

Minutes of the Rice Germplasm/Crop Advisory Committee Meeting

February 23, 1986

The fourth meeting of the Rice Germplasm/Crop Advisory Committee (CAC) was held February 23, 1986 at Houston, TX, during the 21st meeting of the Rice Technical Working Group (RTWG). Members attending the meeting were J. N. Rutger (Chairman), C. N. Bollich, H. L. Carnahan, R. H. Dilday, K. A. K. Moldenhauer, F. N. Lee, M. A. Marchetti, K. S. McKenzie, J. F. Robinson, M. C. Rush, and D. H. Smith. Also present were M. A. Bohning and E. A. Nowick.

1. Introduction of guests

J. N. Rutger introduced M. A. Bohning, CAC Facilitator, USDA-ARS, Beltsville, MD, and E. A. Nowick, Geneticist, Rice Experiment Station, Crowley, LA.

2. Adoption of minutes of 3rd meeting

The minutes had been distributed by mail in November, 1984. Three actions were required by the minutes:

- a. The chairman was to obtain and distribute a list of newly imported germplasm each year. D. H. Smith supplied the lists for 1983 and 1984 and Rutger distributed them in January 1985. For 1985, D. H. Smith presented the list at the meeting (see item 6, below).
- b. The chairman was instructed to contact George White regarding the placement of a note in Diversity, on the potential hazards of illegal importation of germplasm. Through subsequent correspondence, Rutger determined that George White had previously placed a similar "Quarantine Alert" note in Diversity, and has one planned which is to be specific for rice.
- c. E. M. Nowick's plant exploration proposal must be presented to the Committee for review. This was done in November 1984, and the proposal was subsequently approved (see item 8, below).

Following the above report, it was moved by Bollich and seconded by Marchetti that the minutes be approved as distributed. Passed.

3. Interim activities

In 1984, Rutger and Bollich were asked to respond to a request from the American Organization of Seed Certification Agencies for a standard set of variety descriptors for rice. They sent the set developed at the organizational meeting of the rice CAC, which was accepted.

In October 1984, Rutgers was asked by Quentin Jones to present recent examples of germplasm accessions used in developing new commercial varieties of rice. Following a poll of breeders, Rutgers sent Jones a list of 12 varieties so developed.

In August 1985, all CACs were asked by Paul Fitzgerald, Advisor to the ARS Administrator for Germplasm, whether crop descriptors should address post-harvest and seed characteristics. For rice, Rutgers responded that our list of descriptors already included such characteristics (numbers 46-58 in the rice list).

4. Update on GRIN and CACs

Bohning reported that software for GRIN is now complete and data loading is in progress for some crops. For rice, the first material to be loaded will be the information from the rejuvenation effort, which is still in progress (see 5, below).

There are now or soon will be 40 CACs. Bohning also noted that CACs will be requested to help develop a long-range plan for plant germplasm in the US. [Note: Subsequently, on March 17, Rutgers received more information on this subject from Paul Fitzgerald, Germplasm Advisor to the Administrator. Rutgers will draft the requested report and circulate it to this Committee].

5. Rejuvenation of the rice collection

T. H. Johnston reported on the two years of work he has done on this, including the massive grow-outs at Stuttgart. Another year's (1986) work remains. He estimates that the 19,000 entries in the rice collection will be reduced to 9 or 10,000 entries, after duplicates, dead seed, etc., are eliminated.

6. New germplasm introductions

D. H. Smith distributed a list of the 30 lines introduced in 1985. Considerable discussion ensued on the difficulties of orderly introduction of new germplasm. McKenzie offered to develop a reporting procedure for new introductions. To speed the process, Smith needs more hands and greenhouse space. The Committee then passed a resolution "To request that additional funds be made available from the National Plant Germplasm System to quickly and accurately process rice introductions in an orderly fashion."

7. Updating the germplasm evaluation and enhancement plans

Dilday noted that some germplasm evaluation has been occurring not only in T. H. Johnston's rejuvenation effort but also in his (Dilday's) screening work. Following further discussion on this and other subjects, the Committee developed the following list of priorities for rice germplasm:

- a. Rejuvenation - finish the 3rd year in 1986.

- b. New introductions - accelerate as noted in item 6 above.
- c. Evaluation/enhancement plan-combine into one updated document by June 30. Dilday, Rutger and Nowick will pursue this.
- d. Communication of information via GRIN. Get the system on line.

8. Plant exploration proposal

Elaine Nowick reported that the South American germplasm collection trip was funded and that she and Don Groth were scheduled to leave on March 16 for six weeks. [Note: Subsequently, Elaine Nowick wrote to Rutger that the exploration trip had been postponed until June 1 because the Brazilian government had not had time to process the application for a collection permit. Since the appropriate collecting season will then be over, this means a one-year delay. Fortunately, the USDA Plant Exploration office expects to be able to fund the project again next year].

9. USAID-IRRI-US Scientific Liaison Officer activities

USAID has designated a Scientific Liaison Officer (SLO) for each of the 11 International Agricultural Research Centers. Rutger is the SLO for IRRI. Functions of the SLO's include becoming familiar with center scientists and programs, and serving as a contact point for other US scientists as needed. In the latter function, Rutger is trying to facilitate timely introduction of new IR varieties and other germplasm, including wild species, as needed.

10. Report of the nominating committee

Rutger had appointed a nominating committee of H. L. Carnahan (chairman), C. N. Bollich, K. S. McKenzie, and R. H. Dilday to nominate at least three new members of the Germplasm Committee, in accordance with operating procedures adopted in 1984. Carnahan reported that 3 members agreed to rotate off the committee, and 3 new people agreed to come on:

Departing members

H. L. Carnahan
M. C. Rush
K. K. Moldenhauer

New members

C. W. Johnson
D. E. Groth
B. Jackson

The report was adopted. The current membership of the Committee is attached.

11. Election of chairman

Following the installation of the new Committee, Rutger was re-elected as chairman.

12. Time and place of next meeting

Two possibilities were discussed:

- a. At the American Society of Agronomy meetings, Nov. 30-Dec. 5, 1986, in New Orleans.
- b. At the next Breeders' Conference in February 1987 (location to be decided).

Since each possibility posed some problems, no explicit decision was made. It was generally agreed that the chairman would make the decision sometime in late summer or fall.

RTWG Germplasm/CAC

1986-88

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Minutes of the 5th Rice Germplasm/Crop Advisory Committee Meeting

December 1, 1986

The 5th meeting of this committee was held December 1, 1986, at New Orleans, LA, during the American Society of Agronomy meeting. Members present were J. N. Rutger (chairman), C. N. Bollich, C. W. Johnson, R. H. Dilday, K. S. McKenzie, C. L. Pope, J. F. Robinson, D. E. Groth, D. H. Smith, C. F. Murphy, and A. K. Stoner. Guests present were L. W. Briggie, T. T. Chang, P. I. Fitzgerald, T. H. Johnston, K. Moldenhauer, E. E. Roos, P. C. Stanwood, and H. Shands.

1. Adoption of minutes of 4th meeting.

The minutes were adopted as previously distributed by mail on April 10, 1986.

2. Rejuvenation of the rice collection.

T. H. Johnston reported on this three-year effort. The 1985 (2nd year) crop is still being processed, and the 1986 (3rd year) will be processed as soon as he can get to it.

3. New germplasm introduction.

This perennial bottleneck was again discussed in detail. David Smith and George White will develop protocol to tighten up the procedures and reduce the time before germplasm is readily available. A motion was passed that, "The Committee expresses our continuing concern on the introduction and maintenance of the rice germplasm collection, and requests the authorities in charge to take appropriate steps to address these problems."

David Smith will annually provide a list of new germplasm as PI numbers are assigned. [Note: Enclosed is the list for 1986. Because of its length, only one copy per location is being distributed: Bollich, Johnson, Dilday, Jackson, McKenzie, and Pope. Please share with others at your location.]

4. Plant exploration.

Elaine Nowick and Don Groth will finally make their trip to collect wild Oryza entries in the Amazon Basin in March 1987.

5. Crop Advisory Committee report.

Dr. Fitzgerald has asked each CAC to prepare a report for his office. Rutger will prepare a draft and circulate to the Committee for review.

6. IRRI lines in the NSSL.

Dr. Chang reported that 22,000 IRRI lines have been previously sent to the NSSL for safekeeping; another 5,000 lines will be sent in the near future.

7. Time and place of the next meeting.

The next meeting of the Committee is scheduled to be at Atlanta, Georgia in November/December 1987 in conjunction with the American Society of Agronomy meetings.

RTWG Germplasm/CAC

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· = minutes, 5th meeting, held 2/23/87