

The 26th meeting of the Rice Crop Germplasm Committee met Sunday, February 26, 2006, at Woodlands Texas. Members in attendance were Karen Moldenhauer, Chair, Farmin Jodari, Dwight Kanter, Jim Ord, Jim Correll, James Gibbons, Georgia Eizenga, Harold Bockelman, Neil Rutger, Kay Simmons. Others in attendance were Clarissa Maroon-Lango, Kent McKenzie, Thomas Tai, Fleet Lee, Anna McClung, Wengui Yan, David Gealy, Yulin Jia, Junda Jiang, Robert Miller, Xueyan Sha, Donn Biegley, Kirk Johnson, Donna Mitten, Chris Deren, Jeff Oster, Carl Johnson and Lorie Bernhardt. Minutes were approved by a motion and second by Kanter and Gibbons. The crop vulnerability statement was distributed with an update of seedling diseases. Kay Simmons gave national program staff report including proposed budget, new staffing position for GSOR at DBNRRRC, international germplasm items that will be continuing in 2006, and the retirement of Dr. Stoner. Mark Bohning told of the CGC biannual meeting to be held at Ames, Iowa in 2006. Harold Bockelman update the list of rice germplasm accessions since March 2005 and clarified that only parents from mapping populations based on Crop Science registration are to be included in bank with PI number assigned. Dave Marshall was given special recognition for his work with rice quarantine. Clarissa Maroon-Lango of APHIS explained her role as leader of quarantine and indexing programs for sugarcane, grasses and rice and molecular diagnostics. Plans for 2006 include processing and growing out of 200 accessions in APHIS greenhouse. Problems encountered include a continued backlog of accessions in storage at Ft. Collins and numerous cases of non-viable seed. Discussion centered on the need for viability testing, elimination of duplicate samples and prioritizing lists. A motion was made by Rutger and seconded by Kanter to eliminate duplicates especially when not from country of origin. A second motion was made and seconded to prioritize the accession backlog in the following order: Japan, Bangladesh, and Indonesia. Rutger reported on the Rice genetic Stocks- Oryza (GSOR) collection based at USDA ARS DBNRRRC. Requests for seed samples of 8 genetic stocks and 27 Nipponbare were received in 2005. The Nipponbare is descended from T. Sasaki provided to the International Rice Gene Sequencing project. The GSOR has 24 genetic stocks for distribution. The GSOR website is <http://ars.usda.gov/Main/docs.htm?docis=8318>.

An update on state policies for growing GM rice revealed that only California and Arkansas have laws establishing guidelines for growing rice with traits of commercial impact. Jeff Oster presented update on incidence and control of Bakanae disease. Arkansas, Louisiana and Missouri have restrictions on rice seed imported from California. Yan described progress in characterization of core collection. The nomination committee reappointed Gibbons, Correll, and Eizenga for new 6 year terms. Woodruff was nominated and elected industry rep member, and Gibbons was nominated and elected Chair of the CGC for a two year term.