**Small Fruit Crop Germplasm Committee Agenda**

October 15, 2024 – 3 PM (EST)

NCCC-212 Annual Meeting

Hybrid format with Zoom option

1. CGC Administrative
	1. Roll Call
		1. *Jeff Neyhart (Chair), Beatrice Amyotte, Nahla Bassil, Jill Bushakra, Wendy Hoashi-Erhardt, Massimo Iorizzo, Gary Kinard, Kim Lewers, Jack Okumura, Tim Reinhart, Gina Sideli, Carolyn Scagel, Barbara Smith, Phil Stewart, Ioannis Tzanetakis, Gayle Volk, Courtney Weber, Juan Zalapa*
	2. Approved minutes from November 2023 meeting posted on-line.
	3. Web site: <https://www.ars-grin.gov/CGC>
		1. Check vulnerability statements, evaluation priority lists, and descriptor lists and send me e-mails to update or revise.
		2. Check your membership information and update by emailing Gary.Kinard@usda.gov
			1. *Gary will provide Jeff with a live spreadsheet to update members.*
	4. Membership
		1. 22 current members and 11 guests
			1. *A “guest” is defined as ex officio and ONP participants*
		2. 3 members are up for re-election; ballots will be distributed by the end of the month
			1. *One member up for reelection has left the small fruits realm.*
		3. Proposed candidate member: Jenyne Loarca, new Research Geneticist (ARS) in OR
			1. *Carolyn suggests Scott Lukas from Oregon State University*
	5. Next Meeting Venue will focus on proposals in Spring 2025
		1. Evaluation Research Priority List – Anything to add or give higher priority?
			1. *Likely that funding for Evaluation will be discontinued after 2025.*
2. Crop Vulnerability Statements and “Quad Charts”
	1. Need to be updated every five years to be eligible for germplasm evaluation funds. Can publish in Genetic Resources and Crop Evolution or HortScience, and then post on the CGC website.
	2. **Statements that require updates:**
		1. ***Ribes* Crop Vulnerability Statement**
		2. ***Fragaria*, *Rubus*, Blueberry, and Cranberry Quad Charts**
	3. Statements that are updated:
		1. *Fragaria* Crop Vulnerability Statement (revised 2023)
		2. *Rubus* Crop Vulnerability Statement (revised 2023)
		3. *Vaccinium*
			1. Blueberry (revised 2023)
			2. Cranberry (revised 2023)
	4. Please review and suggest revisions. Statements are available on the CGC website: <https://www.ars-grin.gov/CGC>.
3. CGC germplasm evaluation grants and progress reports
4. Our 2024 nominated evaluation proposal “Identifying cranberry germplasm with resistance to blunt-nose leafhopper feeding, a vector for false-blossom disease” was unfortunately not selected for funding.
	* 1. *Courtney asked how many proposals were funded and how many were submitted. Gayle says 10-12 out of about 20 submitted. Beatrice asked if there was any feedback on the proposals that were rejected. Gayle said no, that the proposals were discussed in a meeting.*
5. Next call for proposals anticipated Spring 2025
6. **Please include in the acknowledgements, “Partial funding for the evaluations were provided by the USDA/ARS National Plant Germplasm System.”**
7. National reports
	1. Gayle Volk: Office of National Programs (ONP) report
		1. *Gayle’s detail will be ending soon and the new NPL will be starting, though the announcement has not been made public. Gayle summarized the status of the NPGS in terms of number of accessions (620K, 93% in seed, 7% clonal, 16K species), the distribution numbers (200K items, reduced from past numbers because of implementing the Non-Research Request (NRR) tool, the lack of sufficient funding to maintain some of the collections. Gayle is trying to change the narrative from “order from GRIN” to “Collaborate with NPGS” and is encouraging that the NPGS be included in grants to get money to sites. She suggests breeders and NPGS work together to make sure that the data on GRIN is what breeders need and how best to manage the collections. She asks that genetic and phenotypic data is provided on NPGS material. She requests CGC guidance.*
		2. *She spoke about GRIN-U and the resources available through the website and YouTube channel. Don’t take genebanks for granted!!*
	2. Carolyn Scagel and Nahla Bassil: National Clonal Germplasm Repository - Corvallis (NCGR) report
		1. *See .ppt, but key points: Plants have been outside without proper protection for nearly two years. We are concerned about having clean plants to move into the new screenhouses when construction is complete hopefully in the beginning of 2025. We may be looking for help on plant cleanup.*
	3. Gary Kinard: National Germplasm Repository Lab Beltsville (NGRL) report
		1. *See .doc report, but key points: Two collecting trips funded, Nahla’s Canada trip and Jeff’s New England trip. Jeff’s has not yet happened. New GRIN-Global tools: taxonomy search for information on moving plant material with information coming from APHIS and the National Plant Board; new search for plant parts if the photos are labeled; Citation search on accession detail page; Frequency counts; Seasonal availability; SMTA requirements; NGRL has 40% fewer positions and $300K fewer dollars, please get stakeholders to advocate for funding for NPGS.*
8. Small-Fruits Breeding Programs – Any at risk?
	1. USDA-ARS Blueberry in Chatsworth, NJ
		1. *This position will be filled. CGC can help support new breeders with institutional knowledge.*

*Meeting adjourned at 1 PM PT / 4 PM ET*

*Minutes respectfully submitted, Jill Bushakra*