

Medicinal & Essential Oil Crops Germplasm Committee

October 26, 2010, Teleconference

The Medicinal and Essential Oils Crops Germplasm Committee (CGC) had their initial committee meeting on October 26, 2010, via conference call. The purpose of this meeting was to explain Crop Germplasm Committee protocols, define the CGC's roles/responsibilities, elect officers, determine when/where the first physical meeting will be held, discuss exploration proposals, and discuss priority genera the CGC should be responsible for.

1. **Roll Call and Introductions.** All attendees introduced themselves and gave a brief description of their job responsibilities. The meeting was very well attended (including members and ex-officio). Four NPGS sites (Ames, Corvallis, Ft. Collins, and Pullman) were represented along with Gary Kinard, Karen Williams, Ned Garvey, and Mark Bohning from National Germplasm Resources Labs (NGRL). Joe-Ann McCoy from The North Carolina Arboretum in Asheville was the interim chair. *Medicinal & Essential Oil Crops Germplasm* Committee members are marked with an asterisk; the others are ex officio members.

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| 1. Dan Barney | 15. Kim Hummer |
| 2. Mark Berhow * | 16. Gary Kinard |
| 3. Mark Bohning | 17. Valtcho Jeliazkov * |
| 4. Vicki Bradley | 18. Maria Jenderek |
| 5. David Brenner | 19. Laura Marek |
| 6. Charles Burandt
(for Rita Moraes *) | 20. Joe-Ann McCoy * |
| 7. Lyle Craker * | 21. Travis Miller * |
| 8. Dave Dierig | 22. Brindha Narasimhamoorthy * |
| 9. Trish Flaster * | 23. Lupig Qu |
| 10. Ned Garvey | 24. Kathy Reitsma |
| 11. Jean Giblette * | 25. Jim Simon |
| 12. Donna Gibson * | 26. Mark Widrechner |
| 13. Jackie Greenfield * | 27. Karen Williams |
| 14. Barbara Hellier | 28. Kathy Wright |

2. **Overview of CGC.** Mark Bohning presented an overview of the CGCs and discussed their roles and responsibilities. One role was to give advice on the new GRIN Global public system and he explained the history of the CGCs; which started in the 1970's. Gary Kinard discussed the GRIN Global project in general. The Chairs met in Geneva, NY, in July. USDA is upgrading GRIN to GRIN Global in 2012.
3. **USDA Plant Exchange Exploration Proposals.** Karen Williams discussed the USDA Plant Exchange Exploration Proposals. These are annual proposals for plant collection. An exploration proposal submitted by Joe-Ann McCoy to collect Black Cohosh (*Actaea racemosa*) in eastern North America was discussed. The committee will review the proposal and get comments back to Mark Widrechner who will compile them and forward them to Karen Williams (Plant

Exchange Office). *Please have all comments/feedback on the proposal to Mark Widrlechner no later than November 12, 2010.*

4. **Elect Officers.** The committee unanimously elected officers. Joe-Ann indicated she would send out some examples of other CGC by-laws so the committee can develop their own set of by-laws over the next several months and discuss them at the next meeting. Officers are:
 - a. Chair: Dr. Joe-Ann McCoy
 - b. Vice Chair: Dr. Valtcho Jeliaskov
 - c. Secretary: Dr. Rita Moraes

5. **First Face to Face Meeting.** The next meeting will be held in Asheville sometime next year in late spring 2011. Even though teleconferencing is possible, all members wanted a face-to-face meeting in Asheville (for those who can't attend in person, teleconferencing will also be available). The committee decided it would be a good idea to hold another teleconference to discuss this first face to face meeting. Joe-Ann McCoy will send out possible dates for the meeting in Asheville. The committee discussed other venues for future meetings. There did not seem to be any one major meeting that all attended. Some possibilities included:
 - a. American Advancement of Industrial Crops (AAIC) in Fargo, ND in September (Dave Dierig, Travis Miller, Vicki Bradley, Joe-Ann McCoy)
 - b. American Council for Medicinally Active Plants (Lyle Craker)
 - c. American Society for Horticulture Science Annual Meeting
 - d. Society for Economic botany
 - e. American Botanical Society (Mark Berhow)
 - f. American Society for Pharmacognosy (Joe-Ann McCoy)
 - g. The North Carolina Arboretum/Gaia Herbs
 - h. Central location to all

6. **Review Potential Crop List from New Crops CGC.** A lengthy discussion was held on priority genera the committee should focus on. Dave Dierig (New Crops CGC Chair) distributed a list of the medicinal genera the New Crops CGC has responsibility for. He indicated that the New Crops CGC would be fine with this group handling them if that was agreed upon. This would only be a starting point with additional genera needing to be added also. Several NPGS personnel suggested that the committee focus on a few important genera at first which would be manageable and then add additional ones if needed. One challenge this committee will have like several others is the number of genera they will be responsible for. Committee members will review the New Crops list along with considering additional genera via email prior to the next meeting. *Please send your suggestions to Joe-Ann McCoy no later than November 12, 2010.*

7. **CGC Vulnerability Statement/Report.** The committee also discussed the CGC Vulnerability Statement/Report. The importance of these reports was stressed and examples were given on how they are used. This will be one of the first projects for the committee to complete and will be discussed in detail at the next meeting. Mark Bohning will provide examples of other appropriate CGC Reports to the committee.