

**FORMAL RECOMMENDATION BY THE  
NATIONAL ORGANIC STANDARDS BOARD (NOSB)  
TO THE NATIONAL ORGANIC PROGRAM (NOP)**

**Date:** 5/22/08

**Subject:** Updates to Chapter 5 of the NOSB New Member Guide.

**Chair:** Rigoberto Delgado

**Recommendation**

The NOSB hereby recommends to the NOP the following:

Rulemaking Action: \_\_\_\_\_  
Guidance Statement: \_\_\_\_\_  
Other: XXX

**Statement of the Recommendation (including Recount of Vote):**

The Board recommends **including** the following changes to the NOSB New Member Guide:

1. Addition to Chapter 5, section B (Suggested Best Practices/Making the Most of Your Conference Calls and Meetings), of a descriptive paragraph and link to the final NOSB recommendations table.
2. Addition to Chapter 5 (Suggested Best Practices) of a new section called: f. List of common technical sources used by NOSB members.

**NOSB Vote**

**Motion:** to approve updates to the NOSB New Member Guide as described by the Chair of the Policy Committee

**Moved by:** **Barry Flamm**      **Second by:** **Hubert Karreman**

*Board vote: Yes - 14    No- 0    Abstain- 0    Absent - 1*

**Result:** The ayes have it and the motion is agreed to.

**Rationale Supporting Recommendation (including consistency with OFPA and NOP):**

The updates should allow NOSB members to access critical sources of technical information.

**Response by the NOP:**

**National Organic Standards Board (NOSB)  
Policy Development Committee**

**Updates to the New Member Guide  
April 3, 2008**

**Summary:**

NOSB members suggested the addition of two sections to the New Member Guide which include adding a link to past Board recommendations and a list of common technical sources used by NOSB members. These updates will improve the process of conducting NOSB business and training of incoming NOSB members.

**Recommendation:**

The Policy Development Committee recommends two updates to the New Member Guide document:

1. Addition to Chapter 5, section B (Suggested Best Practices/Making the Most of Your Conference Calls and Meetings), of a descriptive paragraph and link to the final NOSB recommendations table.
2. Addition to Chapter 5 (Suggested Best Practices) of a new section called: f. List of common technical sources used by NOSB members.

**Committee vote:**     *Motion: 1<sup>st</sup> Rigo Delgado, 2<sup>nd</sup> Bea James*

*Yes: 4 No: 0 Abstain: 0 Absent: 0*

**Recommendation 1:**

Include in Chapter 5, section B (Suggested Best Practices/Making the Most of Your Conference Calls and Meetings), a descriptive paragraph and link to the final NOSB recommendations table. The proposed paragraph would become the last in the section B and would read as follows:

In order to gain a better understanding of the format and type of recommendations produced by the Board, it is suggested to review the listing of past recommendations. These are found online in the NOSB website:

<http://www.ams.usda.gov/nosb/NOSBrecommendations/NOSBrecommendations.html>

Recommendation 2:

Include a new section to Chapter 5, listing common technical resources used by NOSB members. The proposed section would be located immediately after section e and would include the following.

**f. List of common technical sources used by NOSB members**

Very often during the review process and discussions, NOSB members need to consult various sources of information. The following is a general list of common technical sources.

Federal Regulatory Agencies

U.S. Department of Agriculture National Organic Program

<http://www.ams.usda.gov/nop>

U.S. Department of Agriculture Agricultural Research Service

<http://www.ars.usda.gov>

U.S. Department of Agriculture Cooperative State Research, Education, and Extension Service

<http://www.csrees.usda.gov>

U.S. Department of Agriculture Food and Nutrition Service

<http://www.fns.usda.gov/fns/>

U.S. Department of Agriculture Food Safety and Inspection Service

<http://www.fsis.usda.gov>

U.S. Department of Agriculture National Agricultural Library Alternative Farming Systems Information Center

<http://www.nalusda.gov/afsic/ofp/susagrsch.htm>

U.S. Department of Agriculture Sustainable Agriculture Research and Education Program

<http://www.sare.org/index.htm>

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Integrated Risk Information System

<http://www.epa.gov/iris>

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Water

<http://www.epa.gov/ow/>

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Water Science

<http://www.epa.gov/waterscience/>

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Organic Agriculture Page

<http://www.epa.gov/oecaagct/torg.html#National%20Organic%20Standards>

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Inert Ingredients Permitted in Pesticide Products

<http://www.epa.gov/opprd001/inerts/lists.html>

U.S. Department of Health and Human Services Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry

<http://www.atsdr.cdc.gov/atsdrhome.html>

U.S. Food and Drug Administration's Center for Food Safety and Applied Nutrition

<http://www.cfsan.fda.gov/list.html>

U.S. Food and Drug Administration's Center for Food Safety and Applied Nutrition - Food Ingredients and Packaging Terms

<http://www.cfsan.fda.gov/~dms/opa-def.html>

U.S. Food and Drug Administration's Center for Food Safety and Applied Nutrition Inventory of Effective Food Contact Substance (FCS) Notifications

<http://www.cfsan.fda.gov/~dms/opa-fcn.html>

U.S. Food and Drug Administration's Center for Food Safety and Applied Nutrition Indirect" Additives Used in Food Contact Substances

<http://www.cfsan.fda.gov/~dms/opa-indt.html>

U.S. Food and Drug Administration's Center for Veterinary Medicine

<http://www.fda.gov/cvm>

U.S. Food and Drug Administration's Food Safety Risk Analysis Clearinghouse

<http://www.foodriskclearinghouse.umd.edu/>

U.S. Food and Drug Administration's Numerical Listing of GRAS Notices

<http://www.cfsan.fda.gov/~rdb/opa-gras.html>

U.S. National Institute of Health's National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences

<http://www.niehs.nih.gov/centers/res-core/iowares2.htm>.

U.S. Occupational Health and Safety Administration

<http://www.osha.gov>

### **Other Sources**

Harvard School of Public Health, Department of Nutrition

<http://www.hsph.harvard.edu/nutritionsource/index.html>

Tufts' University Friedman School of Nutrition Science and Policy

<http://nutrition.tufts.edu/>

American Dietetic Association

<http://www.eatright.org>

Appropriate Technology Transfer to Rural Areas  
<http://www.attra.org>

CABI Publishing (organic research abstracts)  
<http://www.organic-research.com/>

Codex Alimentarius Commission  
<http://www.codexalimentarius.net>  
European Union (organic regulation)  
[http://www.organic-europe.net/europe\\_eu/default.asp#2092](http://www.organic-europe.net/europe_eu/default.asp#2092)

Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations  
<http://www.fao.org/organicag/default.htm>

Joint FAO/WHO Expert Committee on Food Additives (JECFA)  
<http://www.fao.org/es/esn/jecfa/database/cover.htm>

International Federation of Organic Agriculture Movements  
<http://www.ifoam.org>

International Food Information Council Foundation  
<http://www.ific.org>

Institute of Food Science and Technology  
<http://www.ifst.org>

Organic Farming Research Foundation  
<http://www.ofrf.org>

Organic Materials Review Institute  
<http://www.omri.org>

Organic Trade Association  
<http://www.ota.com>

Research Institute of Organic Agriculture (FIBL)  
<http://www.organic-europe.net>

Rodale Institute  
[www.rodaleinstitute.org](http://www.rodaleinstitute.org)

The National Sustainable Agriculture Information Service  
<http://www.attra.org>

The Merck Index. <http://www.merckbooks.com/>

PubMed: <http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/PubMed/>

Scirus: <http://www.scirus.com/>

Food Ingredients: <http://www.food-ingredients.com/>

American Association of Bovine Practitioners: [www.aabp.org](http://www.aabp.org)

Veterinary Botanical Medical Association: [www.vbma.org](http://www.vbma.org)

American Veterinary Medical Association: [www.avma.org](http://www.avma.org)

American Holistic Veterinary Medical Association: [www.ahvma.org](http://www.ahvma.org)