Alfalfa Seed Quality Stewardship: California Stakeholder Team Meeting
January 27, 2005
UC Davis Seed Biotechnology Center

A California Stakeholder Team meeting was held on January 27th, 2005 at the Seed Biotechnology Center, UC Davis. The goal of the meeting was to review the current knowledge for biotech alfalfa and develop stewardship guidelines for seed production of alfalfa in California. A general overview of current seed production practices, production practices with biotech traits; gene flow in alfalfa pollinated with honeybees; the Roundup Ready trait and stewardship models for alfalfa in the Pacific Northwest were reviewed. This was followed by a facilitated round-table discussion. A consensus model was developed for seed production of biotech alfalfa in dedicated seed fields in California.

Acknowledgements
We would like to thank Sue Webster and Kitty Schlosser for recording the minutes of this meeting and facilitating the discussion.

The following people attended the meeting. The members of this team represent:

1. UC researchers/Cooperative extension,
2. California Crop Improvement Association
3. Alfalfa Board
4. Key Seed Growers/Conditioners; Imperial Valley
5. Key Seed Growers/Conditioners; San Joaquin Valley
6. Seed Companies/Breeders

Mr. Jose Arias, Forage Genetics
Dr. Kent Bradford, Director, Seed Biotechnology Center
Mr. Chuck Deatherage, Seed Services, Inc.
Ms. Sharie Fitzpatrick, Forage Genetics
Mr. Paul Frey, Cal/West Seeds
Mr. Dan Gardner, Dairyland Seed
Mr. Danny Gigax, Monsanto
Mr. Corky Hansen, S & W Seed Co.
Mr. Michael Mullion, J. G. Boswell Co.
Mr. Ray Johnson, IV Milling Co.
Mr. Mark McCaslin, Forage Genetics
Ms. Shannon Mueller, UCCE Farm Advisor, Fresno County
Mr. Jeff Plourd, El Toro Export
Dr. Jon Reich, Cal/West Seeds
Mr. Kirk Rolfs, Pioneer
Mr. Bob Stewart, Director, California Crop Improvement Association (CCIA)
Dr. Larry Teuber, Professor, Plant Sciences/Foundation Seed Program
Dr. Allen Van Deynze, Biotechnology Specialist, Seed Biotechnology Center
Ms. Sue Webster, Program Representative, Seed Biotechnology Center
Ms. Kitty Schlosser, Department of Plant Sciences, UC Davis
California Stewardship Guidelines for Seed Production of Biotech Alfalfa (BA)

Information reported to State Crop Improvement
- BA seed field GPS coordinates
- Insect pollinator species used

State "pinning map" (http://ccia.ucdavis.edu/)
- Access will be available to companies growing BA alfalfa seed only

Information shared with companies
- Verified personnel of seed companies can call CCIA to check if the closest BA seed field is within a specified distance

Information not shared with companies
- Location of nearest BA seed field
- Distance to nearest BA seed field

Process-based "certification"
- Minimum isolation distance 3 miles
- Seedstock seed quality verified non biotech or biotech
- Minimum rotation time 3 years between types

Testing-based "export certification"
- Standard protein adventitious presence test
- Detectable adventitious presence threshold 3000 seeds (0.1% at 95%)