

Minutes
19th Rice Crop Germplasm Committee Meeting
March 1, 1998
27th RTWG Meeting, Sparks/Reno

The 19th meeting of the Rice Crop Germplasm Committee (RCGC) was held during the 27th RTWG Meeting at John Ascuaga's Nugget Hotel in Sparks, Nevada on March 1, 1998. Committee members present were Kent McKenzie (Chair), Jeffrey Oster, Rick Cartwright, Chris Deren, David Mackill, Kirk Johnson, Farman Jodari, and Anna Myers Mc Clung.

Ex-officio members present were Harold Bockelman (NSGGC), M.A. Stoner (NGRL), and J. Neil Rutger (NRGEEC). Other interested parties or guests present were Bob Dilday (NRGEEC), Graham McLaren (IRRI), John Robinson (RREC), Fleet Lee (RREC), Dwight Kanter (MSU), Jim Oard (LA), David Kohlwey (Riviana), and Hank Beachell (Rice Tec). The business meeting was open and all parties contributed to the discussion. A summary follows:

1. CGC member information distributed for revision (McKenzie).
2. Agenda distributed (McKenzie).
3. Minutes for the 18th RCGC meeting were distributed and approved by member acclamation. (Kirk Johnson, motion; Anna Mc Clung, Second).
4. Neil Rutger updated progress on NRGEEC. It should open soon and the International Symposium on Rice Germplasm and Enhancement will be held there 8/30-9/2/98. NRGEEC is advertising for a Research Plant Molecular Geneticist and a Research Chemist.
5. M. A. Stoner gave the report on NGG and GRIN. An inadequate but appreciated \$1.5 million increase for the National Germplasm System was noted. He emphasized an effort to summarize CGC reports for legislator education and identifying critical new germplasm needs for all crops. He noted that the Rice CGC report was too general in this regard and requested specific rice germplasm needs be identified. A new GAO report on condition of the National Germplasm system was discussed. The report is GAD/RCED 988-20 and available on the Internet at www.GAO.Gov. GAD concluded that additional funding for the Germplasm System was justified. Dr. Stoner distributed the 1997 GRIN report from Mark Bohning, who was absent. Dr. Stoner said he would check on status of publication of GC reports, in response to a request from N. Rutger.
6. Harold Bockelman gave the report on the Small Grains Collection. A listing of Rice Accessions as of 2/98 was distributed. He indicated that accessions that would not successfully "grow-out" at Stuttgart, AR would not be entered. Discussion ensued. Dr. Dilday further explained that "remnant" seed of these unsuccessful accessions would be destroyed after a short holding period. Dr. Bockelman reported on initial use of GIS software to map accession collection sites as to elevation, etc. for adoption in formation. Dr. Bockelman distributed the Progress report from the Plant Germplasm

Quarantine Office prepared by Bruce Parlman and Jean French, who were not present. Much discussion ensued.

Dr. Dilday noted a serious error in this report. the 2287 accessions mentioned paragraph 4 are not "low Priority", but include important accessions from many other counties. A small number of these accessions from Bangladesh that would not grow out at Stuttgart are considered low priority at the present time. He strongly suggested that this error and other issues at the Quarantine office be discussed and corrected as soon as possible with Bruce Parlman. Bruce parlman continues to express concern in the report about lack of space and proposed changes in rice quarantine procedures. Jeff Oster volunteered to discuss issues of efficiency and space requirements with Parlman. Harold Bockelman mentioned the 50th Anniversary of the NSGC and requested historical documents. Dr. Bockelman described the increasing need for appropriate donor permission for accessions entering the NGC, under guidelines of the Convention on Biological Diversity 12/28/95. Much discussion ensued. Dr. Bockelman and Stoner agreed to draft appropriate permission letter(s) and other forms after checking with APHIS, and report back to this committee. All agreed that the primary problem involves scientist-to-scientist exchanges and permission needs to be agreed on up-front of seed exchanges.

7. Kent McKenzie gave the chair report:

- a. RGC Report was finished and posted to the GRIN site.
- b. New proposals for plant exploration are available.
- c. Minutes of the Plant Quarantine MTG, Corvallis are available.
- d. Plant Genetic Resource MGMT Conference to be held in Ames, IA. Deadline is 3/15/98. CGC chair meeting will also be held with chair travel expenses paid.

8. Kent McKenzie opened session on old business.

- a. Kent McKenzie was recognized for his outstanding efforts as chair and especially for completion of the RGC report (Neil Rutger recommendation; Committee acclamation).
- b. Perennial issue of Rice Quarantine - procedures and priorities was discussed at great length.
 - 1) APHIS wants an extensive review.
 - 2) No one is currently willing to undertake this.
 - 3) No funding is available.

Several committee members suggested the outgoing and incoming chairs approach the U.S. Rice Federation representative at this meeting to discuss funding. An estimated \$100,000 - \$200,000 would be needed for the review and study. Rice pathologists would manage the effort.

9. Kent McKenzie opened discussion of new business.

- a. Committee Goals and Questions?
 1. Current Term limits should be maintained.
 2. Permission forms for NGC inclusion as discussed.

3. Should the committee meet more often?

b) Membership

1. Should current term limits should be maintained.

2. Following members rotating off: Ken Gravois, David Hillman, Kent McKenzie.

3. Nominations

Chair submitted new member nominees Jim Oard, Karen Moldenhauer, and David Colman. No nominations were received from the floor. Motion to close nominations and vote was made by Neil Rutger, seconded by Chris Deren.

Jim Oard, Karen Moldenhauer, and David Colman were elected by committee acclamation.

Chair submitted new chair nominee David Mackill. Karen Moldenhauer was nominated from the floor by Rick Cartwright. Motion to close and vote made by Rutger/Deren.

David Mackill was elected new chair by majority ballot (tabulated by Harold Bockelman.

10. A motion to adjourn was made by Kirk Johnson and seconded by Anna McClung. Motion passed by acclamation and the 19th Rice Crop Germplasm Committee Meeting was adjourned at 4 PM, March 1, 1998.
11. After adjournment, a short presentation on the current status of ICIS (International Crop Information System) was made by Graham McLaren of IRRI. This system incorporates crop germplasm information from all available sources and identifies pedigree trees (currently of 165,000 crosses for wheat, rice, sorghum and maize). The program is available from D. McLaren and plans are underway to place it on the Internet. Dr. McLaren is seeking any interested collaborators.

Minutes Submitted by
Kent McKenzie and Rick Cartwright