

**2011 PEANUT VARIETY AND QUALITY EVALUATION PROGRAM
(S-1038) MINUTES**

**March 31, 2011
Tidewater Agricultural Research and Extension Center
Suffolk, Virginia 23437**

The Peanut Variety and Quality Evaluation (PVQE) Advisory Committee met at 10:00 AM on March 30, 2011 at the Tidewater Agricultural Research and Extension Center in Suffolk, Virginia. The members present were:

Participant	Business or Organization:	Voting member
Roger Crickenberger	Assistant Director - NCARS	Yes
Dell Cotton	VA Peanut Growers Association	Yes
Jeffrey Pope	Peanut Grower (VA) and National Peanut Board	Yes
Bob Sutter	NC Peanut Growers Association	Yes
Fred Garner	Birdsong Peanuts	Yes
George McGee	NC Farmer	Yes
Elizabeth Grabau	VT – PPWS Department Head	yes
Mike Jackson	J. Leek & Associates	Yes
Sean O’Keefe	VT Food Science & Technology Dept.	Yes
Tom Isleib	NCSU – Peanut Breeding	No
David Jordan	NCSU	Yes
John Crumpler	VA Farmer	Yes
Elbert Long	Severn Peanut Co.	Yes
Bruce Beahm	VCIA	No
Maria Balota	VT/TAREC – Crop Physiologist	No

Others present were: Doug Redd, Pamela Copeland, Brenda Kennedy, Carolyn Daughtrey, Franklin Bryant, and Thomas Ballote from the PVQE program, and Susan Copeland, Dr. Isleib’ assistant.

At 10:15 a.m., Dr. Maria Balota, called the meeting to order and asked everybody to sign in for a lunch count. She welcomed everyone and asked them to introduce themselves. She then turned the meeting over to Dr. Roger Crickenberger to chair the meeting. Dr. Crickenberger asked the committee members to review the minutes from last year’s meeting to see if there were any corrections to them. Being none, the minutes from last year were approved.

Dr. Grabau was present to discuss administrative changes for Dr. Mostaghimi. She talked about the open position for a Cropping System Specialist at TAREC and went on to discuss budget issues that Dr. Mostaghimi had asked her to share. She shared that there was a 1.5 million budget restoration, there was a 16% budget cut for Virginia, over the 3 year period and

that this was good compared to other states and Dr. Mostaghimi was pleased as well. Dr. Crickenberger discussed administrative changes at NCSU. He stated that there is a 20% budget cut in NC. Budget studies on the effectiveness of field and research office. He said they are asking outside supporters to tell legislatures of the importance of research and extension offices.

The floor was then given to Dr. Isleib to discuss the current state of the NCSU peanut breeding program. He stated that 50% of the direct cost for breeding to be recuperated. They are being asked to pay a larger part of salaries/benefits for their techs. 20% of royalties and other sources are helping to absorb some of the costs. He mentioned a soybean world known physiologist (Dr. Thomas Sinclair) that is interested in doing peanut/soybean studies. Isleib looks forward to working with Dr. Sinclair and Dr. Balota on drought tolerance in peanut. There will be no new lines unless they are high oleic in the PVQE tests. Fred Garner asked how long it would be before the release of a high oleic Virginia-type cultivar. Dr. Isleib stated it may be available next spring, based on 3 years testing in PVQE if the industry was really pushing for a release. He stated that the high oleic gene being back crossed in varieties like CHAMPS was started a few years ago at the request of Dr. Fred Shokes. New high oleic lines such as N08081T and N08082T showed promise in past PVQE tests. There were further discussions about contamination issues and the slow process for releasing high oleic varieties. Bruce Beahm stated that, unlike the North Carolina Seed Foundation, he has no issues with seed purity at the Virginia Seed Foundation as the initial source of foundation seed (approximately 500 lbs) are produced at TAREC by Dr. Balota's program. Dr. Isleib explained some insufficiency with all industries when handling seed for purity.

Dr. Crickenberger turned the floor over to Dr. Balota to discuss PVQE tests and the budget. Balota discussed the issues with deer and bear damage of peanuts at Southampton Co., VA and Martin Co., NC. This caused low yields. It seems that Titan was a favorite of the animals. She also explained the worm damage at Whiteville. This also caused low yields at that location. She stated that it was decided a few years ago with her and Dr. Isleib to get away from farmers and have test sites at research stations. There were further discussions of problems with crop maintenance at research stations in North Carolina and South Carolina. Dr. Balota went on to discuss the PVQE budget issues and what her needs to continue the program efficiently. Financial contributions from the shellers will be smaller starting in 2012. The financial support is decreasing while the demand for work to continue the program continues to increase. Dell Cotton asked if there would be any more VT lines available when high oleics are introduced. Dr. Isleib said there would not be unless Katy Rain, VT soybean breeder, gets involved in breeding. That discussion was put on hold as there was only a 'statement of her interest' in getting involved with peanut breeding. The sheller's commitment is until 2012 and they have slim reserves and are not sure how much they will be able to contribute after 2012. South Carolina growers are committed until 2011. There was discussion as to ways to cut costs within the program as well as avenues to bring in other sources of revenues to continue the program.

Dr. Crickenberger called for a break, but it was decided by the majority of the committee that a break was not needed due to time. Therefore, Dr. Crickenberger asked Dr. Balota to continue. She explained the rising printing costs to provide the information to the public and industries as well as the increased cost for laboratory sample analyses. Before 2011 there was no

cost for chemicals; now she will have to start paying for the chemicals needed to care for the plots. The rising cost for fuel, and fees for land use. Bob Sutter asked about cutting the size of plots to cut down on costs. Fred Garner asked why varieties like NC-V 11 and VA 98R are still being tested in PVQE tests when the industry already knows how they perform. Dr. Isleib explained that these varieties are used as checks in the test. It was decided after the discussion that another committee was needed with representatives from each area of the industry being represented to help Dr. Balota resolve a lot of these issues. It was suggested that the committee consist of one person from each segment of the industry as well as Dr. Crickenberger, Dr. Mostaghimi, Dr. Balota, Dr. Isleib, Dr. Chapin, and the new person from Clemson replacing Dr. Chapin.

The next topic on the agenda was discussion of ideas to improve the PVQE's overall efficiency. The committee continued discussion the issues with South Carolina and its commitment to the PVQE program. There was discussion as to how and where meetings could be set up with South Carolina. Dell Cotton stated that South Carolina has potential but ideas are needed to find out how to get them more involved. Frank Bryant added the issues they were having with getting South Carolina's cooperation in maintaining the plots and getting the data back to us for publication. Maria asked the committee about getting more help with tests at Florence this year. It was suggested by Fred Garner to get a grower instead of using the research station in South Carolina. It was stated that a location for South Carolina needed to be resolved soon as planting will start soon.

Dr. Isleib was asked to discuss PVQE plot entries for 2011. He has 19 entries for the 2011 PVQE tests. He presented data on their disease reaction based on results from other field trials.

The floor was opened to allow discussion for designing varieties needed by the industry. Dr. Grabau was asked to discuss the transgenics. She talked about the flaws with regulations and lack of knowledge of transgenics. These issues concerning transgenics need to be revisited. There were discussions by the committee members concerning release of peanut varieties that have nematode resistant genome with the absence of Temik. It was stated there is not enough data to release such a variety at this time.

Dr. Crickenberger thanked everyone for their input at this year's meeting and the meeting was adjourned at 12:45 p.m.

Respectively submitted,

M. Balota

Pam Copeland-recorded for Dr. Maria Balota