

Informational Minutes

Virginia Potato Board Meeting
December 6, 2022 5:00 PM
Island House Restaurant
Wachapreague, VA

Board Members Present:

Mark Hickman
Ron Bailey

Others Present:

Helene Doughty
Doug Higgins
Ursula Deitch
Heather Wheeler
Melissa Ball

Helene Doughty presented for Tom Kuhar, their study did not find any correlation between click beetle population and wireworm population the following year. They intend to put together a similar study for 2023.

Emmanuel Torres is in the beginning stages of his nematode control study so there was not much material to present. He did not attend the meeting but sent an update report with Doug Higgins, the new plant pathologist.

Vijay Singh was given money to study new herbicides in potatoes but he was not able to conduct the study. There was no good reason given though Helene did say that stands were awful at the stations research plots.

Doug Higgins was at the meeting and asked a lot of good questions. He is looking for direction as how best to serve the potato farms on the Shore. If you have any recommendations for him please reach out and let him know what disease concerns you have and would like to see him working on. His email is: doughiggins@vt.edu

Another topic discussed last night was the continuation of this board. It is becoming increasingly difficult to make a quorum for our meetings and as we all know new potato farmers are rare. This is an item that will need to be discussed at the February meeting.

The Board will meet in February of 2023 to make funding decisions.