

MEMORANDUM
OFFICE OF THE
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
COUNTY OF PLACER

TO: Honorable Board of Supervisors

FROM: Robert M. Weygandt, Supervisor District 2

DATE: October 23, 2007

SUBJECT: REVENUE SHARING – Approve appropriation of \$1,000 in Revenue Sharing monies to the High Sierra Resource Conservation District for the USDA Mandarin Synephrine Study as requested by Supervisor Weygandt (\$1,000).

ACTION REQUESTED

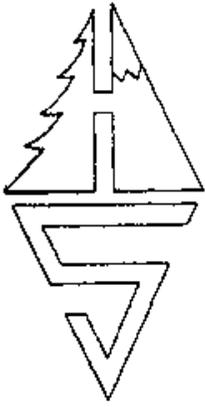
Approve appropriation of \$1,000 in Revenue Sharing monies to the High Sierra Resource Conservation District – USDA Mandarin Synephrine Study as requested by Supervisor Weygandt (\$1,000).

BACKGROUND/COMMUNITY BENEFITS: In approving the following contributions, the Placer County Board of Supervisors finds that each and every approved contribution serves a public purpose by promoting the general welfare of the County and its inhabitants therefore a benefit results to the County.

The Board of Supervisors is being asked to approve appropriations to help fund the USDA Mandarin Synephrine Study on behalf of High Sierra Resource Conservation District. The United States Department of Agriculture has expressed an interest in conducting a research project to establish the synephrine concentrations in Owari Satsuma and Clementine Mandarins grown in Placer County. The project will provide basic scientific data regarding the decongestive attributes of mandarin oranges and the information will provide the Placer County growers and the mandarin growers throughout the state an additional marketing tool for promoting a healthy diet based on fresh food.

FISCAL IMPACT

Funds are available in the Revenue Sharing budget.

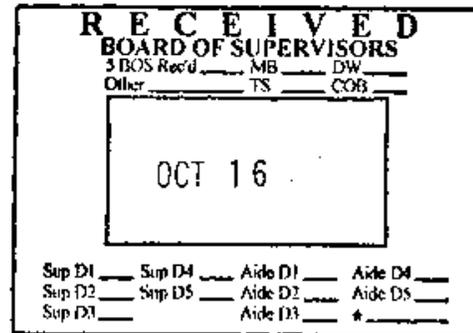


HIGH SIERRA RESOURCE CONSERVATION & DEVELOPMENT AREA

251 AUBURN RAVINE ROAD, SUITE 105, AUBURN, CALIFORNIA 95603

(530) 823-5687

October 16, 2007



Supervisor Robert Weygandt
Placer County
175 Fulweiler Avenue
Auburn, CA 95603

HAND DELIVERED

Re: Funding for USDA Mandarin Synephrine Study

Dear Supervisor Weygandt:

Over the past six months Joanne Neft has been working with the High Sierra Resource Conservation and Development (RC&D) Council to pursue funding for a research project done by the USDA Agriculture Research Service in Albany, California to establish the synephrine concentrations in Owari Satsuma and Clementine Mandarins grown in Placer County. Synephrine is an antihistamine; if found in Placer County mandarins, mandarins can be promoted as an effective remedy for symptoms of the common cold.

To date we have received a \$5,000 each commitment from two private parties as well as a \$2,500 in-kind commitment from PlacerGROWN. The total dollar cost for the USDA to provide this work is \$15,000 cash. Ms. Neft will handle the details of delivering mandarins to the USDA Albany from ten Placer County orchards on November 20, December 13 and March 4.

To help fund the Mandarin Synephrine Study we would appreciate your support of \$1,000. A check should be sent to High Sierra RC&D Council Inc., a non-profit 501(c)3 before October 31, 2007.

Thank you for your kind consideration of this request.

Sincerely

Robert W. Wiswell, Jr.

Robert W. Wiswell, Jr., President



United States Department of Agriculture

Research, Education and Economics
Agricultural Research Service

May 30, 2007

Kay Joy Barge
Project Coordinator
NRCS, USDA, High Sierra RC & D

Dear Kay,

This letter is to express our interest in conducting a research project in behalf of the High Sierra RC & D to establish the synephrine concentrations in Owari Satsuma and Clementine Mandarins grown in Placer County, California. For this study, fruit samples will be harvested at three time points (early, mid, late) from 10 locations within Placer County. A minimum of three replicate analyses from each location consisting of at least five fruits will be conducted. synephrine concentrations will be established by high performance liquid chromatography (HPLC) and/or HPLC-mass spectrometry methods. Maturity differences in the samples will be captured through determining the sugar to acid ratio for each sample. The cost of the project is \$15,000.

Analytical instrumentation available at my laboratory at the USDA, Western Regional Research Center includes five HPLC systems, two mass spectrometers, and the ancillary equipment necessary to prepare samples for analysis and measure sugar to acid ratios. My laboratory staff and myself are experienced in the analysis of citrus fruits and have previously completed analytical studies that elucidated differences among various citrus varieties in the character and concentrations of secondary metabolites important to citrus quality, including limonoids, carotenoids and anthocyanins. In addition to the laboratory resources, a USDA funded statistician is available on-site to assist in the statistical analysis of the data generated from the study. Thus the WRRC is well suited to conduct the described project.

Warmest Regards,

Andrew P. Breksa, III
Research Chemist



Pacific West Area – Western Regional Research Center
Processed-Foods Research Unit
800 Buchanan Street • Albany, CA 94710-1105
Voice: 510-559-6898 • Fax: 510-559-6949 • E-mail: apb3@wr.usda.gov

Agricultural Research – Investing in Your Future

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Project Oversight. Describe the oversight practices that provide sufficient knowledge of grant activities to ensure proper and efficient administration. Provide a resume of no more than two (2) pages for each person (contractors and sub-contractors) listed as project staff on page 14.

- **High Sierra Resource Conservation & Development Council**, a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization, has provided assistance to communities in El Dorado, Placer, Nevada, Sierra and Yuba counties to strengthen the local economy, conserve natural resources and provide a safe and secure quality of life for over 30 years. We are currently administering twelve grants with over \$700,000 in funding from Federal and State governments. We completed and passed a third party audit of our financial records by a CPA in December 2006.
- **Andrew P. Breksa III** was born and raised in Southern California. After graduating from Irvine High School he attended California State University Fullerton for two years before traveling to Japan in 1989. In Japan, he lived in the Tohoku Region and served as a church missionary. After the completion of his two year long church mission, he returned to California and attended California State University Fullerton while simultaneously working at companies including Ricoh Electronics and Beckman Instruments. In 1992, he received an ACS Nuclear Chemistry Fellowship (Brookhaven Site). At the conclusion of the summer fellowship, he moved to Utah to attend Brigham Young University. In 1994, he graduated with a B.S. in Chemistry and Asian Studies, with a minor in Japanese. He then traveled to Austin to study at the University of Texas where he was awarded a Department of Education Fellowship. He initiated his studies as a synthetic chemist in the lab of Steve Martin, but completed his PhD. in Chemistry in 1998 under the direction of Dean Appling. He then took a post-doctoral appointment at the University of Illinois in the Department of Food Science and Human Nutrition in the lab of Tim Garrow. In 2000 he joined the Diagnostic Division of Abbot Laboratories as a validation scientist and project manager. In January 2002, he took his current post as a research chemist at the USDA's Western Regional Research Center in Albany. From September to December 2002, Dr. Breksa was a visiting scientist at the Okitsu Research Station of the National Institute of Fruit Tree Science in Japan. Dr. Breksa was selected as the recipient of the 2005 Young Scientist Award of the Agricultural and Food Chemistry Division, American Chemical Society. In 2006, he was appointed lead scientist.

Dr. Breksa's current research objectives are to increase the quality and nutritional value of citrus and processed products derived from these fruits and the development of biochemical information about biologically active natural components in citrus to provide incentives for consumers to make food choices that may improve their health and nutrition and sustain the U.S. citrus industry.



Citrus Research Board

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Fax (559) 738-0607
E-Mail: info@citrusresearch.org
323 W. Oak
P.O. Box 230
Visalia, CA 93279

May 30, 2007

Department of Food and Agriculture
Contracts Office
1220 N. Street, Room 115
Sacramento, CA 95814
Attn: NOFA Number 07-0135

To whom it may concern:

The California Citrus Research Board fully supports the application for funds by Kay Joy Barge for the project titled: Mandarin Synephrine Studies in the amount of \$25,000. This project will provide basic scientific data regarding the decongestive attributes of mandarin oranges and give the industry an additional tool for promoting a healthy diet based on fresh foods.

The scientific cooperator is the best in the business in the area of food biochemical compounds. Dr. Breska has worked with the Citrus Research Board on other projects and has a proven track record of quality fundamental laboratory procedures. The information gained from this project will help the Placer County growers and the mandarin growers throughout the state in their marketing efforts. Should this project prove a positive level of synephrine exists in quantifiable amounts, the industry will pick up the funding for further data studies.

This project truly fits the profile for the Specialty Crops Enhancement program. It will help the producers and marketers reach new customers with a very positive health message.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Ted A. Batkin
President

SNOW'S CITRUS COURT

*P.O. Box 1316, Newcastle, California 95658 916.663.1884 voice 916.663.9301/FAX
snow@snowscitrus.com www.snowscitrus.com*

May 26, 2007

Department of Food and Agriculture
Contracts Office, 1220 N Street, Room 115
Sacramento, CA 95814

Re: NOFA Number 07-0135
Mandarin Orange Study

To Whom It May Concern:

This letter is to support and encourage consideration of a grant being submitted to study the benefits and makeup of the Mandarin orange, grown in the Sierra Foothills, Placer County, California.

Our citrus farm is located in Placer County, our main crop is the Mandarin orange. The Mandarin orange has been successfully grown in this area of California for the past fifty years. In the past twenty-five years, it has become recognized as a viable commercial crop for area farmers.

As a farmer, our main marketing tool is the quality of the fruit we sell. We make sure the consumer knows that the fruit is raised with traditional farm practices. As a family owned and operated farm, we are proud stewards of the land.

We know that there are benefits from eating this particular orange, from our experience and testimonies from our customers. What those particular properties are, we don't know! There is no documentation regarding the benefits of the Mandarin orange. As a commercial citrus farmer, it would greatly benefit our marketing and sales if we had support information regarding this very unique citrus. They taste good, sells! But they taste good and offer specific benefits, would provide educational and marketing information to us, and other growers in the area.

As a citrus farmer, I totally support this grant proposal to study the properties of the Mandarin orange. The benefits of this study would be useful to growers; consumers; increase sales through education; and provide valuable information to health care providers.

Most sincerely,

Ralene Snow
Snow's Citrus Court