

Note: Subcommittee notes may include preliminary discussions regarding substances considered for addition to or removal from the National List. They do not represent official National Organic Program (NOP) policy/regulations or NOSB recommendations. Proposals must be voted on by the full Board, to become recommendations to the USDA. Please see the NOP website for official NOP policy, regulations, and status of substances used in organic production and handling.

**Executive Committee (EC) Meeting Notes and
Summary of National Organic Standards Board (NOSB) Subcommittee Activities
Tuesday, December 16, 2025 4:00 pm ET**

Present: Amy Bruch (ADB), NOSB Chair; Allison Johnson (AJ), NOSB Vice Chair & Handling Chair; Kyla Smith, CACS Chair; Nate Lewis (NL), NOSB Secretary & PDS Chair; Brian Caldwell (BC), Livestock Chair; Franklin Quarcoo (FQ), Materials Chair; Kathryn Deschenes (KD) - observer; Amanda Felder (AF) - observer; Dilip Nandwani (DN) - observer

Absent: Logan Petrey (LP), Crops Chair

Staff: Michelle Arsenault (MA); Erin Healy (EH); Jared Clark (JC); Heather Kumar (HK)

Agenda

- Approve November 18 notes
- Chairs Report/Questions for NOP (ADB)
 - Meeting prep (deadlines), sunset summary process at NOSB meeting
 - Proposed NOSB meeting agenda
 - Proposed dates for new member training?
- NOP news and updates (EH/JC)
 - USDA Updates
 - National List Rules
- Food Technologist update (JC/HK)
- Advisory Committee Specialist (ACS) update (MA)
 - Meeting notice/public comment open and close
 - Updated milestones (see table below)
- Subcommittee Reports/Updates (5 minutes each)
 - Materials/GMO ad hoc (MS/GMO) (FQ)
 - Policy Development (PDS) (NL)
 - Livestock (LS) (BC)
 - Crops (CS) (NL for LP)
 - Compliance, Accreditation, & Certification (CACS) (KS)
 - Handling (HS) (AJ)
- Additional Items
- Adjourn

Discussion

- **The November 18 notes** were accepted as written.
- **Chairs Report/Questions for NOP (ADB)**
 - Meeting prep (deadlines), sunset summary process at NOSB meeting.
 - The Chair highlighted the meeting dates of January 13 & 14, 2026 and asked NOSB members to relay the comment deadline to stakeholders, especially those that signed up for oral comments since they are no longer holding oral comment sessions.
 - Sunset presentations. The Chair emphasized the need to briefly summarize the sunset reviews in order to maximize the discussion time.
 - Proposed NOSB meeting agenda. The meeting agenda for the replacement meeting consists of the proposals, sunset reviews, and a couple of discussion documents. The remainder of the discussion documents, and the PDS projects were deferred to the next

meeting. The NOSB Chair highlighted topics of interest that may take more time to discuss, such as compost and residue testing.

- Proposed dates for new member training? No dates at this time.

- **NOP news and updates (EH/JC)**
- **USDA Updates.** NOP is currently focused on the NOSB nominations and drafting a rule on Inerts.
 - Ancillary substances. The NOSB asked about the history of the project on ancillary substances (2016 -2018), and how to approach future reviews. The NOP will look into the current status, and the group will discuss it on a future call.
- **Food Technologist update (JC/HK)**
 - Updated the 2028 sunset templates with the International Use section
 - Will be posting public comments daily. The comment period is open through December 30, 2025
 - Beginning a project on sanitizers. The initial phase will consist of compiling a list of those sanitizers allowed for use in organic.
 - 2028 sunset templates - NOP will email the three Word documents since some members are not able to access Sharepoint at this time.
- **Advisory Committee Specialist (ACS) update (MA)**
 - Meeting notice/public comment open and close. The meeting notice was published, and the 15-day comment period is open through December 30, 2025.
 - Updated milestones (see table below).
- **Comment bundles.** The Board asked NOP to bundle comments going forward. NOP may bundle comments when there is capacity.
- **Subcommittee Reports/Updates (5 minutes each)**
 - **Materials/GMO ad hoc (MS/GMO) (FQ).** The MS talked about presenting the discussion document on induced mutagenesis at the January meeting. In general, the Board chose to defer the discussion documents to the Spring but felt that this one would benefit from additional discussion. There were no projects to reassign from outgoing members to remaining members.
 - **Policy Development (PDS) (NL).** The PDS chose to move its two agenda items to the Spring meeting rather than talk about them in January. They will discuss the PPM updates and the discussion document on sunset efficiency in the Spring. The PDS will move ahead with exit interviews if folks are interested in participating. The Subcommittee will not meet in January, as it conflicts with the rescheduled NOSB meeting.
 - **Livestock (LS) (BC).** The LS decided to withdraw its request to the Food Technologist to research parasiticides, as it was too broad. Instead, the LS will include targeted questions in the sunset reviews to get the information they are seeking. The Food Technologist will archive the initial document search she conducted, so it can be accessed in the future should a new Board decide to take it up.
 - **Crops (CS) (NL for LP).** The Crops Subcommittee will present and likely vote on the compost proposal at the January NOSB meeting. The document is the culmination of a couple of years of compost work and includes a response to the petition submitted by BPI (the Biodegradable Products Institute). The lead encouraged Board members to reread the documents and reach out if there are questions. Crops is also working on its 2028 sunsets and will be working on two new petitions for chitosan. The CS plans to work with the Handling Subcommittee as they move ahead. The pear ester proposal was deferred to Spring meeting, so the CS can make revisions based on comments it received.
 - **Compliance, Accreditation, & Certification (CACS) (KS).** The CACS will discuss three of its five documents at the January meeting and deferred two to the Spring meeting. The two projects that were deferred are Consistency in Organic Seed Use and E-Commerce. The CACS received great comments on both documents, and will incorporate them into future iterations of the documents. Additionally, the lead authors plan on writing a proposal for residue testing based

on the discussion document that will be presented in January. Given that she is rotating off the Board at the end of January, she is interested in moving the project ahead.

- **Handling (HS) (AJ).** The HS received two new petitions: Potassium polyaspartate and sea silt, and has assigned leads and discussion dates for both. The HS received the TR for chitosan, and it is currently under review.
- **Additional Items.** Lead authors are incorporating public comments into the documents that will be deferred to the Spring 2026 meeting, so the comments are captured.
- **The meeting was adjourned.**

[Previous ES Notes](#)

Future call schedule (3rd Tuesday 4:00 PM ET | 1:00 PM PT, except where noted)

November 18, 2025

December 16, 2025

January 20, 2026

February 17, 2026

March 17, 2026

April 21, 2026

May 19, 2026

June 16, 2026

July 21, 2026

August 18, 2026

September 15, 2026

October 20, 2026

November 17, 2026

December 15, 2026

[NOSB Work Agenda](#)

Milestones

Fall 2025 Milestones	Target dates (tentative)	Weeks PTM (prior to meeting)
NOP - Publish FRN, Open public comment	~May 15, 2025	24
NOP - Draft Fall 2025 NOSB meeting agenda	Aug 8, 2025	~11
NOSB - Fall 2025 proposals due to NOP	Aug 20, 2025	~9
NOP - Post proposals	Sept 9, 2025	~8
Public comment closes	Oct 8, 2025	~4
NOP - Send compiled public comments to NOSB	Oct 14, 2025	~3
Public comment webinars	Cancelled	1
Rescheduled public comment closes	Dec 30, 2025	2
Rescheduled Fall 2025 NOSB meeting - Virtual	Jan 13 & 14, 2026	0
Final recommendations due	Feb 13, 2026	~30 days post

Spring 2026 Milestones	Target dates (tentative)	Weeks PTM (prior to meeting)
NOP - Publish FRN, Open public comment	~Jan 24, 2026	16 -20
NOP - Draft Spring 2026 NOSB meeting tentative agenda	Feb 19, 2026	~ 10
NOSB - Spring 2026 proposals due to NOP	Feb 26, 2026	~ 9
NOP - Post proposals/Open comment period	Mar 16, 2026	7.5
Public comment closes	Apr 16, 2026	3.5
NOP - Send compiled public comments to NOSB	Apr 22, 2026	3
Public comment webinars	May 5 & 7, 2026	1
Spring 2026 NOSB meeting - Omaha, NE TENTATIVE	May 12 - 14, 2026	0
Final recommendations due	Jun 14, 2026	30 days post meeting

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**Executive Committee (EC) Meeting Notes and
Summary of National Organic Standards Board (NOSB) Subcommittee Activities
Tuesday, November 18, 2025 4:00 pm**

Present: Amy Bruch (ADB), NOSB Chair; Allison Johnson (AJ), NOSB Vice Chair & Handling Chair; Kyla Smith, CACS Chair; Nate Lewis (NL), NOSB Secretary & PDS Chair; Brian Caldwell (BC), Livestock Chair; Franklin Quarcoo (FQ), Materials Chair; Corie Pierce (CP) - observer; Kathryn Deschenes (KD) - observer; Carolyn Dimitri (CD) - observer; Amanda Felder (AF) - observer

Absent: Logan Petrey (LP), Crops Chair; Michelle Arsenault (MA)

Staff: Erin Healy (EH); Jared Clark (JC); Heather Kumar (HK)

Agenda

- August 19 notes
- Chairs updates (ADB)
- NOP news and updates (EH/JC)
- Food Technologist update (JC/HK)
- Subcommittee Reports/Updates
- Additional items
- Adjourn

Discussion

- **The August 19 notes** were approved via email.
- **Board Chair updates (ADB)**
 - Members discussed the NOSB workload for the next semester, including how to proceed with the work agenda items that were supposed to be discussed and/or voted on at the Fall 2025 meeting that was canceled.
- **NOP news and updates (EH/JC)**
 - The NOP updated the Board about post-shutdown priorities.
 - Fall 2025 meeting cancellation - updates/guidance. The group discussed the feasibility of rescheduling the Fall NOSB meeting.
- **Food Technologist update (JC/HK)**
 - Fall 2025 public comments update. The comments are posted in Regulations.gov. A Board member volunteered to bundle the documents for the rest of the Board.
 - 2028 sunset templates update. Templates are almost completed. The Food Technologist will save them to the NOSB Sharepoint site, so Board members have access to them, while she continues adding the information to the International Use sections.
- **Subcommittee Reports/Updates**
 - In the event that a replacement meeting is approved, each of the Subcommittees was tasked with determining priority items vs. items that could be pushed to the Spring 2026 meeting. Each Subcommittee had a brief discussion about its agenda items.
 - **Compliance, Accreditation, & Certification (CACS) (KS).**
 - **Handling (HS) (AJ)**
 - **Policy Development (PDS) (NL)**
 - **Crops (CS) (NL for LP)**
 - **Livestock (LS) (BC)**
 - **Materials/GMO ad hoc (MS/GMO) (BC)**
- **Additional Items.** None.

- The meeting was adjourned.

[Previous ES Notes](#)

Future call schedule (3rd Tuesday 4:00 PM ET | 1:00 PM PT, except where noted)

September 16, 2025 - cancelled

October 21, 2025 - cancelled

November 18, 2025

December 16, 2025

January 20, 2026

February 17, 2026

March 17, 2026

April 21, 2026

May 19, 2026

June 16, 2026

July 21, 2026

August 18, 2026

September 15, 2026

October 20, 2026

November 17, 2026

December 15, 2026

[NOSB Work Agenda](#)

Milestones

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NOP - Draft Fall 2025 NOSB meeting agenda	Aug 8, 2025	~11
NOSB - Fall 2025 proposals due to NOP	Aug 20, 2025	~9
NOP - Post proposals	Sept 9, 2025	~8
Public comment closes	Oct 8, 2025	~4
NOP - Send compiled public comments to NOSB	Oct 14, 2025	~3
Public comment webinars	Cancelled	1
Fall 2025 NOSB meeting - Omaha, NE	TBD	0
Final recommendations due	TBD	~30 days post

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**Executive Committee (EC) Meeting Notes and
Summary of National Organic Standards Board (NOSB) Subcommittee Activities
Tuesday, August 19, 2025 4:00 pm ET**

Present: Amy Bruch (ADB), NOSB Chair; Allison Johnson (AJ), NOSB Vice Chair & Handling Chair; Kyla Smith, CACS Chair; Nate Lewis (NL), NOSB Secretary & PDS Chair; Logan Petrey (LP), Crops Chair; Brian Caldwell (BC), Livestock Chair

Absent: Franklin Quarcio (FQ), Materials Chair

Staff: Erin Healy (EH); Jared Clark (JC); Michelle Arsenault (MA); Heather Kumar (HK)

Agenda

- Review July 15, 2025 notes
- Chairs Report/Questions for NOP (ADB)
 - Meeting prep (deadlines), sunset summary process at NOSB meeting
 - Nominations Outreach update?
 - Speakers at NOSB meeting? Welcome Speaker, Technical speaker (Seed? CBP/Enforcement?)
 - Response to Spring 2025 meeting recommendations update
- NOP news and updates (EH/JC)
 - USDA Updates
 - National List Rules?
- Food Technologist update (JC/HK)
- Advisory Committee Specialist (ACS) update (MA)
 - Meeting notice/public comment open and close (if updates available)
- Subcommittee Reports/Updates (5 minutes each)
 - Handling (HS) (AJ)
 - Materials/GMO ad hoc (MS/GMO) (FQ)
 - Policy Development (PDS) (NL)
 - Livestock (LS) (BC)
 - Crops (CS) (LP)
 - Compliance, Accreditation, & Certification (CACS) (KS)
- Additional Items
- Adjourn

Discussion

- **July 15, 2025 notes** were accepted as written.
- Chairs Report/Questions for NOP (ADB)
 - Meeting prep (deadlines), sunset summary process at NOSB meeting. Please look at tracking spreadsheet for status of Fall documents.
 - Nominations Outreach update. September 9 is the deadline to submit applications. NOP shared the notice with a long list of internal partners, as well as many organizations outside the USDA. The NOP encouraged the NOSB members to conduct outreach to their communities.
 - Speakers at NOSB meeting? The Board asked about inviting speakers and have been thinking about technical speakers on such topics such as seed, and CBP/enforcement. The NOSB leadership team is leaning towards CBP oversight at the Fall meeting and a speaker or panel on seed at the Spring 2026 meeting. NOP noted that the budget is limited, and it would be helpful to invite a local speaker. The Board Chair asked if someone could speak about imports, and if in-

- person attendance isn't possible, then maybe they could join virtually. The Transition to Organic Partnership Program (TOPP) - Plains Region partners are scheduled to present at the meeting.
- Response to Spring 2025 meeting recommendations. NOP sent its response to the Spring 2025 recommendations yesterday. NOSB thanked the Program.
 - NOP news and updates (EH/JC)
 - NOP has started a rulemaking process on Inerts.
 - Meloxicam proposed rule is in clearance.
 - The Fall meeting notice was published today. The comment docket is open until Oct. 8.
 - Food Technologist update (JC/HK).
 - Reviewing Fall 2025 meeting proposals.
 - Will be analyzing written comments for the Fall meeting. The NOP asked that the NOSB send a written request with desired deliverables so it can be added to the Food Tech's work plan.
 - Advisory Committee Specialist (ACS) update (MA)
 - The meeting notice was published today, and the comment period will be open through October 8, 2025.
 - Subcommittee Reports/Updates (5 minutes each)
 - Handling (HS) (AJ). Completed the Fall sunset reviews. The HS requested a work agenda addition to reclassify sodium bicarbonate. The goal is to list it as both synthetic and non-synthetic based on the manufacturing process. The work agenda request was approved by the Executive Team and the HS will send it to the NOP for final approval.
 - Materials/GMO ad hoc (MS/GMO) (BC for FQ). The MS has two topics for the Fall meeting – A discussion document on induced mutagenesis and proposal on research priorities.
 - Policy Development (PDS) (NL). The PDS will bring two documents to the Fall meeting. An update on the Policy and Procedures Manual (PPM), and a discussion document to finalize the topic on sunset efficiency, which they will not implement. The PDS also discussed the use of AI and will discuss this more at the Fall meeting.
 - Livestock (LS) (BC). The LS Chair noted that sanitizers is a perpetual topic, and earlier today they discussed the chlorine materials petition. For the Fall meeting, the LS will have 3 documents in addition to 10 sunset reviews. A proposal on an annotation change for oxytocin, and two discussion documents – one for chlorine and one for integrating livestock and agroforestry.
 - Crops (CS) (LP). The CS completed all sunsets and proposals for the Fall meeting, including the proposal for compost, which has been complex and challenging.
 - Compliance, Accreditation, & Certification (CACS) (KS). The CACS voted on all 5 documents encompassing 4 topics for the Fall meeting. Two proposals, one on risk-based certification, and one on residue testing, and three discussion documents, one on residue testing, one on organic seed use, and one on eCommerce labeling.
 - **Additional Items.** None
 - **The meeting was adjourned**

[Previous ES Notes](#)

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July 15, 2025

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[NOSB Work Agenda](#)

Milestones

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NOP - Post proposals	Sept 9, 2025	~8
Public comment closes	Oct 8, 2025	~4
NOP - Send compiled public comments to NOSB	Oct 14, 2025	~3
Public comment webinars	Oct 28 & 30, 2025	1
Fall 2025 NOSB meeting - Omaha, NE	Nov 4 - 6, 2025	0
Final recommendations due	Nov 28, 2025	~30 days post

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Summary of National Organic Standards Board (NOSB) Subcommittee Activities
Tuesday, July 15, 2025 4:00 pm ET**

Present: Amy Bruch (ADB), NOSB Chair; Allison Johnson (AJ), NOSB Vice Chair & Handling Chair; Franklin Quarcoo (FQ), Materials Chair; Kyla Smith, CACS Chair; Nate Lewis (NL), NOSB Secretary & PDS Chair; Logan Petrey (LP), Crops Chair; Brian Caldwell (BC), Livestock Chair; Amanda Felder (AF) - observer

Absent: None

Staff: Erin Healy (EH); Jared Clark (JC); Michelle Arsenault (MA); Heather Kumar (HK)

Agenda

- Review June 17, 2025 notes
- Chairs Report/Questions for NOP (ADB)
 - Meeting prep (deadlines)
 - FRN Meeting notice status?
 - Response to Spring 2025 recommendations?
- NOP news and updates (EH/JC)
 - USDA updates
- Food Technologist update (JC/HK)
 - Sanitizers request status
 - Written public comments (spring and fall)
 - Parasitocides project
- Advisory Committee Specialist (ACS) update (MA)
 - Nominations
- Subcommittee Reports/Updates (5 minutes each)
 - Compliance, Accreditation, & Certification (CACS) (KS)
 - Handling (HS) (AJ)
 - Materials/GMO ad hoc (MS/GMO) (FQ)
 - Policy Development (PDS) (NL)
 - Livestock (LS) (BC)
 - Crops (CS) (LP)
- Additional Items
- Adjourn

Discussion

- **June 17, 2025 notes** were accepted with minor corrections.
- **Chairs Report/Questions for NOP (ADB)**
 - **Meeting prep (deadlines).** Meeting preparation is underway and going well. Many sunset reviews are completed and submitted. The NOSB Chair asked that the members submit documents to the NOP as soon as they are voted out of Subcommittee. She also asked that members please circulate documents ASAP prior to calls so everyone has time to read them. The NOSB Sharepoint site was updated to make navigation more intuitive. Thanked the NOP
 - **FRN Meeting notice status.** The notice is prepared, and NOP will submit it into clearance.
 - **Response to Spring 2025 recommendations.** The NOP response to the Spring recommendations is under review and will be posted as soon as it is finalized.
- **NOP news and updates (EH/JC)**

- The call for NOSB nominations was published July 11 and will be open for 60 days, closing September 9. NOP is initiating outreach activities and asked NOSB to spread the word. The NOSB highlighted gaps in expertise, including grain, livestock, seed, and excluded methods.
- The group asked about the Federal government budget, and NOP clarified the difference between the typical budget and the reconciliation bill that Congress recently passed, in which NOP got funds to work on the Organic Integrity Database and related technology. The fiscal year begins October 1, and that is when we would expect funding for FY 2026.
- National List Rule. The rule that includes various NOSB recommendations is in clearance.
- Proposed rule to rescind the Market Development Final Rule. The NOP received 12,000 comments.
- **Food Technologist update (JC/HK)**
 - **Sanitizers.** The CACS Chair re-worded the original request and sent it to the Materials' Subcommittee Chair, who submitted it to NOP. The MS is requesting a compilation of all the cleaners and sanitizers listed across all scopes, with the following information - name of substance, National List listing(s), National List annotation (if applicable), use, direct food contact or surface contact material, class of sanitizer (e.g. cleanser, antibiotic, etc.). This research would assist the board with evaluation of sunsets, including alternatives and annotations. NOP is reviewing the scope and will touch base soon about the next steps.
 - **Written public comments (spring and fall).** The Food Technologist and Advisory Committee Specialist will process the Fall written comments. The NOSB offered ideas about how to rescope the task, so it is less of a time burden. The NOSB Chair suggested focusing on aggregation of priority topics and two deliverables, one midway through and one at the end rather than weekly.
 - **Parasitocides.** The Food Technologist is working on three projects, including parasitocides. The NOP had the USDA Agricultural Library assist with an initial search and found tens of thousands of resources on parasitocides, so scoping the project is the biggest challenge. The LS Chair suggested he might reassess the project as it seems like it might be insurmountable. The LS will talk more about this at a future call.
- **Advisory Committee Specialist (ACS) update (MA)**
 - **Nominations.** As noted earlier, the call for Nominations is open through September 9.
- **Subcommittee Reports/Updates (5 minutes each)**
 - **Compliance, Accreditation, & Certification (CACS) (KS).** CACS has five documents on four topics for the Fall meeting. The CACS added an extra call this month to complete the documents.
 - **Handling (HS) (AJ).** The HS is working through sunset reviews and is nearly done. The Food Technologist provided the Subcommittee with an update on mined minerals during today's call. The HS Chair shared that it was great to see new members complete their first sunsets.
 - **Materials/GMO ad hoc (MS/GMO) (FQ).** The discussion document on induced mutagenesis is underway and is focused on seeds. The Materials Subcommittee received the research priorities from the other Subcommittees and is finalizing the combined document for the Fall meeting. The MS had a conversation about the 'general' section and decided to rename it 'cross-cutting' instead. The MS also discussed the feedback from the Spring meeting on possible research priorities. The Food Technologist provided the MS with an update during the last call and has three projects underway.
 - **Policy Development (PDS) (NL).** PDS is working on updates to the Policy and Procedures Manual (PPM) and has chosen not to move forward with the sunset efficiency project, as they determined it will not save significant time. The Chair plans on presenting a written update in the form of a discussion document to relay that decision to the public and the Board. The PDS has also discussed developing a discussion document on the use of AI, which they feel will be

helpful to future Board members. A member shared the policy at her University that students disclose sources in the citations, including the use of AI.

- **Livestock (LS) (BC).** The LS has nearly finished its sunset reviews, and is working on two other projects for the Fall meeting. One on an annotation change for oxytocin, and a discussion document on grazing and agroforestry. The LS Chair noted that he contacted several researchers about this topic (agroforestry), and it seems there is very little research available, but currently there is work underway.
- **Crops (CS) (LP).** Crops met today and is on track to complete all its work agenda items for the Fall meeting. The Subcommittee added an extra call at the end of July to leave themselves enough time for a robust discussion on compost.
- **Additional Items.** A member asked the NOP to convey to the technical writers that the TRs have been very well done and the NOSB has found them helpful.
- **The meeting was adjourned**

[Previous ES Notes](#)

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Absent: Nate Lewis (NL), NOSB Secretary & PDS Chair; Logan Petrey (LP), Crops Chair; Brian Caldwell (BC), Livestock Chair

Staff: Erin Healy (EH); Jared Clark (JC); Michelle Arsenault (MA); Heather Kumar (HK)

Agenda

- Review May 20, 2025 notes
- Chairs Report/Questions for NOP (ADB)
 - Meeting prep - best practices (circulate docs early, sunset review process in SP, submit completed docs ASAP).
 - Subcommittee rosters for Fall
 - Sharepoint landing page update
 - Questions for NOP
 - Nominations - expertise needs?
 - Future meeting planning
- NOP news and updates (EH/JC)
- Food Technologist update (JC/HK)
 - Sanitizers request
 - Written public comments (spring and fall)
- Advisory Committee Specialist (ACS) update (MA)
 - Final post-meeting web posting
- Subcommittee Reports/Updates (5 minutes each)
 - Crops (CS) (ADB or FQ for LP)
 - Compliance, Accreditation, & Certification (CACS) (KS)
 - Handling (HS) (AJ)
 - Materials/GMO ad hoc (MS/GMO) (FQ)
 - Policy Development (PDS) (CD for NL)
 - Livestock (LS) (FQ for BC)
- Additional Items
- Adjourn

Discussion

- **May 20, 2025 notes** were accepted as written.
- **Chairs Report/Questions for NOP (ADB)**
 - Meeting prep - best practices. The Chair reviewed best practices for the Fall meeting: Circulate docs early, use the sunset review process in Sharepoint, and submit completed docs ASAP.
 - Subcommittee rosters for Fall. The Chair encouraged members to consider leadership roles, given that 5 members are completing their terms in January 2026. She invited members to join other Subcommittee calls so they can learn about the Subcommittees they may not be on.
 - Sharepoint landing page update. The NOP updated the landing page for the NOSB Sharepoint site and welcomed comments and suggestions.
 - Questions for NOP

- Nominations - expertise needs? The NOP will start doing outreach when the call for nominations is published. The Board has identified gaps in expertise, including livestock and grain experience. Members were encouraged to send any other suggestions, as well as specific groups or organizations to NOP so they can be added to the outreach plan.
 - Future meeting planning? Deputy Secretary Steve Vaden was confirmed. Jeremy Witte, the Deputy Undersecretary for MRP has been on-boarded. Dudley Hoskins, nominee for MRP Undersecretary, is awaiting confirmation. Some decisions will be on hold until he is confirmed.
- **NOP news and updates (EH/JC)**
 - The State of California granted an extension for the new compost law, so NOP has additional time to work on rulemaking. The deadline is now June 2027.
 - NOP is working on a proposed National List rule. It includes carbon dioxide, meloxicam, sodium nitrate, and methionine.
 - The Federal Register Notice for the NOSB nominations is in clearance.
 - The Federal Register Notice for the NOSB Fall meeting notice is on hold.
 - The comment period for the rescission of the market development rule ended June 11. NOP received about 12,000 comments in total. NOP is compiling the comments to inform decision making.
 - Sanitizers work. The Materials Subcommittee is working on reframing the request, so it spans scopes. The MS will submit to NOP for the Food Technologist.
 - TR requests for 2028 sunsets? The contract with the Organic Materials Review Institute (OMRI) was renewed and all TR requests are in the queue. The TR requests are listed in the NOSB Sharepoint site so the NOSB can follow the progress.
 - The NOP is currently working on finalizing the final recommendations from the Spring 2025 meeting and should have them posted soon.
- **Food Technologist update (JC/HK)**
 - Sanitizers request. Will send soon with a rescoping of the request to span scopes and not focus solely on sanitizers.
 - Written public comments (spring and fall). NOSB is looking to scope the project for the Fall meeting and wondered what feedback to send to NOP. For now, NOP plans to do something similar for the Fall meeting. It might be scaled back but will have the same deliverable and cadence. Looking for a tool to assist with sorting comments.
 - Let NOSB know how to aid Food Tech.
- **Advisory Committee Specialist (ACS) update (MA)**
 - Final post-meeting web posting. The documents are awaiting signature and approval and should be posted soon.
 - The NOP will send meeting placeholders for all segments of the fall meeting soon. NOP is awaiting renewal of the Zoom license, so it can create meeting links.
- **Subcommittee Reports/Updates (5 minutes each)**
 - Crops (CS) (FQ for LP). The reviews for sunset substances are either completed or underway. The review for the EPA List 4 inerts includes information about the current recommendation as well as the NOP work on the previous recommendation.
 - Compliance, Accreditation, & Certification (CACS) (KS). Working on five documents for the Fall meeting, including risk-based certification, residue testing, which was split into two documents (one discussion document and one proposal), seed, and eCommerce. The CACS will likely develop a proposal on eCommerce for the Fall meeting.
 - Handling (HS) (AJ). The Subcommittee is working on its 2027 sunset reviews. The proposal on the L-malic acid classification is done. The TR for sodium bicarbonate was received, and once NOP finalizes it, it will get posted.

- Materials/GMO ad hoc (MS/GMO) (FQ). The MS will have a discussion document on induced mutagenesis (IM) at the fall meeting. The MS received mixed comments at the last two meetings, and it's not clear that IM is actually an excluded method. The MS will also request research on sanitizers, and talked about inviting NIFA to a call to discuss research priorities outcomes and results.
- Policy Development (PDS) (AJ for NL). On the last PDS call the group discussed group voting, and has chosen to not move ahead with this, given that it didn't seem there would be significant time savings. The lead will write a document so there is some closure for the record. PDS is also working on a proposal for PPM updates, including language about nonparticipation, and best practices for requesting TRs. The PDS is also considering Subcommittee succession plans as members rotate off the Board. NOP suggested that if there is no overlap between old and new members they could record videos to transfer knowledge.
- Livestock (LS) (FQ for BC). The LS is finalizing its 2027 sunset reviews. The group held a discussion about slaughter facilities at its last call.
- **Additional Items.** None.
- **The meeting was adjourned**

[Previous ES Notes](#)

Future call schedule (3rd Tuesday 4:00 PM ET | 1:00 PM PT, except where noted)

May 20, 2025

June 17, 2025

July 15, 2025

August 19, 2025

September 16, 2025

October 21, 2025

November 18, 2025

December 16, 2025

[NOSB Work Agenda](#)

Milestones

Fall 2025 Milestones	Target dates (tentative)	Weeks PTM (prior to meeting)
NOP - Publish FRN, Open public comment	~May 15, 2025	24
NOP - Draft Fall 2025 NOSB meeting agenda	Aug 8, 2025	~11
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Public comment webinars	Oct 28 & 30, 2025	1
Fall 2025 NOSB meeting - Omaha, NE	Nov 4 - 6, 2025	0
Final recommendations due	Nov 28, 2025	~30 days post

Note: Subcommittee notes may include preliminary discussions regarding substances considered for addition to or removal from the National List. They do not represent official National Organic Program (NOP) policy/regulations or NOSB recommendations. Proposals must be voted on by the full Board, to become recommendations to the USDA. Please see the NOP website for official NOP policy, regulations, and status of substances used in organic production and handling.

**Executive Committee (EC) Meeting Notes and
Summary of National Organic Standards Board (NOSB) Subcommittee Activities
Tuesday, May 20, 2025 4:00 pm ET**

Present: Amy Bruch (ADB), NOSB Chair; Allison Johnson (AJ), NOSB Vice Chair & Handling Chair; Nate Lewis (NL), NOSB Secretary & PDS Chair; Brian Caldwell (BC), Livestock Chair; Franklin Quarcoo (FQ), Materials Chair; Logan Petrey (LP), Crops Chair; Kyla Smith, CACS Chair; Cat McCluskey

Absent: Chris Purdy (CP)

Staff: Erin Healy (EH); Jared Clark (JC); Michelle Arsenault (MA); Heather Kumar (HK)

Agenda

- Review April 15, 2025 notes
- Chairs Report/Questions for NOP (ADB)
 - Final list of TR requests for 2028 sunsets
 - Spring 2025 NOSB meeting debrief
 - Final round of written public comments - include in write-ups
 - Final recommendations due by May 29. Coversheets sent May 1.
 - Assignment of new petition on eCommerce (to CACS)
- NOP news and updates (EH/JC)
 - Apiculture
 - NIFA & Research Priorities
- Food Technologist update (JC/HK).
- Advisory Committee Specialist (ACS) update (MA)
- Subcommittee Reports/Updates (5 minutes each)
 - Livestock (LS) (BC)
 - Crops (CS) (LP)
 - Compliance, Accreditation, & Certification (CACS) (KS)
 - Handling (HS) (AJ)
 - Materials/GMO ad hoc (MS/GMO) (FQ)
 - Policy Development (PDS) (NL)
- Additional Items
- Adjourn

Discussion

- **April 15, 2025 notes** were approved as written.
- **Chairs Report/Questions for NOP (ADB)**
 - **Final list of TR requests for 2028 sunsets.** The Chair asked that Subcommittee Chairs send the final list of TRs/questions by this Friday if possible, and she will aggregate the lists and send to NOP by Monday.
 - **Spring 2025 NOSB meeting debrief.** The Chair thanked members and NOP for their hard work at the Spring meeting, and opened the floor for feedback. Members praised each other for a job well done, and for staying on time. The NOSB indicated appreciation for the participation from Division Directors, who presented updates about their respected division. A member added that he thought the Spring meeting went well and supported the idea of making the Spring meeting virtual, sporadically, and the Fall meeting in-person. Members shared their thoughts about this idea and strongly supported in-person meetings for collaboration and networking. One member noted that many people commented on the stress in the community and commended the CACS for work on fraud.

- **Final round of written public comments - include in write-ups.** Once the final round of comments are available please include them in the coversheets for the final recommendations.
- **Final recommendations.** Coversheet templates were sent May 1 and are due by May 28. Please send to the NOSB Chair and the NOP.
- **Assignment of new petition for eCommerce.** A petition asking the NOP to explore ways to enforce eCommerce labeling was sent to the CACS. There may be overlap with the Handling Subcommittee.
- **Work agenda requests/Petitions.** Members talked about petitions and work agenda requests that are submitted to the NOP rather than the NOSB and how they are prioritized. The prioritization is indicated on the NOSB work agenda spreadsheet and in the Policy and Procedures Manual (PPM).
- **NOP news and updates (EH/JC)**
 - **NOSB Meeting.** The NOP thanked the Board for a successful virtual NOSB meeting and for staying on schedule. NOP also expressed appreciation about the support from the community, and participation from Division Directors.
 - **Apiculture.** Some commenters brought up the lack of apiculture standards at the meeting. The SD Director provided the Board with historical context on the topic. When researching a potential proposed rule on apiculture, NOP encountered many challenges, including controlling for organic feed, forage zones, and other inputs.
 - **Humic Acid.** Crops will talk more about the public comment regarding humic acid. NOP had responded to the commenter and advised that he submit a petition.
 - **Sanitizers.** The NOSB has talked about a project or request for the Food Technologist to explore sanitizers. NOP requested that the board submit a work agenda request on the topic.
 - **Research Priorities.** NOP suggested making the Research Priorities list shorter and more concise and inviting NIFA to a future Materials Subcommittee call to discuss additional collaboration points.
 - **NOP Staffing update.** Chris Purdy will be moving to a new role as Chief Innovation Officer, and Jenny Tucker is returning to NOP as Deputy Administrator.
- **Food Technologist update (JC/HK).** The Food Technologist is working on two active requests and finishing written public comments from the Spring meeting.
- **Advisory Committee Specialist (ACS) update (MA).**
 - Due date for the final recommendations is May 28.
 - Nominations should be announced this spring/summer for the 5 seats that will be open in January 2026.
 - The Federal Register Notice announcing the Fall meeting should be in review soon.
- **Subcommittee Reports/Updates (5 minutes each)**
 - **Livestock (LS) (BC).** On the last call, the LS scheduled discussion dates, heard from NOP regarding oxytocin, and talked about the TR for chlorine. The LS also discussed the work agenda item on agroforestry, which they will be working on this semester.
 - **Crops (CS) (LP).** On the last call, the CS worked on scheduling discussions, questions for the chlorine materials limited scope TR, and discussed proposals for pear ester and compostable polymers).
 - **Compliance, Accreditation, & Certification (CACS) (KS).** The CACS is working on a couple of work agenda items from the Spring meeting. Risk Based Certification and Residue Testing regulations will be presented as proposals at the Fall 2025 meeting. The CACS is also working on a seed document as well as the eCommerce petition.
 - **Handling (HS) (AJ).** The HS has a busy work agenda for the Fall meeting, including 2027 sunset reviews, a proposal for L-Malic acid classification, research priorities, and a petition on chitosan for which the HS are expecting a TR.

- **Materials/GMO ad hoc (MS/GMO) (FQ).** The MS discussed research priorities, and how to close the loop so they know what has been worked on, and what has not. The Subcommittee would like to extend an invitation to NIFA to join a future MS call. The MS will discuss how to move ahead with Sanitizers, which will likely be a project for the Food Technologist.
- **Policy Development (PDS) (NL).** The PDS held a great discussion at its last meeting about the group vote discussion document, and determined that they may ‘lean away’ from this project, as it seems like it wasn’t going to save much time. The PDS will convey that outcome to the rest of the Board and the community. The PDS will finalize various updates to the PPM in a proposal for the Fall meeting.
- **Additional Items.** The NOP shared that an online retailer (Amazon) is now using the retailer tool kit from the NOP.
- **The meeting was adjourned**

[Previous ES Notes](#)

Future call schedule (3rd Tuesday 4:00 PM ET | 1:00 PM PT, except where noted)

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July 15, 2025

August 19, 2025

September 16, 2025

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December 16, 2025

[NOSB Work Agenda](#)

Milestones

Fall 2025 Milestones	Target dates (tentative)	Weeks PTM (prior to ...)
NOP - Publish FRN, Open public comment	~May 15, 2025	24
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NOSB - Fall 2025 proposals due to NOP	Aug 20, 2025	~9
NOP - Post proposals	Sept 9, 2025	~8
Public comment closes	Oct 8, 2025	~4
NOP - Send compiled public comments to NOSB	Oct 14, 2025	~3
Public comment webinars	Oct 28 & 30, 2025	1
Fall 2025 NOSB meeting - Omaha, NE	Nov 4 - 6, 2025	0
Final recommendations due	Nov 28, 2025	~30 days post

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**Executive Committee (EC) Meeting Notes and
Summary of National Organic Standards Board (NOSB) Subcommittee Activities
Tuesday, April 15, 2025 4:00 pm ET**

Present: Amy Bruch (ADB), NOSB Chair; Allison Johnson (AJ), NOSB Vice Chair & Handling Chair; Nate Lewis (NL), NOSB Secretary & PDS Chair; Brian Caldwell (BC), Livestock Chair; Franklin Quarcoo (FQ), Materials Chair; Logan Petrey (LP), Crops Chair; Kyla Smith, CACS Chair; Carolyn Dimitri (CD) - observer; Amanda Felder (AF) - observer; Andrea Hatziyannis (AH) - observer; Dilip Nandwani (DN) - observer; Corie Pierce (CP) - observer

Absent: Heather Kumar (HK)

Staff: Chris Purdy (CP); Erin Healy (EH); Jared Clark (JC); Michelle Arsenault (MA)

Agenda

- Review March 18, 2025 notes
- Chairs Report/Questions for NOP (ADB)
 - Key dates for April (practice sessions, webinars, etc.)
 - Spring meeting preparation
 - Staffing updates?
- NOP news and updates (EH/JC)
- Food Technologist update (JC/HK)
- Advisory Committee Specialist (ACS) update (MA)
 - Sunset templates (Fall 2027, and 2028)
 - Declarations of Interest due 4.18.25
 - Meeting Materials
- Subcommittee Reports/Updates (5 minutes each)
 - Policy Development (PDS) (NL)
 - Livestock (LS) (BC)
 - Crops (CS) (LP)
 - Compliance, Accreditation, & Certification (CACS) (KS)
 - Handling (HS) (AJ)
 - Materials/GMO ad hoc (MS/GMO) (FQ)
- Additional Items
- Adjourn

Discussion

- **March 18, 2025 notes** were accepted as written
- **Chairs Report/Questions for NOP (ADB)**
 - **Key dates for April (practices sessions, webinars, etc.).** Highlighted two priority proposals: Residue testing for a global supply chain, and compost. The Chair also noted that they will discuss the sunset review process pilot project.
 - **Spring meeting preparation.** The meeting materials are being printed and should arrive soon. The Board members were thankful to receive them especially since the meeting is virtual.
 - **Staffing updates?** NOP had no updates at this time. Things are still in flux, and NOP will update the Board when they are able.
 - **TR contract update?** The contract was sent forward for approval, and NOP will let the NOSB know its status. Members asked several questions about TRs. There will be capacity for 15 total, and the NOSB Chair will aggregate the list and send it to the NOP soon.

- **New “petition” on compost.** The PDS Chair spoke to World Centric, and it appears that the intent was to submit a letter of support for the Bioplastics Institute (BPI) compost petition, and it was not a new petition. The expectation is that World Centric will submit a follow-up letter withdrawing the “petition”.
- The NOP offered to schedule an additional meeting to talk about this further, if needed.
- The NOSB Chair will compile a list of questions for the NOP and will send them by April 21.
- **NOP news and updates (CP/EH/JC)**
 - The NOP Acting Deputy Administrator provided the NOSB with a brief update about the program. There is a lot going on government-wide, however, nothing specific to report outside of what folks would see in the news. The NOP is focused on continuity and is responsive to stakeholders.
 - The NOSB will compile a list of potential questions for the NOP ahead of the meeting.
 - A member asked a question about public comments and organic stakeholders.
 - The NOP update at the NOSB meeting will look different this time. All the NOP directors will participate and answer questions. Also, there won’t be pre-recorded updates.
- **Food Technologist update (JC)**
 - The main priority for the food technologist has been public comment summaries. The NOP is discussing the best way to combine both the oral and written comment summaries for the Board. He asked that members send feedback for future deliverables.
 - Regulations.gov will be offline for cloud migration the last weekend before the comment period closes (April 25 - 28). BC added that it would be helpful to have comments parsed by week, rather than consolidated.
- **Advisory Committee Specialist (ACS) update (MA)**
 - Sunset templates (Fall 2027, and 2028). NOP will work on completing the sunset templates after the meeting.
 - Declarations of Interest due April 18, 2025.
 - Meeting Materials were printed and shipped.
- **Subcommittee Reports/Updates (5 minutes each)**
 - **Policy Development (PDS) (NL).** The PDS cancelled its April meeting. Working on PPM updates and the has developed a pilot project to improve efficiency in sunset voting, which the Chair will introduce before and at the NOSB meeting.
 - **Livestock (LS) (BC).** Livestock has had a limited agenda since the last meeting. The Chair expressed appreciation about the open lines of communication with the NOP regarding a new work agenda item on agroforestry. The LS sent an updated work agenda request as per NOPs request.
 - **Crops (CS) (LP).** The CS will determine TR sufficiency for compostables this week. The request for a TR for chlorine is in progress.
 - **Compliance, Accreditation, & Certification (CACS) (KS).** The CACS has several projects for the Spring meeting, including two proposals, one on residue testing, and one on risk-based certification. The Subcommittee is still trying to determine a framework for the seed project. It’s a big topic so they are trying to figure out how to parse it into smaller segments. A member offered to reach out to the International Fresh Produce Association (IFPA) to find out when the seed survey results will be available.
 - **Handling (HS) (AJ).** The HS finished its 2028 sunset TR determinations, and will request one on chlorine substances. The Subcommittee also received a petition for chitosan and has requested a TR.
 - **Materials/GMO ad hoc (MS/GMO) (FQ).** MS did not meet this month, and so no update at this time.
- **Additional Items.** None.

- The meeting was adjourned

[Previous ES Notes](#)

Future call schedule (3rd Tuesday 4:00 PM ET | 1:00 PM PT, except where noted)

March 18, 2025

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[NOSB Work Agenda](#)

Milestones

Spring 2025 Milestones	Target dates (tentative)	Weeks PTM (prior to meeting)
NOP - Publish FRN, Open public comment	March 28, 2025	16 -20
NOP - Draft Spring 2025 NOSB meeting tentative agenda	Feb 7, 2025	~ 10
NOSB - Spring 2025 proposals due to NOP	Feb 13, 2025	~ 9
NOP - Post proposals	March 28, 2025	7.5
Public comment closes	April 28, 2025	3.5
NOP - Send compiled public comments to NOSB	April 29, 2025	3
Public comment webinars	Apr 22 & 24, 2025	1
Spring 2025 NOSB meeting - Virtual	Apr 29 - May 1, 2025	0
Final recommendations due	May 29, 2025	30 days post meeting

Fall 2025 Milestones	Target dates (tentative)	Weeks PTM (prior to meeting)
NOP - Publish FRN, Open public comment	~May 15, 2025	24
NOP - Draft Fall 2025 NOSB meeting agenda	Aug 8, 2025	~11
NOSB - Fall 2025 proposals due to NOP	Aug 20, 2025	~9
NOP - Post proposals	Sept 9, 2025	~8
Public comment closes	Oct 8, 2025	~4

NOP - Send compiled public comments to NOSB	Oct 14, 2025	~3
Public comment webinars	Oct 28 & 30, 2025	1
Fall 2025 NOSB meeting - Omaha, NE	Nov 4 - 6, 2025	0
Final recommendations due	Nov 28, 2025	~30 days post

Note: Subcommittee notes may include preliminary discussions regarding substances considered for addition to or removal from the National List. They do not represent official National Organic Program (NOP) policy/regulations or NOSB recommendations. Proposals must be voted on by the full Board, to become recommendations to the USDA. Please see the NOP website for official NOP policy, regulations, and status of substances used in organic production and handling.

**Executive Committee (EC) Meeting Notes and
Summary of National Organic Standards Board (NOSB) Subcommittee Activities
Tuesday, March 18, 2025 4:00 pm ET**

Present: Allison Johnson (AJ), NOSB Vice Chair & Handling Chair; Nate Lewis (NL), NOSB Secretary & PDS Chair; Brian Caldwell (BC), Livestock Chair; Franklin Quarcoo (FQ), Materials Chair; Logan Petrey (LP), Crops Chair; Kyla Smith, CACS Chair; Carolyn Dimitri (CD) - observer; Amanda Felder (AF) - observer; Kathryn Deschenes (KD) - observer

Absent: Amy Bruch (ADB), NOSB Chair

Staff: Erin Healy (EH); Jared Clark (JC); Michelle Arsenault (MA); Heather Kumar (HK)

Agenda

- Review February 18, 2025 notes
- Chairs Report/Questions for NOP (AJ for ADB)
 - Recap/updates about NOSB meeting?
 - Status of FACA Boards in general?
 - Spring/summer workplan for NOSB
- NOP news and updates (EH/JC)
 - NOP Program updates: Spring meeting, rules, etc.
 - TR contract status?
- Food Technologist update (JC/HK)
- Advisory Committee Specialist (ACS) update (MA)
 - Sunset templates (Fall 2027, and 2028)
- Subcommittee Reports/Updates (5 minutes each)
 - Materials/GMO ad hoc (MS/GMO) (FQ)
 - Policy Development (PDS) (NL)
 - Livestock (LS) (BC)
 - Crops (CS) (LP)
 - Compliance, Accreditation, & Certification (CACS) (KS)
 - Handling (HS) (AJ)
- Additional Items
- Adjourn

Discussion

- **February 18, 2025 notes** were accepted as written
- **Chairs Report/Questions for NOP (AJ for ADB)**
 - **Recap/updates about NOSB meeting?** The Federal Register Notice was sent into legal clearance, and NOP is hoping to get it published by March 24 which would allow for 30 days of comment.
 - Status of FACA Boards in general? NOP is unsure if other Boards have rescheduled meetings yet. Many things are paused until appointees are in place.
 - Spring/summer workplan for NOSB. Moving ahead with work agendas while waiting to hear about new meeting dates for the Spring meeting.
 - A member asked about contingency plans in case the meeting notice doesn't get published in time.
- **NOP news and updates (EH/JC)**
 - **NOP Program updates.**

- The NOP tentatively approved the Livestock/Crops Integration (agroforestry) work agenda request, pending minor edits. The Livestock Chair will submit a revised request.
 - Standards is continuing work on a National List rule, which includes several substances and recommendations from the Board (meloxicam, methionine, CO₂). Inerts is a more complex topic and will be done separately.
 - TR contract status? The current TR cooperative agreement with the Organic Materials Review Institute (OMRI) ends April 30, and the NOP is seeking to develop the new one so as to minimize any gaps in service. One outstanding TR – compostables – should be returned to NOP by end of month.
 - Seed. NOP is getting a lot of questions about seed. The NOP is expecting a report from the International Fresh Produce Association (IFPA) who conducted a survey on seed.
- **Food Technologist update (JC/HK).** There are two active NOSB requests in progress. The Food technologist is also prepping to work on public comments with a Standards Division contractor, and will be working on the International use Section in the 2028 sunset templates. NOP expects a work request from the NOSB for the public comment analysis. The Food technologist is also reviewing a couple of new petitions that may get forwarded to the NOSB.
- **Advisory Committee Specialist (ACS) update (MA)**
 - **Timeline table (see below).** Will update the Board as we know more.
 - **Sunset templates (Fall 2027, and 2028).** In progress. The ACS created the lists and templates for the 2028 sunset substances (42 in all), and will pass them to the Food Technologist, so she can add the International Section. The 2027 sunset templates for the Fall meeting (containing the 2027 sunset substances) will be written and distributed soon as well.
- **Subcommittee Reports/Updates (5 minutes each)**
 - **Materials/GMO ad hoc (MS/GMO) (FQ).** The MS had a short meeting this month to talk about updates and future projects.
 - **Policy Development (PDS) (NL).** On the last call, the PDS talked generally about the NOSB's role and duties as assigned in OFPA. The group acknowledge that the comments may include feedback about the comment period.
 - **Livestock (LS) (BC).** On today's call, the LS divvied up the 2028 sunset substances for review, and reassigned four 2027 sunsets from those members who rotated off in January. The Chair noted that the LS is excited to get started on the new work agenda request on agroforestry, now that it has been approved. He will submit the requested revisions ASAP.
 - **Crops (CS) (LP).** The CS assigned leads to the 2028 sunsets so they can determine the need for TRs. The Subcommittee is looking forward to receiving the TR for compostables, so they can get the proposal done quickly.
 - **Compliance, Accreditation, & Certification (CACS) (KS).** The CACS talked about the commercial availability work agenda request that it is now rethinking, as they reevaluate the need. Most of the last call was devoted to the topic of seed and what to do with this behemoth of a topic. The group discussed dividing the topic into smaller components so they can proceed more easily, and produce the best outcomes for the many stakeholders.
 - **Handling (HS) (AJ).** The Handling Subcommittee received a new petition on chitosan, and is conducting its sufficiency review. On today's call, the HS assigned leads to the 2028 sunsets and will start determining the need for TRs.
- **Additional Items.** None
- **The meeting was adjourned**

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NOSB Work Agenda**Milestones**

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Absent: Kyla Smith, CACS Chair

Staff: Chris Purdy (CP); Erin Healy (EH); Jared Clark (JC); Michelle Arsenault (MA); Heather Kumar (HK)

Agenda

- Welcome new NOP Deputy Administrator Chris Purdy
- Review January 21, 2025 notes
- Chairs Report/Questions for NOP (ADB)
 - Welcome new members
 - New member training and support
 - Thank board members for meeting proposal deadlines
 - Sunset efficiency process
 - Updates about support for organic?
- NOP news and updates (EH/JC)
 - NOP Program updates: Spring meeting, rules, etc.
- Food Technologist update (JC/HK)
- Advisory Committee Specialist (ACS) update (MA)
 - Notice for Spring meeting
 - Spring proposals update (if any)
- Subcommittee Reports/Updates (5 minutes each)
 - Handling (HS) (AJ)
 - Materials/GMO ad hoc (MS/GMO) (FQ)
 - Policy Development (PDS) (NL)
 - Livestock (LS) (BC)
 - Crops (CS) (LP)
 - Compliance, Accreditation, & Certification (CACS) (KS)
- Additional Items
- Adjourn

Discussion

- **Welcome new NOP Deputy Administrator Chris Purdy.** The group welcomed Chris to the call. He introduced himself and thanked the members for their dedication and volunteering. Chris has been with the Agricultural Marketing Service for 17-18 years, mostly with Specialty Crops.
- **January 21, 2025 notes** were approved with a minor change.
- **Chairs Report/Questions for NOP (ADB)**
 - **Welcome new members.** The Board members are looking forward to working with the new members. The NOSB Chair reminded the Subcommittee Chairs to transition sunset reviews to new folks.
 - **Forecast for 30-45 days.** The Chair noted that the period of time immediately after the proposal submission deadline is a good time for Subcommittees to brainstorm new work agenda items.

She also summarized the process for the Spring documents that is underway: The documents are under review by NOP, and will then be published on the AMS website for public comment. Public comment will be open for 30 days and, at the close, comments will be aggregated and summarized for review by NOSB.

- **New member training and support.** The NOSB Chair briefly reviewed the training topics, and encouraged people to attend or watch the recordings. She also encouraged folks to observe best practices for subject lines in email.
- **Spring proposals.** The Chair thanked Board members for meeting the proposal deadline for the Spring meeting. There are 60 agenda items, and the Board is looking forward to public comment.
- **Sunset efficiency process.** The PDS will present a brief discussion document at the Spring meeting with the next iteration of the sunset efficiency process. The Board views this as a trial project and will refine as needed. The process will be as follows: 1. Complete Spring review in Subcommittee; 2. Lead will present topic and flag if a substance is a candidate for the consent agenda; 3. During discussions in the Summer, each Subcommittee will compile a list of consent agenda items (i.e., those that have unanimous vote and no new info); and 4. If new info comes in during public comment, any member can request to have a substance come off the consent agenda. The NOSB plans to trial this at the Spring meeting, and then again during the Fall meeting before incorporating it into its work.
- **Updates about support for organic and priorities of new administration?** The Deputy Administrator (DA) has been through many transitions. He shared that the Secretary was just sworn in, and other leadership will be on board soon, and once that happens, we should know more about priorities. While this is a lot of change and uncertainty at the moment, the goal is to be as transparent as possible.
- **NOP news and updates (EH/JC)**
 - **Spring meeting.** The NOP and NOSB leadership discussed the Spring meeting, and felt that the best scenario for the Spring would be to hold the meeting virtually. The Board emphasized the value in having in-person meetings, but also acknowledged that given the transition and pause in contracts, travel, funding, etc., it would be simpler to meet virtually. Members asked about reaching out to stakeholders to let them know. NOP should have a definitive decision by the end of this week, and will let the Board know. The group also discussed the comment docket timeline, which is uncertain at this time.
 - **Speaker for NOSB Meeting?** The Board discussed two ideas for speakers at the Spring meeting: Risk management/enforcement, and/or organic seed. A member suggested compostables (stickers and glue). Neither topic (compostables or seed) will have a document for the Spring meeting, but will likely be on the Fall meeting agenda. The NOP noted that Robert Yang, Director of the NOP Accreditation Division, is available to speak about risk-based oversight. NOSB members will discuss and get back to NOP.
 - **Retailer Whole Foods.** The NOP was alerted to a change at Whole Foods Market regarding an additional label, and the NOP wanted to relay to the NOSB in case they received questions about it
 - **Agroforestry and Livestock integration.** The NOP asked that the Subcommittee make a small change to its work agenda request to include what OFPA says about a minimum 60-days to harvest after raw manure application. Additionally, NOP can't change OFPA, but can change regulations. This work straddles both crops and livestock, so both Subcommittees will collaborate. The Executive Committee approved the request with the addition of the language about OFPA.
- **Food Technologist update (JC/HK).**
 - The project on mined minerals is nearing completion.

- Public comment summaries. The NOP anticipates a request from the Board soon around summarizing public comments for the upcoming meeting. The Board is thinking through what the deliverable could look like.
- The TR for potassium hypochlorite have been received and NOP will send to the Subcommittee.
- **Advisory Committee Specialist (ACS) update (MA)**
 - **Notice for Spring meeting.** Pending.
 - **Spring proposals update.** The ACS thanked the Board for submitting docs on time, and in most cases, early. Review is underway, and NOP will send back any documents that might need edits.
- **Subcommittee Reports/Updates (5 minutes each)**
 - **Handling (HS) (AJ).** The HS completed the proposal on the ethylene annotation change, and the reclassification of L-Malic Acid. The HS is looking forward to discussion at the Spring meeting.
 - **Materials/GMO ad hoc (MS/GMO) (FQ).** The MS discussed induced mutagenesis (IM) and will have a discussion document for the Fall 2025 meeting. Based on the arrival of new members and their expertise, the MS chose to delay this project so they could contribute. Also, the MS wanted to explore whether or not IM is considered an excluded method or a traditional breeding method.
 - **Policy Development (PDS) (NL).** The PDS will present a discussion document on sunset voting efficiency at the Spring meeting. The Subcommittee will also be updating the Policy and Procedures Manual (PPM), with an eye to having a proposal for the Fall 2025 meeting.
 - **Livestock (LS) (BC).** LS finished all its sunsets and discussed the previous chlorine TR. The LS asked if the NOP had the capacity to order a new TR. The current TR contract expires April 30, and NOP will provide a status update to the NOSB soon.
 - **Crops (CS) (NL for LP).** All the CS sunsets were completed. They had some interesting and complex substances. The CS will also present three documents at the Spring meeting: One on compost; a second document on compostable polymers; and lastly, a pear ester petition proposal.
 - **Compliance, Accreditation, & Certification (CACS) (AJ for KS).** The CACS will have three documents for the Spring meeting: Two documents on residue testing for a global supply chain, and a risk management document. Additionally, the CACS will also be working on a work agenda request for commercial availability.
- **Additional Items.** No additional items.
- **The meeting was adjourned**

[Previous ES Notes](#)

Future call schedule (3rd Tuesday 4:00 PM ET | 1:00 PM PT, except where noted)

January 21, 2025

February 18, 2025

March 18, 2025

April 15, 2025

May 20, 2025

June 17, 2025

July 15, 2025

August 19, 2025

September 16, 2025

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December 16, 2025

[NOSB Work Agenda](#)

Milestones

Spring 2025 Milestones	Target dates (tentative)	Weeks PTM (prior to meeting)
NOP - Publish FRN, Open public comment	~Jan 24, 2025	16 -20
NOP - Draft Spring 2025 NOSB meeting tentative agenda	Feb 7, 2025	~ 10
NOSB - Spring 2025 proposals due to NOP	Feb 13, 2025	~ 9
NOP - Post proposals	Mar 3, 2025	7.5
Public comment closes	Apr 2, 2025	3.5
NOP - Send compiled public comments to NOSB	Apr 5, 2025	3
Public comment webinars	Apr 22 & 24, 2025	1
Spring 2025 NOSB meeting - Tempe, AZ	Apr 29 - May 1, 2025	0
Final recommendations due	May 29, 2025	30 days post meeting

Fall 2025 Milestones	Target dates (tentative)	Weeks PTM (prior to meeting)
NOP - Publish FRN, Open public comment	~May 15, 2025	24
NOP - Draft Fall 2025 NOSB meeting agenda	Aug 8, 2025	~11
NOSB - Fall 2025 proposals due to NOP	Aug 20, 2025	~9
NOP - Post proposals	Sept 9, 2025	~8
Public comment closes	Oct 8, 2025	~4
NOP - Send compiled public comments to NOSB	Oct 14, 2025	~3
Public comment webinars	Oct 28 & 30, 2025	1
Fall 2025 NOSB meeting - Omaha, NE	Nov 4 - 6, 2025	0
Final recommendations due	Nov 28, 2025	~30 days post

Note: Subcommittee notes may include preliminary discussions regarding substances considered for addition to or removal from the National List. They do not represent official National Organic Program (NOP) policy/regulations or NOSB recommendations. Proposals must be voted on by the full Board, to become recommendations to the USDA. Please see the NOP website for official NOP policy, regulations, and status of substances used in organic production and handling.

**Executive Committee (EC) Meeting Notes and
Summary of National Organic Standards Board (NOSB) Subcommittee Activities
Tuesday, January 21, 2025 4:00 pm ET**

Present: Amy Bruch (ADB), NOSB Chair; Allison Johnson (AJ), NOSB Vice Chair & Handling Chair; Nate Lewis (NL), NOSB Secretary & PDS Chair; Brian Caldwell (BC), Livestock Chair; Franklin Quarcoo (FQ), Materials Chair; Kyla Smith, CACS Chair; Logan Petrey (LP), Crops Chair; Jerry D'Amore (JD) - observer; Kim Huseman (KH) observer; Mindee Jeffery (MJ) – observer; Nate Powell-Palm (NPP) - observer

Absent: None

Staff: Jennifer Tucker (JT); Erin Healy (EH); Jared Clark (JC); Michelle Arsenault (MA); Heather Kumar (HK)

Agenda

- Review December 17, 2024 notes
- Chairs Report/Questions for NOP (ADB)
 - Farewell to outgoing members
 - New members! New member training, guides, training options
 - Sharepoint questions, training (current and new members)
 - Deadline reminder - Final docs for Spring - Feb 13
 - NOSB response to Fall 2024 recommendations
 - Speakers/Panels? (Seed, Enforcement/Testing, other)
- NOP news and updates (JT/EH/JC)
 - NOP Program Updates.
- Food Technologist update (JC/HK)
- Advisory Committee Specialist (ACS) update (MA)
 - FRN for Spring meeting. Drafted. On hold
 - Submit proposals as they are completed.
- Subcommittee Reports/Updates (5 minutes each)
 - Compliance, Accreditation, & Certification (CACS) (KS)
 - Handling (HS) (AJ)
 - Materials/GMO ad hoc (MS/GMO) (FQ)
 - Policy Development (PDS) (NL)
 - Livestock (LS) (BC)
 - Crops (CS) (LP)
- Additional Items
- Adjourn

Discussion

- **December 17, 2024 notes** were approved with no changes.
- **Chairs Report/Questions for NOP (ADB)**
 - Farewell to outgoing members. The NOSB Chair thanked outgoing members, Mindee, Wood, Jerry, Kim, and Nate. The Chair opened the floor to members to express thoughts and gratitude to the “super senior” members who are rotating off.
 - New members. New member training, guides, and training options. New members were invited to shadow Subcommittee calls prior to their start date of January 24. The NOSB is excited to meet and work with the new members, and new members are looking forward to getting started. There will be opportunities for all Board members to join and participate in the new member training.

- The Chair reached out to the 5 new members about possible training dates. It has been challenging to get everyone in DC at once, so NOP is looking to schedule a virtual training. NOP will follow up with the NOSB Officers about possible dates in February.
- Sharepoint questions, training (current and new members). In various stages of progress. Some have access, some don't, and the new members will be invited soon.
- Deadline reminder - final docs for Spring are due February 13. Please turn in docs as they are completed. Several sunsets will be transferred from outgoing to incoming members.
- NOSB response to Fall 2024 recommendations sent to NOSB members January 8. Based on additional feedback, the Crops Subcommittee added a second document on compostables, in response to the NOPs memo to the Board, to clarify the outcome and recommendation.
- Speakers/Panels? (Seed, Enforcement/Testing, other). Would like to solidify this idea for the Spring 2025 meeting in Tempe Arizona. The NOSB Chair reiterated the criteria for choosing to host a panel – need, what problem are they trying to solve?, who would they invite?
- NOP news and updates (JT/EH/JC)
 - The NOP Deputy Administrator shared updates regarding the new administration and upcoming changes to her role as Deputy Administrator. Members shared thoughts and praise for her leadership and guidance, and thanked her for fostering an open collaborative, supportive relationship with Board members.
 - It's likely that all recent and pending recent regulations, such as the Market Development Rule, will be frozen until the new administration is in place. This might affect the effective date.
 - Sharepoint update. Most members have access to Sharepoint, but not all.
 - Andrea will be out on sick leave, and will not be available for Sharepoint questions, so please try to follow the written guidance.
- Members asked about the possible effects of the proposed tariffs. There is no update at the moment.
- Food Technologist update (JC/HK).
 - The research into mining methods is nearing completion, and the Food Technologist is on track to deliver the work by end of month. The Food Technologist and the Livestock Subcommittee Chair will chat about the current status on the parasiticide review progress.
- Advisory Committee Specialist (ACS) update (MA)
 - FRN for Spring meeting. The notice is drafted, but on hold. March 3 is the proposed publication date.
 - Please submit final documents as they are completed. Due date February 13.
- Subcommittee Reports/Updates (5 minutes each)
 - Compliance, Accreditation, & Certification (CACS) (KS). The CACS has two more calls before the Spring meeting deadline. They are advancing three documents: two on residue testing and another doc on Risk-Based Certification which they will vote on after the ACA training in case they have additional info to add.
 - Handling (HS) (AJ). The Handling Subcommittee is nearly done finalizing its projects for the Spring meeting. The HS is looking forward to seeing the work from the Food Technologist on mined materials.
 - Materials/GMO ad hoc (MS/GMO) (FQ). The MS is working on a discussion document on induced mutagenesis, and will complete the research priorities discussion document for the Spring meeting.
 - Policy Development (PDS) (NL). The PDS has updated and finalized the member guide updates. And will work on several PPM updates. Updates include the abbreviated sunset review process, and minor technical updates.
 - Livestock (LS) (BC). At a call two weeks ago, the LS was joined by three staff members from FDA who talked about aspirin and pain management medications. The Subcommittee found the collaboration valuable and looks forward to keeping the communication channels open. The LS

also worked on the sunset reviews for List 4 inerts and excipients. The LS will continue the conversation on excipients.

- Crops (CS) (LP). The Crops Subcommittee is working on a new proposal on compostables for the Spring meeting, aimed at clarifying the previous recommendation. The CS also has two other proposals (one a petition for pear ester and one a discussion document on compost feedstocks) and several sunsets to complete.
- Additional Items. None.
- **The meeting was adjourned**

[Previous ES Notes](#)

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