CCA LOUISIANA BOARD MINUTES FOR MAY 27, 2005

TIME AND PLACE: Meeting began at 1:00 P.M at LSUA Campus, Alexandria, Louisiana

PRESENT: Fran Deville, Marty Pousson, John Fontane and J Stevens

ITEMS DISCUSSED WERE AS SUCH:

1) Board approved and accepted minutes from January 13th meeting with no changes.
2) List of current CCA members was given to the board members present. This same list will appear on the Louisiana CCA web site.
3) John gave the board an update on the LSU Rice Weed ID Publication. The board had agreed to help fund this project at the last meeting if needed (up to $500.00). It was noted that some national manufactures agreed to contribute at a rate higher than was expected. Also noted that someone suggested that LAIA be approached for potential funding. Timetable to see completed project may be two years.
4) Future CCA sponsored educational meetings will be as such:
   A) Rice Weed ID Meeting on 6/10/05. 1pm to 4pm Acadia Parish Extension Office.
      Presented by John Saichuk, Ron Levy, Howard Cormier and Eric Webster.
      Steve Zaunbrecher will also give a presentation on Soils.
      John Saichuk will give a presentation on Rice Plant Development.
   B) Pasture Fertilization Meeting on 9/13/05 9am to 12pm at LSUA Campus.
      Presented by J Stevens and others to be named later.
   C) Sugar Cane Herbicide Mode of Action Meeting 10/05 LSU Campus Baton Rouge, Louisiana. Time TBA
   D) CCA Premiere Educational Meeting 11/05 LSUA Campus Alexandria, Louisiana
      Dean Lee Research and Extension Building
      Date and Time: November 15th  9:00am to 4:00pm
      Potential Speakers are Cliff Synder, Jason Bond, Steve Nipper……
      Subject: Soil and Water Conservation and Nutrient Management
      Other Potential speaker may be someone from Brazil to speak on Asian Soybean Rust. Final details of this meeting to be concluded at September Board meeting.
      This may be a 2 day meeting.
5) Fran explained to the board how funds from dues are handled by the National CCA Office. The National office gets $40.00 and the La. CCA board gets $15.00. A statement is sent once per month showing income and expenses.
6) It was agreed that each board member will approach 2 CCA members about being on the CCA board. The board will correspond amongst themselves and try to select 2 additional board members to be in place by the September meeting. John informed the board that he had no response from an e-mail sent to members requesting interest in being on the board.
7) Louisiana CCA exam update to changes to the state test was presented by J Stevens. It was agreed by the board that the test needed to be more difficult. Fran suggested that all questions and answers come from publications that potential members have access to, such as LSU Ag Center publications or Potash and Phosphate Institute Publications. It was suggested that a study guide be developed to aid persons studying for the Louisiana CCA test. The board will get potential questions from test used by other states such as Arkansas or Mississippi. They will also approach Cliff Synder about potential questions.
8) Board will approach managers of Agricultural Businesses to try to get them to nominate an employee for CCA of the Year Award. This will give them a few potential names to select from for the September meeting. The forms needed are available on the Louisiana CCA Web site. The award will be given at the LAIA meeting in January of 2006. A plaque and other possible awards will be discussed at the September board meeting.

9) The next CCA test date is August 5th. The last date to send in request to take the August test is June 17th. Most of the persons that were unsuccessful at the February test will retake the test. Luke Coriel with Helena has shown some interest in getting his employees to become CCA members. Currently he has 5 CCA members out of 21 sales persons. The board will offer 4 training sessions to try to improve the success rate. Potential speakers will be Cliff Synder, John Saichuk, Steve Nipper, and J Stevens Dates and times of these sessions TBA.

10) John told the board that he was informed at a NRCS meeting in Lafayette that a Technical Service Provider (TSP) would have nothing to do with the Conservation Security Program in Louisiana. It was agreed to contact Luther Smith and inform him of this information. Fran will contact someone with NRSC to verify this information.

11) John informed the board that we could purchase CCA truck decals for about $3.00 each. Fran suggested and it was agreed by all present to purchase and give to each member free of charge 1 truck decal.

12) It was agreed to encourage all CCA members to put CCA Logo on their business cards.

13) Louisiana Farm and Ranch Magazine will run a news article about Louisiana CCA Program in its June issue. John suggested we make this a monthly event. Fran mentioned that we need to be careful because the CCA program reputation could be harmed if the articles are misinterpreted. He further stated that the news needed to be timely and may be critiqued. We need to present information that is of interest to the public. It was agreed to try to get this article published in other newspapers in the state.

14) John told the board that Steve Linscomb informed his district agents to put out sign up sheets for CEU'S at the end of educational sessions. Fran will approach Paul Coriel about getting this requirement to other LSU Ag Center Persons.

15) The board was informed about the effort of John and Fran to get a meeting on Asian Soybean Rust. However, there was not much interest from those contacted and it was not pursued. It was agreed that this may be part of our Premiere Event in November.

16) Fran suggested that Louisiana CCA Program recognize an LSU Ag Center Person that has been influential in education to CCA and other AG industry persons. This will be further discussed at the September meeting.

17) It was agreed by all present to restrict certain events from qualifying for CEU'S. (i.e. Rice Field Day in Crowley) CEU's should be given for educational sessions only. It was noted that we can not control the quality of data presented at some sessions but we can control the amount of CEU'S awarded. Fran noted that he is often approached about how CEU'S are awarded.

18) Fran suggested and it was agreed to purchase for the Louisiana CCA Board members a dress shirt with the CCA Logo. This will help publicize the program. The cost will be presented at the September meeting.

19) The Board was shown the Louisiana CCA WEB Site that is now up and running. Several changes were suggested.
   A) Have head shots of board members next to their names.
   B) Put CCA board Members responsibilities next to their names
   C) Add LSU AG Center as a LINK
   D) Change words CCA to read National Certified Crop Adviser Program
E) Add weather link
F) Have a way to return to home page.
G) Change MEMBERSHIP to read How to Become as CCA Member.
H) Change CEU application form to the national form.

The meeting adjourned at 3:30 pm.