

## **Soybean Germplasm Committee**

Minutes of meeting 18 February 2008

MOTION to approve the agenda was made, seconded, and approved.

The committee discussed an application by Monsanto Company for 15 conventional soybean varieties to be considered for donation to the Soybean Germplasm Collection. These varieties were widely grown and have commonly contributed as parents in the pedigree of newer varieties. The varieties range from relative maturity 1.6 to 6.7. Several contain resistance to multiple races of *Phytophthora* root rot.

MOTION to accept all 15 varieties to the germplasm collection was made, seconded, and approved.

Discussions were made regarding amendments to the bylaws:

BREEDERS to serve 6-year terms

ENTOMOLOGISTS, PHYSIOLOGISTS, MOLECULAR GENETICISTS, etc. serve 3 years.

Dr. Randy Nelson led discussions considering the identification of a CORE COLLECTION of the germplasm collection, based upon qualitative and quantitative characters, and providing an opportunity to search within the Core during GRIN queries.

Germplasm Exchange: Dr. Randy Nelson indicated active programs are current with Vietnam; also USA repatriated ~1,000 accessions to S. Korea upon the formation of a new gene bank in that country. This will likely lead to increased germplasm exchange with that region.

Discussions led to the decision for the committee to draft a letter of support to APS and to USB in support of a soybean pathogen collection, which would support standardization of disease screenings, enhancing disease resistance breeding efforts.

Dr. Randy Nelson reminded the group that seed increases have been made for the HG-type indicated lines for SCN resistance. Researchers should feel comfortable in requesting approx. 500 to 1,000 seeds of these materials when needed.

A detailed report of accession activity was provided by Ester Peregrine and Randy Nelson:

- 21,402 seed lots distributed from among 11,155 accessions in the collection
- Dr. Ted Hymowitz donated all stored perennial Glycine species, representing an additional 100 viable seed accessions to the collection
- Dr. Prakash Arelli has begun SCN screening of 1,600 accession that have not yet been screened
- Efforts to reach acceptable MTA language is in progress with AVRDC Taiwan and with the Chinese Ministry of Agriculture.

Committee members volunteered their service to three standing subcommittees: Acquisition, Evaluation, and Operations. Dr. Istvan Rajcan accepted the appointment to serve as Chair for 2008 and 2009, with Vince Pantalone serving as vice-Chair during that period.