

2005 AEIC Board Meeting

Chicago, IL

February 2, 2005

Attendees:

R. Giroux – President
M. Lipp – Past President
R. Shillito – Vice President
D. Layton – Treasurer
P. Hunst – Secretary

The AEIC Board met in Chicago for the annual Board meeting to discuss a variety of business.

2005 Spring Meeting: The Spring Meeting is being held on April 13-14 in Gastonia, NC and is being hosted by USDA AMS. The Board brainstormed and discussed a variety of ideas for the agenda. These included:

- Cost of testing and labeling
- Reference material preparation
- GLP versus ISO requirements
- Advancing protein methods in emerging markets such as China
- How far down the supply chain can protein testing be used
- Proteomics tools
- Biosafety Protocol impacts on testing
- Morphology of seed
- Bridging discrepancies between methods—how to reconcile
- Improving test performance/impact of thresholds
- How to calculate mu
- More sensitive tests versus thresholds—why one or the other
- Breeding 101 – backcrossing
- Comparison of PCR and protein methods
- Mass spectroscopy methods for DNA sequencing and protein information
- Plant disease testing—use of PCR and protein methods
- Testing of shipments with multiple lateral flow devices—strategy of testing; interpretation of results
- Precautionary principle and the WTO
- How to validate lateral flow devices internationally
- Strip readers—what are they and what is their use
- Combined trait products (stacks) detection methods
- Compare/contrast emerging national methods—what does it mean to testing
- Detecting unregistered events—how is this done
- Emerging challenges, i.e., soybean rust
- Methods for value added products—strategies

Current state of the art for chemical pesticides—what is the market for agchem testing
Food safety testing—what is the status, needs, strategies
Testing imports to the US
RiceTec company introduction

After much discussion, a tentative plan for topics was put forth and responsibilities for finding speaker(s) for each topic were assigned. The tentative plan is:

Session I: Biosafety Protocol impacts on methods—summary of international situation (Ray S. will find speaker)

Breakout sessions: Discuss role of AEIC
Outreach strategies (who)
Work products (what, how)
Emerging markets
Outreach strategies (Egypt, N. Africa, Asia, Central America)

Session II: Technical Applications

PCR vs. protein methods (Ask Pioneer – D. Grothaus)
Reconciling discrepancies—issues for seed/grain
Why are protein methods not being implemented?

Breakout sessions: Education initiatives—who do we take it to
Technical—what is available and what are the gaps

AEIC Slide Deck: The slide deck is finished and will be sent to the webmaster to post on the AEIC website. Each slides was turned into an image so that users can browse thumbnail images and then pick which slides they want to download. Randy G. is working with the webmaster to implement.

2005 Fall Meeting: Randy G. will follow up with Agdia to see if they are still interested in hosting the fall meeting in South Bend, IN. No dates have been decided for this meeting yet.

AEIC Promotional Papers: Final versions of these papers for AOAC, IUPAC, AOCS, AACC will be circulated (topic is “What is a GMO?”). There will be two more papers which will be more political and will be submitted as letters to the editors of Science and Nature Science.

Detection Method Workshop in China: China is very enthusiastic to host the workshop. The workshop will be a collaborative project with ILSI (through IFBIC). The timeframe for the workshop is fall05. The workshop will be held using sequential translation, i.e., the speaker states one line and then a translator translates into Chinese for the audience. AEIC plans to supply the speakers and the slide deck. Speakers will need their own

travel funds and visas. The objective of the workshop is to “train the trainers”, i.e., train the people working in the detection labs in China so that they can go back and train others in their labs.

Next Board Meeting: Evening of April 12 at the Courtyard by Marriott in Gastonia, NC.