aye / 12  
165 opposed. Annotation: Allowed for use to correct bitter pit problems in apples allowed for use  
166 only in organic cotton production to comply with emergency spray programs or to prevent  
167 immediate loss of crop.
- 168 **Detergents** - Reviewed by David Pimentel, Phillip VanBuskirk, and John Clark. Zea Sonnabend  
169 recommended that this material fall under the inerts policy. Fred Kirschenmann moved and it  
170 was seconded by Steve Pavich to declare that detergents are inert ingredients for the purposes of  
171 crop usage; Vote: 8 aye / 2 opposed / 2 abstention / 1 absent. Motion carried.
- 172 **Fruit Waxes (Plant-Derived)** - Reviewed by Paul Sachs, Diana Tracy, Joe Montecalvo, and  
173 John Clark. Determined to be non-synthetic; Vote: 10 opposed / 2 abstention / 1 absent. The  
174 NOSB's decision is that this material should not be placed on the Prohibited Natural(s) List;  
175 Vote: 7 aye / 4 opposed / 1 abstention / 1 absent. Annotation: Restricted to carnauba and wood-  
176 resin.
- 177 **Fruit Waxes (Animal Waxes)** - Reviewed by Paul Sachs, Diana Tracy, Joe Montecalvo, and  
178 John Clark. Rod Crossley moved and it was seconded by Bob Anderson to send this material  
179 back to the materials committee because of a lack of specific information; Vote: 12 aye / 1  
180 absent. Motion carried.
- 181 **Gibberellic Acid** - Reviewed by Diana Tracy, Brian Baker, Paul Sachs, and William Zimmer.  
182 Determined to be non-synthetic; Vote: Unanimous. The NOSB's decision is that this material  
183 should not be placed on the Prohibited Natural(s) List; Vote: Unanimous. Annotation: Must be  
184 produced from fermentation of non-genetically engineered organisms.
- 185 **Humic Acids (from naturally occurring deposits and alkali extracted)** - Reviewed by  
186 William Zimmer, James Johnson, and Paul Sachs. Determined to be synthetic; Vote: 12 aye / 1  
187 absent. The NOSB's decision is to allow this material for use in organic crop production; Vote:  
188 10 aye / 2 opposed / 1 absent.
- 189 **Lime, Controlled Atmosphere** - Reviewed by William Zimmer. This material was sent back to  
190 the TAP for additional reviews; Vote: 12 aye / 1 opposed.
- 191 **Magnesium Chloride (Extracted from brine, seawater, and salt deposits)** - Reviewed by  
192 Brian Baker and Walter Jeffery. Determined to be non-synthetic; Vote: 12 aye / 1 absent. The

- 193 NOSB's decision is that this material should not be placed on the Prohibited Natural(s) List;  
194 Vote: 4 aye / 9 opposed.
- 195 **Sewage Sludge** - Reviewed by William Zimmer, Brian Baker, James Johnson, Paul Sachs, David  
196 Pimentel, Eric Sideman, John Clark, Chris Milne, and Diana Tracy. Determined to be synthetic;  
197 Vote: 10 aye / 1 opposed / 2 abstentions. The NOSB has determined that this material is  
198 unacceptable for use in organic crop production; Vote: 12 aye / 1 opposed.
- 199 **Soap-based herbicides** - Reviewed by Diana Tracy. Determined to be synthetic; Vote: 11 aye /  
200 2 absent. The NOSB's decision is to allow this material for use in organic crop production;  
201 Vote: 11 aye / 2 absent. Annotation: Allowed for use on roadways, ditches, right-of-ways, and  
202 around buildings and ornamental crops. Also, Rod moved and it was seconded by Steve to send  
203 Pelargonic acid to the TAP. Vote: Motion carried unanimously.
- 204 **Soap-based algicide/demossers** - Reviewed by David Pimentel, James Johnson, John Clark,  
205 Chris Milne, and Diana Tracy. Determined to be synthetic; Vote: Unanimous. The NOSB's  
206 decision is to allow this material for use in organic crop production; Vote: Unanimous.
- 207 **Sodium Chlorate** - Reviewed by Walter Jeffery and Brian Baker. Determined to be synthetic;  
208 Vote: Unanimous. The NOSB has determined that this material is unacceptable for use in  
209 organic crop production; Vote: Unanimous.
- 210 **Sodium Chloride** - Reviewed by Brian Baker, Joe Montecalvo, Walter Jeffery, and Diana Tracy.  
211 Determined to be non-synthetic; Vote: 12 aye / 1 absent. The NOSB's decision is that this  
212 material should not be placed on the Prohibited Natural(s) List; Vote: 3 aye / 9 opposed / 1  
213 absent. Annotation: Allowed for use only in organic cotton production to comply with  
214 emergency spray programs or to prevent immediate loss of crop.
- 215 **Sodium Fluoaluminate (Mined)** - Reviewed by Bart Hall and Bill Wolf.  
216 Determined to be non-synthetic; Vote: Unanimous. The NOSB has determined that this material  
217 is unacceptable for use in organic crop production; Vote: Unanimous.
- 218 **Sodium Fluoaluminate (Non-mined)** - Reviewed by Bart Hall and Bill Wolf.  
219 Determined to be synthetic; Vote: Unanimous. The NOSB has determined that this material is  
220 unacceptable for use in organic crop production; Vote: Unanimous.
- 221 **Sodium Silicate** - Reviewed by Walter Jeffery. Determined to be synthetic; Vote: Unanimous.  
222 The NOSB's decision is to allow this material for use in organic crop production; Vote:  
223 Unanimous. Annotation: Allowed for floating tree fruits and fiber processing.
- 224 **Sulfur Dioxide** - Reviewed by Joe Montecalvo, William Zimmer, and Walter Jeffery.  
225 Determined to be synthetic; Vote: Unanimous. The NOSB's decision is to allow this material  
26 for use in organic crop production; Vote: 10 aye / 1 opposed. Annotation: Allowed for use in

227 sulfur smoke bombs for control of underground rodents.

228 **Livestock materials**

229 **Alcohol (methanol)** - Reviewed by David Pimentel. Material was sent back to TAP for more  
230 specific information on: 1) method of manufacture, 2) specific uses, 3) concerns about toxicity,  
231 and 4) alternatives. Vote: Unanimous.

232 **Colostrum Whey** - Reviewed by Lynn Brown and William Zimmer. Determined to be non-  
233 synthetic; Vote: 9 aye / 3 absent / 1 abstentions. The NOSB's decision is to allow this material  
234 for use in organic livestock production; Vote: 10 aye / 3 absent. Annotation: No colostrum  
235 from rBST treated animals allowed.

236 After a brief discussion, the NOSB declined to re-open discussion on Killed Microbials, pBO,  
237 and Leather By-Product; Vote: 11 aye / 2 opposed / 1 absent.

238 **Biotechnology Discussion**

239 Before the discussion began, Michael Sligh distributed handouts with draft language for an  
240 NOSB biotechnology policy. Fred read the recommendation, and began the discussion by  
241 elaborating on the draft Codex position not to allow genetically engineered products or  
242 organisms to be used in organic food production and processing. He followed with more general  
243 discussion about the issue and then moved and it was seconded by Jay that the class of  
244 genetically engineered organisms and their derivatives be prohibited in organic production and  
245 handling systems. Jay then expressed that opinions can be brought forward on this issue without  
246 closing off discussions and still retain the position that they are all synthetic. Rod then followed  
247 by saying that it was not fair to processors to be forced to determine what's genetically  
248 engineered and what's not, as the problem of verification still exists. He also reiterated the  
249 NOSB's previous position that allows petitions to come forward on products and then permits  
250 the NOSB to vote the material up or down. Zea then noted that she supports Rod's statements  
251 about verification and the motion conceptually, but sides with certifiers, processors and handlers.  
252 She went on to discuss yeast streams and whether or not a recommendation like this prevents the  
253 possibility of organic bread, organic cheese, etc. She also noted that this recommendation would  
254 close many doors where processors do not have any alternatives. Kathleen followed Zea and  
255 further expressed the thought that the NOSB can not make up all of the gray areas in the program  
256 -- but that they could definitely send clear signals of their principles and rationale. Fred again  
257 expressed concern over the issue, particularly with the NOSB's position of looking at materials  
258 on a case by case basis. After a few more general comments, the question was called on the  
259 motion. Vote: 11 aye / 2 opposed. Motion carried. Please see Attachments for the full NOSB  
260 Resolution on Biotechnology.

261 **Seal Usage Discussion:**



262 Bob prefaced this discussion by reading the NOSB's resolution on seal usage that was passed at  
263 the Austin, TX meeting. Kathleen then recounted the Board's last exchange on the topic, and  
264 recognized the varying opinions on the issue. Fred then made several remarks regarding seal  
265 usage and also summarized Commissioner Sara Vogel's letter to the Secretary of Agriculture  
266 about the issue. He acknowledged that there will be one national standard, but also noted that  
267 companies should have the right to distinguish themselves in the marketplace. Margaret then  
268 talked about certifier responsibilities for upholding the standards, and that as proposed,  
269 individuals would not be prevented from making claims otherwise. She cautioned against  
270 certifiers setting themselves up as "The Best" or some other category of being superior to other  
271 certifiers. Jay concurred with Fred's notion of certifiers distinguishing themselves in the  
272 marketplace, but dissented on the use of seals to indicate that products meet a "higher organic  
273 standard". Brent also indicated that a seal was not appropriate for such, and Rod followed with  
274 comments regarding potential trade restraint in multi-ingredient products under this type of  
275 scenario. After some further discussion, Jay moved and it was seconded by Joan to rescind the  
276 resolution. K. moved to table the motion to rescind and it was seconded by Dean. Vote: 7 aye /  
277 4 opposed / 2 abstentions. K.'s motion failed and therefore, no action was taken on the  
278 resolution and the meeting adjourned at 6:10 p.m.

279 September 20, 1996

280 The meeting was called to order at 8:20 a.m. by Chairperson Bob Anderson.

281 NOSB Members in attendance were: Bob Anderson, K. Chandler, Rod Crossley, Dean Eppley,  
282 Joan Gussow, Fred Kirschenmann, Betsy Lydon, Kathleen Merrigan, Steve Pavich, Michael  
283 Sligh, and Margaret Wittenberg. Participating as the certifying agent advisor was Brent  
284 Wiseman. Jean Afterman and Jay Friedman were no longer in attendance. It was also noted that  
285 8 members present now constituted a quorum.

286 Staff members present from USDA were: Harold Ricker, Michael Johnson, Toni Strother, and  
287 Karen Thomas.

288 Technical Advisory Panel Coordinators present were: Zea Sonnabend, John Brown, Lynn  
289 Coody, and Brian Baker.

290 Before beginning, Bob noted that during the public input session, Bruce Krantz had pointed out  
291 that the Board had in fact revisited recommendations and that it should, if it be the will of the  
292 Board, revisit materials. Dean stated that the Board should be consistent -- if issues can be re-  
293 opened, then the same should apply to materials. It was noted that the Board should refine its  
294 policies regarding revisiting issues and recommendations for clarity and consistency. Bob called  
295 for a motion to revisit leather-by-product, and if there was no motion, then the board's original  
296 vote stands. There was no new motion.

97 LIVESTOCK COMMITTEE DISCUSSION

298 Honey Standards:

299 Fred Kirschenmann led the discussion on honey standards. Bob agreed to make the changes that  
300 were agreed upon and to send a new draft honey recommendation to Fred for distribution to the  
301 Board.

302 The following committee selections and appointments were made:

303	<u>Accreditation Committee:</u>	<u>International Committee:</u>	<u>Crops Committee:</u>
304	Betsy Lydon (Chair)	Kathleen Merrigan (Chair)	Steve Pavich (Chair)
305	Jean Afterman	Jay Friedman	K. Chandler
306	Rod Crossley	Jean Afterman	Dean Eppley
307	Fred Kirschenmann	Michael Sligh	Fred Kirschenmann
308	Michael Sligh		Betsy Lydon
309	Jay Friedman		Gene Kahn
310			Joan Gussow

311	<u>Livestock Committee:</u>	<u>Processing Committee:</u>	<u>Materials Committee:</u>
312	Fred Kirschenmann (Chair)	Margaret Wittenberg (Chair)	Jean Afterman (Chair)
313	Bob Anderson	Gene Kahn	Rod Crossley
314	Kathleen Merrigan	Rod Crossley	Joan Gussow
315	K. Chandler	Steve Pavich	Betsy Lydon
316	Jay Friedman	Bob Anderson	Margaret Wittenberg
317		Joan Gussow	Steve Pavich
318			K. Chandler

319 Officers:

320 Bob Anderson (Chair)  
321 Kathleen Merrigan (Vice-Chair)  
322 Rod Crossley (Secretary)

323 FIBER DISCUSSION

324 Margaret Wittenberg led the organic fiber discussion. She also recounted the resolution passed  
325 in Austin that the USDA adopt the Texas fiber processing standards. Further, she pointed out the  
326 committee's concerns with the heavy metals used in the dyeing process. Lastly, she reviewed the  
327 minor changes to the organic cotton final recommendation, which passed unanimously.

328 **PINEAPPLE PLANTING STOCK**

329 K. Chandler led the discussion on pineapple planting stock. Unfortunately, the Board quickly  
330 realized that it was not prepared to move forward on this recommendation and that some  
331 additional committee work needed to be done on this issue. Joan moved and it was seconded by  
332 K. Chandler to table the discussion and refer it to committee for further elaboration. The motion  
333 passed unanimously.

334 The next executive committee call is set for the first Monday in November at 11:30 EST.

335 **AUSTIN, TX MINUTES**

336 Before moving to approve the Austin minutes, K. Chandler suggested that the USDA use more  
337 precise language in the materials voting section of the minutes in the future. Additionally, K.  
338 suggested that the biotechnology task force review macro and micro encapsulation and that the  
339 crops committee should revisit bio-solids.

340 Next, the Board formally approved the Biotechnology Policy. (See attached)

341 Just prior to adjournment, Bob re-acknowledged Brent Wiseman and suggested that if funding  
342 permits, to bring the remaining 5 charter members of the board back to one more meeting.

343 The meeting was adjourned at 1:27 p.m. on Friday.