Minutes of the May 7, 2007 Perennial Ryegrass Bargaining Council Prepared by Brent Searle, OR Dept. of Agriculture

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The Perennial Ryegrass Bargaining Council met May 7, 2007 in Albany. The PRBA Board/Bargaining Team and 11 seed companies met under the supervision of the OR Dept. of Agriculture to consider 2007 crop pricing.

Seed dealers present included:

Troy Kuenzi, Mt. View Seeds
Bill Gallagher, Turf Care Supply
Mike Baker, Pennington
Jay Burr, Scotts Co.
Aaron Kuenzi, AMPAC
Rich Underwood, ISMI
Dick Olson, Pro Seeds
Gary Cooper, PSII
David Lundell, New Seed
John Maynard, American Grass Seed Producers
Brenda Landis, Allied Seed

PRBA Board/Bargaining Team present:

Tim Butler

Rvan Clark

Ron DeConinck

Dan Heuberger

Don Fisher

Terry Etzel

Dan Sandau

Dave Vanasche

Al Pohlschneideer

Norm Weisner

Paul Kirsch

Jerry Mullen

John Reerslev

Ralph Fisher

There was general consensus that perennial ryegrass acreage is gradually declining, but inventory at the present is somewhat excessive. There are a number of other cropping options that are developing for growers, including wheat and other feed grains. This will have some impact on future plantings if prices for these other commodities remain high.

The higher price levels of other grasses and commodities are a stabilizing factor in the market. In order to preserve the value in the inventory and move orderly into the new crop year, the Bargaining Council reached agreement on a recommendation to maintain the 2006 price into one half (defined as 700 lbs./acre) of the 2007 crop.

The director will consider certification of the initial recommended pricing of TournamenT®Quality perennial ryegrass seed for the 2007 crop year as follows:

- ❖ The first 700 lbs. of production per acre shall be priced at \$68/cwt for TournamenT® Quality seed produced on fields complying with State of Oregon seed certification requirements; and, \$67/cwt for TournamenT® Quality seed produced on fields not eligible to produce certified seed.
- The final price on the balance of the crop shall be determined by October 1, 2007.
- ❖ The balance of production in any seed lot that is called for and delivered/shipped to a dealer prior to the establishment of the final price will be negotiated between each grower and dealer as either: 1) the same pricing as the initial 700 lbs., or 2) the final price when established.
- ❖ Seed delivered/sold by a grower to a buyer after the final price establishment in October will be valued at the final price.

Initial pricing for the 2008 crop will be considered in the October discussions.