

MINUTES
37th RICE CROP GERMLASM COMMITTEE MEETING

Tuesday, January 24, 2017
H. Rouse Caffey Rice Research Station, Crowley, LA

The 37th meeting of the Rice Crop Germplasm Committee was held on Tuesday, January 24, 2017 in Crowley, LA in conjunction with annual meeting of the southern U.S. rice breeders. Members in attendance were Georgia Eizenga (Chair), Adam Famoso, Ed Redoña, Paul Sanchez, Xueyan Sha, Qiming Shao and Rodante (Dante) Tabien. Members participating via conference call were Harold Bockelman, Peter Bretting, Gary Kinard, Martha Malapi-Wright, Anna McClung, Karen Moldenhauer and Jack Okamuro. Member not present was Jim Correll. Guests in attendance were Christian DeGuzman and Christy Harper. The meeting was called to order. The minutes of the 36th Rice Crop Germplasm Committee held on March 1, 2016 in Galveston, TX were approved by a motion from Karen Moldenhauer, seconded by Xueyan Sha, and supported by the other committee members.

Peter Bretting from the USDA/ARS Office of National Programs, made a powerpoint presentation on the status of the National Plant Germplasm System (NPGS) which highlighted the increased number of accessions, distributions, budget and priorities for the NPGS from 2006 to 2015. Peter highlighted the challenges of flat budgets despite the increased use, doing more with less; the recent and upcoming personnel retirements; increased emphasis on crop wild relatives; and dealing with genetically engineered traits. The highest priorities are in priority order are maintenance, regeneration, documentation & data management, acquisition, and distribution, with lower priority given to characterization, evaluation and enhancement. He stressed the importance of the crop vulnerability statements, as well as, updating and reviewing the statement.

Peter concluded his presentation with an update on the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) International Treaty (IT) on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture (PGRFA) signed by Pres. G.W. Bush in 2002 and ratified by the US Senate on Sept. 28, 2016 with the U.S. becoming an IT Party soon. The IT provides germplasm access and exchange via the standard material transfer agreement (SMTA) for 64 food and feed crops including rice. Currently, over 130 nations are parties to the IT. Germplasm housed at the International Agricultural Research Centers (IARCs) including rice at IRRI (International Rice Research Institute) are covered by this SMTA. The IT will not affect U.S. NPGS domestic distribution or material acquired without a SMTA. It will guarantee access to PGRFA of other parties. Being a party, the U.S. government can more effectively represent U.S. germplasm users and make improvements to the IT and SMTA. China is not an IT party. Peter answered several questions to clarify the implications for the IT and the SMTA for the group.

Gary Kinard, USDA/ARS National Germplasm Resources Lab, reported Dr. Melanie Schori, a Botanist, joined the lab and is working with Dr. John Wiersema in curating GRIN (Germplasm Resources Information Network) -Taxonomy. GRIN-Global is now in place and additional features are being added. Gary reported GRIN-Global was well received and is being used by

several other genebanks throughout the world. Gary informed the group that proposals for the Plant Exploration and Exchange Program for FY2018 are due July 21, 2017.

Harold Bockelman, Curator of the Small Grains Collection, reported on the status of the rice germplasm collection including nine new accessions of which eight have a PVP. Currently, there are 19,066 accessions in the collection and there were 1,327 requests for seed. Harold thanked Anna McClung and staff for their efforts to do the routine grow-outs of the collection at Stuttgart and obtain molecular data. Anna mentioned 24 markers related to blast, quality and subpopulation group have been run on 2,900 accessions which were grown out in the past few years. Harold confirmed the accessions imported from Brazil are covered by the SMTA.

Martha Malapi-Wright, USDA/APHIS Plant Germplasm Quarantine Program (PGQP) reported that 110 accessions were imported from IRRI (International Rice Research Institute) of which 107 were released from quarantine and shipped to the importer. The PGQP is implementing next generation sequencing (NGS) technologies through funding from the FY17 Farm Bill. Martha visited labs to see how to best implement this technology as part of the PGQP.

Anna McClung, USDA/ARS Dale Bumpers National Rice Research Center (DBNRRC) stated the Genetic Stocks-*Oryza* (GSOR) is part of the NPGS and included in GRIN-Global but distributed from the DBNRRC. GSOR currently has 33,951 entries and has shipped 13,713 entries with about half to domestic customers and half internationally. A seed increase of the 1,300 Rice Diversity Panel 2 (RDP2) accessions was done at Stuttgart. There were about 290 with colored bran and about 800 will be available for distribution with a SMTA. The “*Tropical Japonica* Core Collection” consisting of about 700 accessions, will be increased in the field in 2017, phenotyped, genotyped and distributed in 20 seed amounts. This should make the collection more useful to breeders. A *de novo* synthesis of Carolina Gold as a reference sequence is being done in collaboration with Doreen Ware, USDA/ARS Cold Spring Harbor and Brian Scheffler, USDA/ARS Stoneville, MS.

Xueyan Sha made the motion to adjourn, Karen Moldenhauer seconded the motion, and the motion was supported by all members.

Appendix I. CGC members updated after March 1, 2016 business meeting with year term ends in parentheses.

<p>Dr. Georgia Eizenga, Chair (2018) USDA-ARS Dale Bumpers National Rice Research Center 2890 Hwy 130 E Stuttgart, AR 72160 Georgia.Eizenga@ars.usda.gov</p>	<p>Dr. James Correll (2018) Plant Pathology Dept. University of Arkansas Fayetteville, AR 72701 jcorrell@uark.edu</p>
<p>Dr. Adam Famoso (2022) H. Rouse Caffey Rice Research Station Louisiana State University 1373 Caffey Road Rayne, LA 70578 AFamoso@agcenter.lsu.edu</p>	<p>Dr. Farman Jodari (2020) Calif. Coop. Rice Res. Foundation P.O. Box 306 Biggs, CA 95917-0306 fjodari@crrf.org</p>
<p>Dr. Karen Moldenhauer (2022) Rice Research and Extension Center University of Arkansas 2900 Hwy 130 E Stuttgart, AR 72160 kmolden@uark.edu</p>	<p>Dr. Edilberto (Ed) Redoña (2018) Delta Branch Experiment Station Mississippi State University 82 Stoneville Rd. P.O. Box 197 Stoneville, MS 38776 ed.redona@msstate.edu</p>
<p>Dr. Paul Sanchez (2022) Calif. Coop. Rice Res. Foundation P.O. Box 306 Biggs, CA 95917-0306 PLSanchez@crrf.org</p>	<p>Dr. Xueyan Sha (2020) Rice Research and Extension Center University of Arkansas 2900 Hwy 130 E Stuttgart, AR 72160 xsha@uark.edu</p>
<p>Dr. Qiming Shao (2018) Crop Production Service 676 County Rd 324 El Campo, TX 77439 qiming.shao@cpsagu.com</p>	<p>Rodante (Dante) Tabien (2018) Texas Ag Exp. Station 1509 Aggie Drive Beaumont, TX 77713 retabien@ag.tamu.edu</p>
<p>Dr. Harold Bockelman, Ex-officio USDA-ARS National Small Grains Collection 1691 S 2700 W Aberdeen, ID 83210 Harold.Bockelman@ars.usda.gov</p>	<p>Dr. Gary Kinard, Ex-officio Research Leader USDA-ARS National Germplasm Resources Laboratory Beltsville, MD Gary.Kinard@ars.usda.gov</p>

<p>Dr. Martha Malapi-Wight, Ex-officio Lead Plant Pathologist - Poaceae Quarantine USDA-APHIS Plant Germplasm Quarantine Program Bldg. 580, BARC-East Beltsville, MD 20705 martha.malapi-wight@aphis.usda.gov</p>	<p>Dr. Anna M. McClung, Ex-officio USDA-ARS Dale Bumpers National Rice Research Center 2890 Hwy 130 E Stuttgart, AR 72160 Anna.Mcclung@ars.usda.gov</p>
<p>Dr. Jack Okamuro, Ex-officio USDA-ARS, NPS Nat. Prog. Leader, Gen'l Biological Sci., Plant Physiology & Cotton 5601 Sunnyside Avenue Beltsville, MD 20705-5139 Jack.Okamura@ars.usda.gov</p>	