

Conservation Agriculture Systems Alliance

Conference Call

Tuesday, Aug 4 at 11 a.m. (eastern)

Participants:

Peter Gamache

Bill Kuenstler

Brian Lindley

Randy Raper

Karen Scanlon

Agenda:

- Message Committee Report – CASA poster presentation; efforts to promote CA prior to Copenhagen meeting
- Operations Committee Report – update on EPA proposal and AGCO letter; CASA mission/vision
- Member Updates

Randy now with Dale Bumpers Small Farms Research Center in Booneville, Ark. New research leader. Will try to get research focused in sustainable manner toward pasture-based systems that are prevalent in region. Very little row cropping; mostly poultry and meat production. Look at bioenergy aspect as well. Small farms = gross sales of \$250,000 or less (over 90% of all farms in US). Randy.raper@ars.usda.gov

Message Committee: Bill K developed poster presentation for CASA for SWCS annual meeting in Michigan next week and for SWCS conference in Kansas City in September. Karen to send out poster to everyone.

Brian will contact Chuck Rice about efforts to promote CA prior to Copenhagen meeting

Operations Committee: Brian will email committee to organize teleconference in near future to work on mission/vision and pursuing funding.

CASA Summit? Need to do to keep things going and bring people together. Invite CAAPAS.

CASA looks more national and global in perspective. Mix in agronomic research, new information. Global perspective on CA-related topics

Harvester Works in Moline, tractor facility in Waterloo, Iowa

Bill will talk with Jerry about idea. Brian to talk with Ivo and Roberto about this idea.

Karen will talk with FAO

Topics: seed production, cover crops; biomass incentive program

Member Updates

Reduced Tillage LINKAGES: Finalized greenhouse calculator. Value of no-till literature review will be available soon. Documentation of developments in no-till, according to research. August 31 last day.

No-till On the Plains: Bus tour Aug 25-28 to Kansas, Nebraska, Dakotas; Ray Ward is featured speaker/instructor. Winter conference planning is underway.

NRCS: nothing else to add

ARS: nothing else to add

CTIC: Water Quality Trading workshops on July 8-9 (Ohio) and August 26-27 (Indiana). Cover Crop workshop on Aug 25 in Indiana.

Next Steps:

- KS finalize brochure
- KS to draft survey questions and send to committees for feedback
- KS to send out CASA poster and Randy's new contact information
- KS follow up with Neil Caskey on AGCO contact
- Bill will talk with Jerry about summit idea.
- Brian to talk with Ivo and Roberto about summit idea.
- Brian to talk with Chuck Rice also
- Karen will talk with FAO about summit idea

Make contact with CASA members to get them re-engaged:

Karen call Brian Noyes

Brian call Alan Ness

Jerry (Bill) call Jeff Mitchell

Bill will call Joel Myers

Randy will call Jimmy Dean

Peter will call Blair