## **Directors Update - May 31, 2023**

We had our monthly Directors meeting Wednesday and here are the important updates:

Membership - we are now up to 63 Members!

<u>Financial Information</u> - We have \$5,510 in current income from Dues. Our expenses are \$7,593 where we have paid our costs for Website Development \$4,360 and the initial FGT Project fieldwork of \$3,200. We have collected just over half of our Dues Renewals and we are working to collect the balance.

What is in front of us? - We are transitioning to using our website as a place where Members can find the latest industry information about our Research projects, Harvest Statistics, and what is working. Essentially we hope to have this as a place of community for our industry. We plan to hire a part time marketing staff person to aid in updating our website. Around the corner will be our Annual Meeting in November and an Election of new Directors. We are enjoying the excitement of a new Harvest season beginning.

<u>FGT Project Update</u> - Remember that this is our large undertaking with the help of Don Rockwood and our IFAS Team to develop a predictable model of production from our farms, both in shoots and in wood. We have selected 4 farms to participate in the project and fieldwork begins June 8th. You will find more details on our Website at the IFAS page of projects.

<u>IFAS Update</u> - We now have 5 projects with IFAS underway and Dr. Davie is leading his team to begin work. You will find progress reported on the website as well.

<u>Weekly Harvesting Statistics</u> - we hope to report this weekly (or has the data is available from the farmers) once the harvest begins. We will make the data available with analytics and commentary through our website and emails.

Next Meeting - June 27, 2023 - 2:30pm Zoom only

Our Website address is www.FBGAbamboo.com