CCA LOUISIANA BOARD MINUTES FOR SEPTEMBER 29, 2005

TIME: MEETING BEGAN AT 9:00AM AT LSUA ALEXANDRIA, EXTENSION BUILDING

Present: Fran Deville, Mike Venable, J Stevens, John Fontane, Steve Nipper, Lloyd Glenn, Robert Prince

Item Discussed Were As Such:

1) The three new board members, Lloyd Glenn with Bayou Roberts Co-op, Robert Prince with Garst Seed Co. and Steve Nipper with NRCS, introduced themselves and were welcomed to the board. The addition of these three new members will allow the Louisiana CCA Board to meet the requirements of the international policy.

2) It was decided that the scheduled October 5, 2005 educational session with Jim Griffin on Herbicide Mode of Action would be cancelled. This presentation would be rescheduled at a later date.

3) An educational meeting sponsored by the CCA Board will be held at LSUA, Alexandria Louisiana at the Extension Building on November 16th, 2005. Steve Nipper will give a presentation on Natural Resources and a person to be announced will give a presentation on fertilization. Fran Deville will try to find someone to give the fertilization portion of the meeting. There will be a $15.00 fee. The meeting will be held from 9:00am to 3:00pm and a lunch will be provided.

4) CCA will give an educational meeting on the last day of the LAIA meeting on January 12, 2006. Mike Venable asked that we try to get Luther Smith to give a talk at the LAIA meeting.

5) Possible topics to be addressed at the November or January meeting will include:
   a) Precision grading and its affect on the soil and crops. A presentation was given on this subject by someone from the University of Arkansas. We will try to contact him to give a presentation.
   b) Soil test lab results and how they have changed in the last 5 years.
   c) What is a soil and how to identify different soil types

6) A discussion was held on CEU's and possibly restricting certain events. It was agreed that all field days need to be pre-approved by the board 7 days in advance. The board will send a letter to each district agent explaining its position on this matter and ask each district agent to notify the parish agents. Also this letter will be distributed to all of the large companies within the state that normally give meeting that qualify for CEU'S. It was agreed that the policy to continue with post meeting sign out will be continued. By restricting CEU'S it is felt that the CCA membership will be more meaningful.

7) The board will continue to look into having a 2 to 3 day Premiere Meeting such as the one held in Mississippi each year. It was reported by Mike Venable and Robert Prince that this has been very successful.

8) Fran suggested that the board look into sponsoring an educational meeting in conjunction with the LSU Ag Center that will be open to CCA members, parish agents, consultatants and other agricultural persons.

9) J Stevens informed the board that the LSU Ag Center has a hiring freeze in place and thus will not be hiring a fertilization specialist. J will be doing more outfield plots on P and K and lime.
10) Fran suggested that the board should look into who teaches soil classes at LSU. This could be a possible source of speakers for educational meetings.

11) Robert Prince addressed the issue of what is the stated goal of the CCA organization and why did it lose its emphasis to the members. It was discussed as to why the CCA was formed originally. It was discussed that being a CCA was beneficial to its members because it makes them professionals in their field and also that they are required to follow a code of ethics. It was discussed that many people see no benefit in being a CCA member. Being a CCA is not a benefit to the Conservation Security Program in Louisiana. The emphasis in the industry has switched from agronomy and education to profits.

12) It was requested that we look into having multi state educational meetings. It was agreed that we look into having speakers outside the state and outside the LSU Ag Center so as not to have repetition of speakers. Steve and Fran emphasized that we need to go back to basics on fertilization, soil and water management.

13) A survey will be conducted with the members to get feedback as to their opinions on the CCA program. This would be done thru e-mail.

14) Each CCA board member will get a person nominated for CCA of the year award. These names will be given to the board for the November board meeting. A person will be selected from this list at that meeting. The recipient will receive a plaque, a CCA shirt with logo, and a $300.00 gift certificate.

15) It was agreed that the Louisiana CCA will redo its state test. New questions will come from John Fontane, Johnny Saichuk, J Stevens, Marty Pousson, Steve Nipper and Mike Venable. John informed the board that there was an opportunity to have a regional test in conjunction with Mississippi and Arkansas. It was also discussed that John Gilmore could assist us in rewriting the test for a fee of about $2500.00. The board agreed to write its own exam. The questions will be given to John by October 15, 2005. Questions are due to the international office by December 1, 2005 for the February test.

16) The financial statement was presented and explained to the board. Income is derived from $40.00 of dues of which the state gets $15.00 and from examination fees. John informed the board that fees that he has presented to the board this year are not included on the financial statement.

17) It was agreed that truck decals will be mailed to the members.

18) CCA will honor an Agricultural Educator of the Year at the LAIA meeting in January 2006. This person will be an educator or researcher that has been instrumental in increasing the knowledge and crop advising capabilities of crop advisers in the state of Louisiana.

19) Lloyd Glenn, Steve Nipper, John Fontane and Fran Deville will meet on October 7th at the Agriliance Service Center to finalize the CCA web site.

20) It was suggested that the Louisiana CCA Program try to form an alliance with the Louisiana Association of Agronomist and the Louisiana Plant Protections Association. We could look into using their annual meeting to qualify for CEU's. We could set up a promotional display at their meeting.

The meeting adjourned at 11:30am.