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Arkansas State Plant Board Holds First Meeting After New Appointments

LITTLE ROCK, AR – On August 24, the Arkansas State Plant Board held its first meeting after Governor Sanders appointed eight new members on August 15. The new members are:

- Kyle Baltz, Pocahontas. Term expires August 15, 2028.
- Robert Thorne, Marion. Term expires August 15, 2028.
- David Wallace, Jr., Crawfordsville. Term expires August 15, 2028.
- Sammy Angel, Lake Village. Term expires August 15, 2028.
- Robin Ralston, Atkins. Term expires August 15, 2028.
- George Dunklin, Humphrey. Term expires August 15, 2028.
- Garrett Frost, Marianna. Term expires August 15, 2028.
- Jon Bierbaum, Lake Village. Term expires August 15, 2028.

The new members were given introductions to staff and updates on sections and programs within the Arkansas Department of Agriculture's Plant Industries Division, including the Regulatory Services Section, Quality Control Section, Pesticide Section, and Bureau of Standards. The Board also received a report from the Department's Abandoned Pesticide Collection Program in which, to date, 5.8 million pounds of abandoned pesticides have been safely collected and disposed of.

The Arkansas State Plant Board also elected the following officers:

- Chairman – Matthew Marsh
- Vice Chairman – Bruce Alford
- Secretary – Sam Stuckey

Additionally, the Board approved enforcement settlements associated with two Pest Control Program violations, 39 Pesticide Program violations, and 144 Bureau of Standards violations.

The Arkansas Department of Agriculture is dedicated to the development and implementation of policies and programs for Arkansas agriculture, forestry, and natural resources to keep its farmers and ranchers competitive in national and international markets while conserving natural resources and ensuring safe food, fiber, and forest products for the citizens of the state and nation. Visit [agriculture.arkansas.gov/](https://www.agriculture.arkansas.gov/). The Arkansas Department of Agriculture offers its programs to all eligible persons regardless of race, color, national origin, sex, age, or disability and is an Equal Opportunity Employer.