

June 23, 2021



TO: Chris Wozniak, Ph.D.  
Biotechnology Special Assistant  
Office of Pesticide Programs  
Biopesticides and Pollution Prevention Division  
EPA  
*Wozniak.chris@epa.gov*

Dear Chris,

On behalf of the Public Policy Board (PPB) of the American Phytopathological Society, I am writing to thank you for your assistance in setting the agenda and for coordination of EPA staff who participated and interacted with us in our zoom meeting of May 26, 2021. Although we missed our annual trek to the DC area this year for face-to-face visits, we were very fortunate to work with you and utilize zoom technology to conduct our business and keep the conduits open. Further, we are grateful to you, and to the other staff and managers for your generous time and availability to accommodate us, as we are all dispersed in different time zones.

We were very impressed and appreciative of the breadth and extent of the information that was discussed by the EPA staff, specifically: (1) Wiebke Striegel and Mike Mendelsohn for updates on regulating certain plant-incorporated protectants, manufactured through gene-editing technologies, e.g., CRISPR; (2) John Kough and Cynthia Giles-Parker for the information on the use of antibiotics to manage citrus greening disease; (3) Shalu Shelat for specific information and pesticide label guidance for use of personal protective equipment, especially for residential or homeowner use; (4) Seiichi Murasaki, Jeannine Kausch and Linda Hollis for new biopesticides registrations for management and control of plant pathogens and (5) Jill Bloom and Kevin Costello for registration review for the older (chemical) fungicides. As the material covered was rather comprehensive, and intended for a more 'organic' (flexible; 'ad-hoc') program, we also extend our appreciation to other EPA staff, including: Tom Steeger, Cassandra Kirk, Jeana Hansel, Rachel Holloman, Jennifer Odom, and Kimberly Nesci. Thank you also for providing guidance on how we can stay informed through list-serves, on-line visits to specific topics or web-pages on the Pesticide Programs website, or via direct contact with EPA staff.

Many of our members have expressed the need for continued relations with the federal (and state) agencies to keep abreast of various legislation activities. These types of Zoom meetings with flexible scheduling offers a very efficient and economical approach for further dialogue and to keep communication channels open. Thank you again for being a part of developing different approaches for future meetings with you and other agencies that are critical for building and maintaining agricultural research and policies.

Please feel free to share this with EPA staff who participated in our call and let me know if I have overlooked anyone. If we can be of further help to you and others in EPA, please feel free to contact us.

Best Regards,  
Rick

Rick Bennett, Ph.D.  
Chair: APS Public Policy Board

Cc: EPA staff  
W. Striegel  
M. Mendelsohn  
J. Kough  
C. Giles-Parker  
S. Shelat  
S. Murasaki  
J. Kausch  
L. Hollis  
J. Bloom  
K. Costello  
T. Steeger  
C. Kirk  
J. Hansel  
R. Holloman  
J. Odom  
K. Nesci