

From: LeaveTraq@TAMMVS1.TAMU.Edu
To: wlr@tam.u.edu
Subject: LeaveTraq Notification - Document 2051737 Approved
Date: Monday, October 05, 2009 8:30:19 PM

Your request for vacation leave beginning 10/05/09
has been approved by David Baltensperger.

The current document status is Completed.

This is an automated message from the TAMUS LeaveTraq System.
Please do not reply. For assistance, contact your designated leave
administrator.

From: [Stelly_David](#)
To: [Bill_Rooney](#)
Cc: [Stelly_David](#)
Subject: Re: milestones, justification
Date: Tuesday, October 06, 2009 5:29:31 AM

It is close to \$200k, \$192K is the exact estimate. Table below is from the excel file (Budget detail worksheet) ; columns at right are the five years, in sequences, left to right.

David

I am also not clear on travel expenses for research. The discussion about travel near the end of the last meeting seemed to suggest those were not be included in the proposal budget. I have not put anything for them in the budget.

On Oct 5, 2009, at 6:01 PM, Bill Rooney wrote:

How much are we short on equipment fund to do what is needed?

It seems that this is a core of the proposals and it should get funded.

Bill

From: Stelly_David [mailto:stelly@tamu.edu]
Sent: Monday, October 05, 2009 3:05 PM
To: Shayna Spurlin
Cc: Stelly_David; Helms, Adam; Simpson, Shay; Mullet, John E; Patricia Klein; Gould Mike; Nael El-Hout; Juerg Blumenthal; Avant, Bob; Rooney Bill
Subject: Re: milestones, justification

Hi Shayna,

I left a brief message on your phone. The matter you mention is important too, but in this case, I think that a bigger matter will be our ability to use some of the IDC toward acquisition of equipment to be used in completing the proposed research. There is not room for it in the regular budget. In such situations, the normal solution is to have authorization from administration to use some of the IDC for this purpose. I would think that Bob Avant, Bill McCutchin, Bill Dugas and Brett Giroir all would concur on the merits of such an investment, so I think it would be reasonable for us to list those items for purchase under cost-sharing, using some of the IDC funds from the project, INFORM OUR ADMIN OF THAT INCLUSION (some people try to "sneak" that sort of stuff through), and let our Administration sign off on them.

If we can't acquire the equipment, then we probably need to back off of the wide hybridization a lot and delete some of the core aims.

I am temporarily done with my visitors and near the phone 5-2745 and computer.

David

On Oct 5, 2009, at 7:35 AM, Spurlin, Shayna wrote:

Thanks, Dave!

If the equipment in question has a useful life of more than 1 year and costs \$5000 or more, then it is listed in the equipment category and it is exempt from IDC.

Does that help? If you need more information, give me a call when you get a chance this afternoon.

Shayna Spurlin
Texas AgriLife Research
979.845.2364 office
979.575.2070 mobile
979.458.2155 fax

Stelly_David wrote:

Adam and Shayna,

Attached: Excel file containing
Budget,
Budget details,
Milestones and
Annualized schedule

I do not have the Budget justification done. I need to know if some IDC will be applicable to equipment needs -- these are needed; if not, I need to delete some work items. I will complete the budget justification this afternoon. I have guests all morning. You can try to reach me at lab, if urgent (tell that to whomever answers the phone).

David

On Oct 4, 2009, at 2:44 PM, Bill Rooney wrote:

Adam and Shayna:

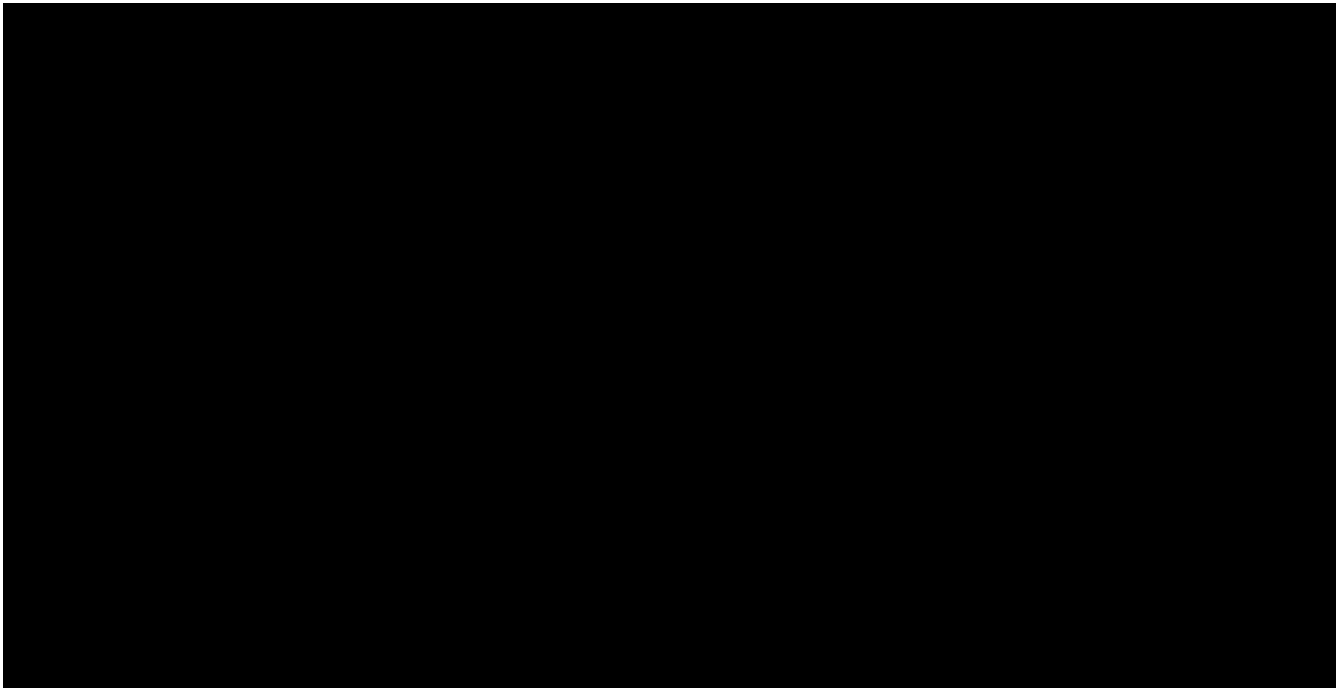
I sent a budget last week; attached you'll find a justification, milestones and timelines. Deliverables are still in the original proposal provided to DARPA in September.

These can certainly be changed; so feel free to do so as needed. I will be out for vacation this week but I will check my e-mail regularly.

Regards,

Bill

Dr. William L. Rooney
Professor, Sorghum Breeding and Genetics
Chair, Plant Release Committee
Texas A&M University
College Station, Texas 77843-2474
979 845 2151
<Budget Justification - Rooney.doc><Milestones Timelines and Deliverables -
Rooney.doc>





From: gscrop@aol.com
To: wlr@tamu.edu
Subject: Re: Sorghum conversion program
Date: Tuesday, October 06, 2009 7:39:09 AM

Dear Dr. Rooney

Are cms and restorer lines included in the Sorghum Conversion program?

Can you send me a passport of details for the 800 accessions?

Thank you
BR
Bob

-----Original Message-----

From: Bill Rooney <wlr@tamu.edu>
To: gscrop@aol.com
Sent: Fri, Oct 2, 2009 3:10 pm
Subject: RE: Sorghum conversion program

When he returns, please have him call me.

Regards,

Bill

Dr. William L. Rooney
Professor, Sorghum Breeding and Genetics
Chair, Plant Release Committee
Texas A&M University
College Station, Texas 77843-2474
979 845 2151

From: gscrop@aol.com [<mailto:gscrop@aol.com>]
Sent: Friday, October 02, 2009 3:08 PM
To: wlr@tamu.edu
Subject: Re: Sorghum conversion program

Hi Bill

Thanks for your response

Is there a list of some type, with information about the material, that would help in the selection.

The expert in the project is unavailable for a few days. He may want all but I will have to check.

I will get back to you.

BR
Bob

-----Original Message-----

From: Bill Rooney <wlr@tamu.edu>
To: gscrop@aol.com
Sent: Fri, Oct 2, 2009 2:36 pm
Subject: RE: Sorghum conversion program

Robert:

We have most of the converted lines; there are over 800 of them. Are you looking for all of them?

While the lines are publicly available, preparing and packaging seed of 800 accessions is not a minimal task. It would require a processing fee of approximately \$500.

If you are looking for only a few, we can provide those at no charge.

Let me know what you are interested in.

Regards,

Bill

Dr. William L. Rooney
Professor, Sorghum Breeding and Genetics
Chair, Plant Release Committee
Texas A&M University
College Station, Texas 77843-2474
979 845 2151

From: gscrop@aol.com [<mailto:gscrop@aol.com>]
Sent: Friday, October 02, 2009 2:33 PM
To: wlr@tamu.edu
Subject: Sorghum conversion program

Dear Dr. Rooney

I was told to contact you by Dr. Jeff Dahlberg.

I am interested in obtaining the accessions from the Sorghum Conversion Program.

Can you help me with this request?

I will gladly answer any questions you may have.

I look forward to your reply.

Thank you

Robert Slings
GM of G and S Crop Services

From: [Zak, Kendra](#)
To: lrooney@tamu.edu; wlr@tamu.edu; [Turner, Nancy](#); [Lunt, David](#); [Sawyer, Jason](#); [Wickersham, Tryon A.](#); [Simpson, Shay](#); [Avant, Bob](#); smpall@yahoo.com; [McCutchen, Bill](#); [Helms, Adam](#); [Spurlin, Shayna](#)
Cc: [Slovacek, Jackie](#)
Subject: FMC Potential Partnership Meeting
Date: Tuesday, October 06, 2009 11:33:49 AM

All,

Todd McGee with FMC BioPolymer will be on campus at the Corporate Relations Conference Room in the Centeq building on Tuesday October 20th from 8-2pm. I have the conference line reserved for those off campus. Below are his interest. This could have significant sponsored research potential. Please make arrangements to attend. I will make individual contact on what topic areas you will need to discuss.

Please let me know your availability by tomorrow Wednesday October 7th at 5 pm. Ie: if you have a class that day I need to schedule around.

From Todd:

Where I would see next steps going, for example with sorghum, is to understand how we can extract from sorghum the fiber, minerals and protein and potentially supply it and some revised recipes for food companies. Might be very interesting for companies supplying things like muscle milks, meal replacement systems, gluten free baked goods, etc.

Only addition if not already part of it, would be to cover anything you know about nutrients in seaweeds (properties, potential health and nutrition benefits, extract-ability).

Fundamentally we supply food and nutraceutical ingredients and delivery systems, so anything that will help our customers add additional value to their products are a potential fit for us.

Thank you,

Kendra Zak
Administrative Assistant
AgriLife Corporate Relations
1500 Research Pkwy Suite 100
College Station, TX 77845
office: 979-845-4281
cell: 512-304-5373
fax: 979-458-2155
kzak@tamu.edu

From: [Rene Clara](#)
To: [Bill Rooney](#)
Cc: [Joan Frederick](#)
Subject: Expenses report
Date: Tuesday, October 06, 2009 12:52:43 PM

Dear Dr. Bill,

This morning I sent to you the expenses report of PCCMCA meeting of Vilma, Salvador, Mario Jaco and René Clará, by *EMS* courier.

We all spend the received money, neither return nor restoration money. Jaco bought the ticket, but it did not use it, because at the last hour the CENTA Director did not authorize his trip. This ticket is available in CENTA.

Vilma and Salvador did not use the funds for buy of tickets of plane because they obtained it of FOCAGRO.

Regards,

René Clará V.
INTSORMIL
Host Regional Coordinator

CENTA, Apdo. Postal 885,
San Salvador, El Salvador, C.A.
Tel. (503) 2302 0239 - (503) 7815 2238 cel.
Fax: (503) 2302 0239

E-mail: reneclara@yahoo.com

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<http://downloads.yahoo.com/ieak8/?l=e1>

From: [Abernathy, Chris](#)
To: [Bill Rooney](#)
Cc: ["Payne Burks"](#)
Subject: RE: 2008 Sorghum Trials
Date: Tuesday, October 06, 2009 1:34:13 PM

Bill,

Thanks for the dataset.

One question so far...is Blumenthal the PI for Corpus Christi and you for College Station?

Thanks,
Chris

From: Bill Rooney [mailto:wlr@tamu.edu]
Sent: Tuesday, October 06, 2009 6:08 AM
To: Abernathy, Chris
Cc: 'Payne Burks'
Subject: RE: 2008 Sorghum Trials

Chris:

My apologies in the delay to get you this information, but as usual everything takes longer than it should. I'm sending you both raw data and analyzed data from the 2008 trials on sorghum. While there is some variation from location to location, there is a core set of information that should be of value. What I don't have compiled would be relative weather data. Don't know if you need/want it, but we can request it from the cooperators when we start collecting 2009 data (which will be pretty soon now).

Take a look – if you have questions, please let us know.

Regards,

Bill

From: Abernathy, Chris [mailto:abernathycr@ornl.gov]
Sent: Tuesday, August 18, 2009 6:52 AM
To: Bill Rooney
Cc: 'Payne Burks'
Subject: RE: 2008 Sorghum Trials

Thanks Bill. That is great.

DoE is pushing for almost anything at this point, but is VERY aware of the impact the

funding delays caused.

Chris

P.S. hooray for grad students!

From: Bill Rooney [mailto:wlr@tamu.edu]
Sent: Tuesday, August 18, 2009 7:45 AM
To: Abernathy, Chris
Cc: 'Payne Burks'
Subject: RE: 2008 Sorghum Trials

Chris

We have data for 2008 - we've been compiling it in bits and pieces from the cooperators this summer. Because I was doing such a poor job (didn't have time), I've assigned a graduate student to compile the data for both 2008 and 2009. He will be in contact with the data as soon as I have a chance to approve what he has.

regards,

bill

Dr. William L. Rooney
Professor, Sorghum Breeding and Genetics
Chair, Plant Release Committee
Texas A&M University
College Station, Texas 77843-2474
979 845 2151

-----Original Message-----

From: Abernathy, Chris [mailto:abernathycr@ornl.gov]
Sent: Monday, August 17, 2009 9:59 AM
To: William Rooney (wlr@tamu.edu)
Subject: 2008 Sorghum Trials

Bill,

Were there any sorghum trials planted in 2008? If so, were data collected on them? If not, are there trials in place now for 2009?

I am trying to determine which trials I can expect data for 2008.

Thanks for your help,

-Chris

Chris Abernathy
Environmental Project Manager
Environmental Sciences Division

Oak Ridge National Laboratory

(865) 241-5877 (office); (865) 576-9939 (fax)

From: [Slovacek, Jackie](#)
To: [Mullet, John E.](#); [Bill Rooney](#)
Cc: [McCutchen, Bill](#)
Subject: FW: Confidential
Date: Tuesday, October 06, 2009 3:31:46 PM
Importance: High

See email below:

Bill Mc is available next week for a two hour lunch on Monday, Oct 12th 11-1 pm, or Tuesday, Oct 13th 11-1 pm.

Please let me know if either of these days work for you.

Thanks
Jackie

-----Original Message-----

From: McCutchen, Bill
Sent: Monday, October 05, 2009 6:18 PM
To: Slovacek, Jackie
Subject: Fw: Confidential

Can you set a 2hr of campus lunch with Bill and John please?

Bill

----- Original Message -----

From: Bill Rooney <wlr@tamu.edu>
To: McCutchen, Bill; Mullet, John E.
Sent: Sat Oct 03 08:26:59 2009
Subject: RE: Confidential

Bill, I'd be happy to discuss integration into the research programs.....

Bill r.

-----Original Message-----

From: McCutchen, Bill [<mailto:bmccutchen@tamu.edu>]
Sent: Saturday, October 03, 2009 8:01 AM
To: wlr@tamu.edu; Mullet, John E.
Subject: Confidential

Bill and John,

First I want to say thanks for your leadership and guidance not only for DARPA, but the significant accomplishments that you have achieved in bioenergy over the years. It has been challenging and imperfect, but it has been fun and rewarding.

IF we are successful in securing the DARPA funding, could I ask you to consider funding a graduate student that might focus on the potential to transfer insect, herbicide and/or disease traits from sorghum to sorcane? I would also like to ask you a favor and allow me to engage and provide oversight of this student that would be an student

appointment in one or both of your labs.

If you possible, I would like to discuss in person with both of you.

Thanks for considering.

Bill

From: [John Mullet](#)
To: [Slovacek, Jackie](#)
Cc: [Bill Rooney](#)
Subject: Re: Confidential
Date: Tuesday, October 06, 2009 4:09:54 PM
Importance: High

Jackie,

I will be tied up through the end of next week getting the DARPA project done and then heading to the Chevron meeting Wed-Friday next week.

Need to check Bill Rooney's schedule because he is traveling a lot right now.

John

On Oct 6, 2009, at 3:31 PM, Slovacek, Jackie wrote:

- > See email below:
- >
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- > 12th
- > 11-1 pm, or Tuesday, Oct 13th 11-1 pm.
- >
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- >
- > Thanks
- > Jackie
- >
- >
- >
- > -----Original Message-----
- > From: McCutchen, Bill
- > Sent: Monday, October 05, 2009 6:18 PM
- > To: Slovacek, Jackie
- > Subject: Fw: Confidential
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- > Can you set a 2hr of campus lunch with Bill and John please?
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- > Bill
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> If you possible, I would like to discuss in person with both of you.
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> Thanks for considering.
>
> Bill
>

From: [Slovacek, Jackie](#)
To: [Mullet, John E.](#)
Cc: [Bill Rooney](#)
Subject: RE: Confidential
Date: Tuesday, October 06, 2009 4:16:41 PM

I wonder if this lunch can wait until the first week of November? What do you guys think? Bill Mc is out the last week in October.

I will wait to hear from Rooney.

Jackie

Jackie Slovacek
Assistant to the Associate Director
Texas AgriLife Research
113 Jack K Williams Administration Bldg
College Station, Texas 77843-2142

979.845.7980
979.458.4765 Fax

-----Original Message-----

From: John Mullet [<mailto:jmullet@tamu.edu>]
Sent: Tuesday, October 06, 2009 4:10 PM
To: Slovacek, Jackie
Cc: Bill Rooney
Subject: Re: Confidential
Importance: High

Jackie,

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John

On Oct 6, 2009, at 3:31 PM, Slovacek, Jackie wrote:

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> To: wlr@tamu.edu; Mullet, John E.
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> If you possible, I would like to discuss in person with both of you.
>
> Thanks for considering.
>
> Bill
>

From: [Pam Wilhelm](#)
To: [Bill L Rooney](#)
Cc: [Sonnie Feagley](#)
Subject: last years Cropping Systems money
Date: Tuesday, October 06, 2009 4:58:36 PM

Afternoon Dr. Rooney,

You had many many blanket travel P.O.'s on this account that were established last September. I had to release them because they cannot be used for travel after 9-1-09. So you now have an unspent balance in this account of \$9169. I suggest that you do not use blanket P.O.'s for this very reason. As a rule we stopped doing that several years ago.

From: [Stelly David](#)
To: [Hodnett George](#); [Matthew Bartek Scott](#); [Rooney Bill](#)
Cc: [Stelly David David M.](#)
Subject: wide hybrids in the field
Date: Tuesday, October 06, 2009 9:10:13 PM

What is the plan for wide hybrids grown as seedlings in the 2009 field: unselected, selections at various levels and/or traits?

Is there a plan to collect and plant out propagules next year from just a few, or a relatively large number (%) of the 2009 seedlings. Criteria? (performance of from veg may correlate poorly with that of seedlings, or do we have data for/against that already?)

David

From: [McCutchen, Bill](#)
To: [Gary C Peterson](#); [Baltensperger, David](#); [Jaroy Moore](#); [Steve Brown](#)
Cc: [Bill L Rooney](#); [Schuerman, Peter L.](#); [Hurley, Janie C.](#); [Dugas, William](#)
Subject: RE: Rosenow Release Observation
Date: Wednesday, October 07, 2009 7:36:00 AM
Attachments: [image001.png](#)

Gary,

Can I assume that these are parental lines from the Rosenow nursery which are publicly available? If so, then we certainly keep them publicly available, but with all other material we should require an MTA, per our existing System policy. I am going to forward this list to Janie and OTC so that they have a record as well.

Thanks for the heads up.

Bill

--

Bill F. McCutchen, Ph.D.
Associate Director
Texas AgriLife Research
Texas A&M University System
113 Jack K. Williams Administration Building
2142 TAMU College Station, TX 77843-2142
979-845-8488 Tel
979-458-4765 Fax
bmccutchen@tamu.edu

From: Gary C Peterson [<mailto:g-peterson1@tamu.edu>]
Sent: Monday, October 05, 2009 10:44 AM
To: Baltensperger, David; Jaroy Moore; Steve Brown; McCutchen, Bill
Cc: Bill L Rooney
Subject: Rosenow Release Observation

Bill,

A list of breeding lines (see attached) from the Rosenow breeding program was distributed to many sorghum scientists in August. The breeding lines represent the range of germplasm in that program. Individuals evaluating the lines at either College Station or Lubbock were told the material would be available with an MTA.

I have classified the lines for status - released, unreleased, etc - and whether an MTA is appropriate. Bill Rooney has looked at the list and the status/recommendation.

If there are any questions please call.

Regards,

Gary

Gary C. Peterson
Professor
Texas AgriLife Research & Extension Center
1102 E. FM 1294
Lubbock, TX 79403
g-peterson1@tamu.edu or gpeterso@ag.tamu.edu
tel: 806-746-4019
fax: 806-746-6528

From: [Nilesh Dighe](#)
To: [Ed Wolfrum](#)
Cc: [Bill Rooney](#)
Subject: Visit to NREL
Date: Wednesday, October 07, 2009 7:47:45 AM

Ed-

Dr. Rooney mentioned me that he had a discussion with you about me coming over to NREL in November, 2009 to scan some liquid samples on your new FOSS instrument. Would it still be possible for me to come in November? If so, could you please let me know the available dates that I can use the instrument. I like to scan around 250 samples, so please take into account the number of days needed to process these many samples, when assigning the potential dates.

I would appreciate if you could let me know the available dates at your earliest.

Thanks.

Best Regards,
Nilesh

From: [John Mullet](#)
To: [Adam Helms](#); [Bob Avant](#)
Cc: [Bill McCutchen](#); [Bill Rooney](#); [Stelly David Stelly](#)
Subject: Re: Highest Priority: DARPA Energy Crops
Date: Wednesday, October 07, 2009 7:56:07 AM
Importance: High

Adam and Bob,

This looks excellent. In addition, I would suggest creating a version that adds one more layer of information - Milestones that define the path or steps to achieve the Deliverable. In this version, one could quickly understand what we intend to deliver, how success will be measured, and the steps we intend to take to achieve the goal.

I will work a bit on Goal 2 as an example and send later today so you can decide if this approach is useful (possibly for STO slides, if not for the proposal).

Thanks,

John

On Oct 6, 2009, at 9:17 PM, Helms, Adam wrote:

Good evening:

Today we met with Dr. Giroir and he gave us some advice for moving forward with the DARPA-Energy Crops Proposal. Perhaps the most relevant was how we proceed with the Milestones & Deliverables document and the discussion of the Milestone vs. Deliverable vs. Metric and how DARPA likes these presented – whether for the entire project, per goal or per task. Bob, Shay and I had a lengthy discussion about this very topic when we returned and how we felt it should best be presented.

First, for each goal there is one deliverable with quantifiable metrics. For example, below are the “over-arching” goals, deliverables and metrics for this project –

Goal 1: Grow and optimize production of current energy sorghum hybrids at sites of importance to national security.

Deliverable: Energy sorghum production maximized in locations of national security importance using optimized management practices, harvest logistics, and economic assessment.

Metric: 10-15 dry tons of lignocellulosic biomass produced per acre per year delivered to biorefineries at ~\$60/dT providing a ~75% GHG offset for biofuels or ~95% for biopower

Goal 2: Build a full-scale integrated genomics-to-breeding technology platform that will accelerate the rate of genetic improvement of energy sorghum and wide-hybrids.

Deliverable: Energy sorghum hybrids with increased yield and optimized composition for advanced biofuels and biopower generation designed using an integrated genomics-to-energy crop breeding technology platform.

Metric: Improve energy crop yield to 15-20 dT/acre and optimize biomass composition for conversion processes.

Goal 3: Develop next generation energy crops using novel wide hybridization technology that enables sorghum to be crossed with energy cane and other energy grasses.

Deliverable: Novel wide-hybrid energy crops propagated vegetatively and/or through seed production and an understanding of the genetic basis of wide hybridization.

Metric: Development of the mass-production of hybrid seed from crosses with energy canes. 25-90+% cost reduction for planting energy canes. A suite of newly created next-generation energy grasses for advanced biofuels and biopower generation in diverse agricultural and climatic conditions.

To move forward with the process to submit another iteration to DARPA, we need the following:

1. Milestones and Deliverables document that reflects the narrative. At present, there is not a consistency between the “work plan” presented per task in the narrative to the Milestones and Deliverables document. I have attached an example “Narrative_MDexample” from John Mullet’s Task 2.1. Review the example to see if your task and milestones/deliverables are similar. Please use this format and note that in the Milestones and Documents example, the specific milestones are more specific than in the narrative.
2. For each task you are assigned, we need 18 month and 36 month “Go/No Go” quantifiable metrics. These “Go/No Go” quantifiable metrics are what DARPA will use to determine if we are funded for the next 18 months and the last 24 months. I realize that this puts everyone into the middle of a year of research, but please remember, we don’t want yearly reviews from DARPA, so every 18 months will suffice. Additionally, it will not kill the project if the metric isn’t obtained. If your goal is to improve efficiency 50%, and you only achieve 40% then that is ok, DARPA understands this is still research.

For example:

Task 2.1 (which is Goal 2 Task 1) – State the objective

Milestones

Deliverables

18 month and 36 month quantifiable metrics

The 60 month metrics could be the 3 overarching metrics listed above – the reason those 3 were achieved were because of the attainment of many metrics per goal and per task.

3. We need this by close of business Thursday. I know it is a short turn around, but for the most part, it is only simple formatting.

Thanks, and as always, please contact me at your earliest convenience if you have any questions/comments.

Best,

Adam

Adam Helms
AgriLife Research Corporate Relations
979-255-0752 (mobile)
979-458-2677 (office)

<DARPA RD Proposal SemiFinal.doc><DARPA MILESTONES AND
DELIVERABLES_Master.doc><Narrative_MD example.doc>

From: [Patricia Klein](#)
To: [Stelly David](#); [Bill Rooney](#)
Subject: quantifiable metrics
Date: Wednesday, October 07, 2009 8:11:50 AM

David and Bill

Since we are required to have quantifiable milestones/metrics for each task in the DARPA grant, I will need to put some numbers with some of the work that you two will be participating in. In particular how many maize pollen sources should I put down that we will test as we try to develop a more efficient phenotyping system? How many additional populations will we develop for fine mapping and what size population would you envision. We likely don't want to be over ambitious but (for example do we just want to include 1 high resolution population with ~1000 individuals?) but we do need to include numbers.

Thanks
Trish

Dr. Patricia Klein
Associate Professor
Institute for Plant Genomics and Biotechnology
TAMU 2123
Texas AgriLIFE Research
Texas A&M University
College Station, TX 77843-2123

phone: 979-862-6308
fax: 979-862-4790

From: [McCutchen, Bill](#)
To: [Mullet, John E.](#); [Helms, Adam](#); [Avant, Bob](#)
Cc: [wlr@tamu.edu](#); [stelly@tamu.edu](#); [Schuerman, Peter L.](#); [Hurley, Janie C.](#)
Subject: Re: Highest Priority: DARPA Energy Crops
Date: Wednesday, October 07, 2009 8:15:10 AM

On another subject, how important would the likes of 007 be as germplasm/seed stock for our sorcane RD? We are running into barriers with Ceres on the license?

Bill

From: John Mullet <jmullet@tamu.edu>
To: Helms, Adam; Avant, Bob
Cc: McCutchen, Bill; Bill Rooney <wlr@tamu.edu>; Stelly_David Stelly <stelly@tamu.edu>
Sent: Wed Oct 07 07:56:07 2009
Subject: Re: Highest Priority: DARPA Energy Crops

Adam and Bob,

This looks excellent. In addition, I would suggest creating a version that adds one more layer of information - Milestones that define the path or steps to achieve the Deliverable. In this version, one could quickly understand what we intend to deliver, how success will be measured, and the steps we intend to take to achieve the goal.

I will work a bit on Goal 2 as an example and send later today so you can decide if this approach is useful (possibly for STO slides, if not for the proposal).

Thanks,

John

On Oct 6, 2009, at 9:17 PM, Helms, Adam wrote:

Good evening:

Today we met with Dr. Giroir and he gave us some advice for moving forward with the DARPA-Energy Crops Proposal. Perhaps the most relevant was how we proceed with the Milestones & Deliverables document and the discussion of the Milestone vs. Deliverable vs. Metric and how DARPA likes these presented – whether for the entire project, per goal or per task. Bob, Shay and I had a lengthy discussion about this very topic when we returned and how we felt it should best be presented.

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For example:

Task 2.1 (which is Goal 2 Task 1) – State the objective

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The 60 month metrics could be the 3 overarching metrics listed above – the reason those 3 were achieved were because of the attainment of many metrics

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3. We need this by close of business Thursday. I know it is a short turn around, but for the most part, it is only simple formatting.

Thanks, and as always, please contact me at your earliest convenience if you have any questions/comments.

Best,

Adam

Adam Helms
AgriLife Research Corporate Relations
979-255-0752 (mobile)
979-458-2677 (office)

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From: [McCutchen, Bill](#)
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Subject: Re: Highest Priority: DARPA Energy Crops
Date: Wednesday, October 07, 2009 8:16:41 AM

In other words, is [REDACTED] critical are do we have enough other germplasm not committed to Ceres that is more than viable?

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To: Mullet, John E.; Helms, Adam; Avant, Bob
Cc: 'wlr@tamu.edu' <wlr@tamu.edu>; 'stelly@tamu.edu' <stelly@tamu.edu>; Schuerman, Peter L.; Hurley, Janie C.
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From: [Stelly David](#)
To: [Bartek, Matthew Scott](#)
Cc: [Stelly David David M.](#); [Hodnett George](#); [Rooney Bill](#)
Subject: Re: wide hybrids in the field
Date: Wednesday, October 07, 2009 8:27:41 AM

Thanks.

Sorry to keep coming with questions, but I am curious as to procedures.

Will the whole WH-F1 seedling field will be maintained, and how (cut back or left as is?)

Will the 35 be also be maintained in the field, or actually dug up and transplanted?

Will the other selections (non-35) be maintained in the field, as well as replanted in a separate field from billets?

David

On Oct 7, 2009, at 7:05 AM, Bartek, Matthew Scott wrote:

> Dr. Stelly,
> We have made selections based on overall plant performance. We will
> bringing in 35 different selections that we have made to be grown in
> the greenhouse for the winter. The rest of the plants will be left
> in the field for overwintering observation. Plants brought to the
> greenhouse will be checked for BRIX as well as tissue samples taken
> for DNA. I have this set up with Dr. Klein through Dr. Rooney. We
> are planning to replant billets from selections not brought to the
> greenhouse in field 218w but have to wait until it is dry enough for
> AI to rebed the field.
>
> Matt
> ----- Original Message -----
> From: "Stelly David" <stelly@tamu.edu>
> To: "Hodnett George" <ghodnett@ag.tamu.edu>, "Matthew Bartek Scott"
> <mbartek@neo.tamu.edu
> >, "Rooney Bill" <wlr@tamu.edu>
> Cc: "Stelly David David M." <stelly@tamu.edu>
> Sent: Tuesday, October 6, 2009 9:10:13 PM GMT -06:00 US/Canada Central
> Subject: wide hybrids in the field
>
> What is the plan for wide hybrids grown as seedlings in the 2009
> field: unselected, selections at various levels and/or traits?
>
> Is there a plan to collect and plant out propagules next year from
> just a few, or a relatively large number (%) of the 2009 seedlings.
> Criteria? (performance of from veg may correlate poorly with that of
> seedlings, or do we have data for/against that already?
>
> David

From: [John Mullet](#)
To: [McCutchen, Bill](#)
Cc: [Helms, Adam](#); [Avant, Bob](#); wlr@tamu.edu; stelly@tamu.edu; [Schuerman, Peter L.](#); [Hurley, Janie C.](#)
Subject: Re: Highest Priority: DARPA Energy Crops
Date: Wednesday, October 07, 2009 8:53:26 AM

Bill,

Currently as you know, Bill is using a modified version of [REDACTED] for WH development. Also, [REDACTED] has two genes of current value in breeding energy crops (ma5, ma7 that confer early flowering in inbreds, but late flowering in specific hybrids). These genes may be valuable for WH at some point (where cane is modified to be early flowering = [REDACTED] for example but WH are late flowering). So you might want to retain rights to use 007 or the ma5, ma7 genes per se.

In addition, the genome of [REDACTED] will be segregating in a large number of our energy sorghum breeding lines, and we can see some additional traits derived from 007 that will be useful for energy crop design. I am not sure how you want to handle this aspect of [REDACTED].

John

On Oct 7, 2009, at 8:16 AM, McCutchen, Bill wrote:

In other words, is 007 critical are do we have enough other germplasm not committed to Ceres that is more than viable?

From: McCutchen, Bill
To: Mullet, John E.; Helms, Adam; Avant, Bob
Cc: 'wlr@tamu.edu' <wlr@tamu.edu>; 'stelly@tamu.edu' <stelly@tamu.edu>; Schuerman, Peter L.; Hurley, Janie C.
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From: [George L Hodnett](#)
To: wlr@tamu.edu
Subject: Lunch for helpers
Date: Wednesday, October 07, 2009 9:00:38 AM

Bill,

I would like to provide a lunch as a thankyou for Dr. Stelly's crew who helped clean up the lab. How do I do that?

George

From: [Emily Hallam](#)
To: "Bill Rooney"
Subject: RE: request for interview
Date: Wednesday, October 07, 2009 10:16:17 AM

Dear Mr Rooney,

Please could you double check that you are happy with the facts/figures/quotations in the following excerpt of Biofuels International's 2500 wd article on sorghum. If there are any discrepancies in the text, could you let me know by Friday. Please note it is a rough draft, and the style may be subject to change, but the content is not.

Many thanks, Emily

William Rooney, Associate Professor of Texas A&M University's Institute for Plant Genomics and Biotechnology is currently developing a hybrid crop to overcome the key challenges which sorghum farming presents. Energy crop company Ceres has invested \$5 million in an exclusive, multi-year joint research and commercialisation agreement for high-biomass sorghum. These hybrid plants are not designed to produce grain, but to yield vast amounts of biomass. The process was started in the 1970s, when rising oil prices led to a flurry of research into heterosis of sorghum, but initial development efforts were shelved when the oil market recovered.

"Whilst sorghum hybrids have been around for a long time, this is the first time that a hybrid sorghum system is being developed specifically for the bio energy consumer market," says Rooney.

The heterotic sorghum substantially out-yields conventional sorghum. A&M is also working on expanding the range of the crop for earlier planting in cooler and drier conditions, especially on so-called marginal or unproductive land. According to Cesar Granda of Terrabon, A&M is also working on a low-lignin breed of sorghum, to eliminate the need for pre treatment altogether.

Ceres announced its collaboration with A&M in October 2007, but Rooney's research began almost a decade ago. "It should be available commercially in the next year, certainly by 2011," says Rooney. If the expectations are met, the new sorghums processed by next-generation conversion technologies could yield a whopping 2000 gallons/acre (18,800 l/ha) of cellulosic ethanol, more than four times the current starch-to-ethanol process.

Emily Hallam

Editorial Assistant
www.biofuels-news.com
www.tankstoragemag.com
(1)0044 (0)208 687 4183
editorial@horseshoemedia.com

From: Bill Rooney [mailto:wlr@tamu.edu]
Sent: 23 September 2009 13:41
To: 'Emily Hallam'
Subject: RE: request for interview

yes

Dr. William L. Rooney
Professor, Sorghum Breeding and Genetics
Chair, Plant Release Committee
Texas A&M University
College Station, Texas 77843-2474
979 845 2151

-----Original Message-----

From: Emily Hallam [mailto:editorial@horseshoemedia.com]
Sent: Wednesday, September 23, 2009 7:35 AM
To: 'Bill Rooney'
Subject: RE: request for interview

Dear Bill,

Many thanks for your understanding, shall I call just after 10, say 10.15 on Monday morning? Is the telephone number to call the same as the one written on your email signature?

I look forward to learning from your expertise!

Emily

Emily Hallam

Editorial Assistant

www.biofuels-news.com

www.tankstoragemag.com

(t)0044 (o)208 687 4183

editorial@horseshoemedia.com

From: Bill Rooney [mailto:wlr@tamu.edu]
Sent: 23 September 2009 13:06
To: 'Emily Hallam'
Subject: RE: request for interview

Emily:

Monday morning will be acceptable. I have conference call from 9-10 am CDT, but am open the rest of the morning.

Written answers? - you'll never get them back.
bill

Dr. William L. Rooney
Professor, Sorghum Breeding and Genetics
Chair, Plant Release Committee
Texas A&M University
College Station, Texas 77843-2474
979 845 2151

-----Original Message-----

From: Emily Hallam [mailto:editorial@horseshoemedia.com]
Sent: Wednesday, September 23, 2009 3:50 AM
To: 'Bill Rooney'
Subject: RE: request for interview

Dear Bill,

Thank you for your response,

Unfortunately, due to the time difference between London and the US, afternoons are very difficult. My office closes at 5.00 pm GMT (12.00 midday US Central time). Would you be available to talk at all before then, any day this week, or at the beginning of next week?

If its easier, I could email you the interview questions and you could send typed responses?

Kind regards,

Emily Hallam

Editorial Assistant
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editorial@horseshoemedia.com

From: Bill Rooney [mailto:wlr@tamu.edu]
Sent: 21 September 2009 18:28
To: 'Emily Hallam'
Subject: RE: request for interview

Emily:

I'll be available Tuesday pm (US Central Time) and Wednesday pm.

regards,

bill

Dr. William L. Rooney
Professor, Sorghum Breeding and Genetics
Chair, Plant Release Committee
Texas A&M University
College Station, Texas 77843-2474
979 845 2151

-----Original Message-----

From: Emily Hallam [mailto:editorial@horseshoemedia.com]
Sent: Monday, September 21, 2009 3:48 AM
To: wlr@tamu.edu
Subject: request for interview

Dear Mr Rooney,

I'm writing to you from Biofuels International Magazine in London. We are the only international publication dedicated entirely to the biofuels sector.

For the up-and-coming October issue of the magazine I am writing a feature on the use of sweet sorghum as a bioethanol feedstock. I was wondering whether you would be able to put aside some time this week for a brief 20min phone interview to discuss the crop and A&M's development of it. I was assured by Mr Cesar Granda of Terrabon that you were the man to talk to!

I hope to hear back from you soon,

Kind Regards,

Emily Hallam

Editorial Assistant

www.biofuels-news.com

www.tankstoragemag.com

(t)0044 (0)208 687 4183

editorial@horseshoemedia.com

From: [Golden, Donna](#)
To: [Golden, Donna](#)
Subject: Dependent Children Scholarship Reception
Date: Wednesday, October 07, 2009 10:42:24 AM

Dear Parent and Employee,

I am getting things in order for the upcoming Dependent Children Scholarship Reception on November 12, 2009. I have been asked to verify your immediate Supervisor's name and mailstop. We will be sending invitations and want to ensure that we have the most current information on file. Please provide the below requested information. Your assistance is greatly appreciated.

Your Name:
Your Department:
Your Title:
Supervisor's Name:
Supervisor's Mailstop:

Please let me know if you have any questions.

Thank you,

Donna Golden
Financial Aid Assistant II
Scholarships & Financial Aid
Texas A&M University
donnag@tamu.edu

WELCOME TO AGGIELAND

From: [John Mullet](#)
To: [Bill Rooney](#)
Cc: "[McCutchen, Bill](#)"; "[Helms, Adam](#)"; "[Avant, Bob](#)"; stelly@tamu.edu; "[Schuerman, Peter L.](#)"; "[Hurley, Janie C.](#)"
Subject: Re: Highest Priority: DARPA Energy Crops
Date: Wednesday, October 07, 2009 11:30:50 AM

Bill Mc,

I concur that keeping FTO on the 007 versions of [REDACTED] is useful because they are now in many other backgrounds and useful for energy crop development. In other words, if you license [REDACTED], it seems wise to retain FTO on these alleles at a minimum. Even though they are now in different backgrounds, it will be easy to trace the alleles back to [REDACTED].

John

On Oct 7, 2009, at 11:21 AM, Bill Rooney wrote:

Bill and John:

[REDACTED] and that might be of value to us. However, we've got those alleles in a lot of other material now and as long as that material is not turned over to Ceres, I think we'll be fine.

[REDACTED] has value in the sorghum world as a pollinator. In the sorcane scenario, the pollinator is mostly derived from sugarcane. Hence it is on that seed parent side of things where sorghum is more important (right now). So, sweet seed parents – when and if those are licensed – it would be critical to maintain our breeding rights to move high sugar into iap seed parent backgrounds.

Regards,

Bill

From: John Mullet [<mailto:jmullet@tamu.edu>]
Sent: Wednesday, October 07, 2009 8:53 AM
To: McCutchen, Bill
Cc: Helms, Adam; Avant, Bob; wlr@tamu.edu; stelly@tamu.edu; Schuerman, Peter L.; Hurley, Janie C.
Subject: Re: Highest Priority: DARPA Energy Crops

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Currently as you know, Bill is using a modified version of [REDACTED] for WH development. Also, [REDACTED] has two genes of current value in breeding energy crops (ma5, ma7 that confer early flowering in inbreds, but late flowering in specific hybrids). These genes may be valuable for WH at some point (where cane is modified to be early flowering = [REDACTED] for example but WH are late flowering). So you might want to retain rights to use [REDACTED] genes per se.

In addition, the genome of [REDACTED] will be segregating in a large number of our energy sorghum breeding lines, and we can see some additional traits derived from [REDACTED] that will be useful for energy crop design. I am not sure how you want to handle this aspect of [REDACTED]

John

On Oct 7, 2009, at 8:16 AM, McCutchen, Bill wrote:

In other words, is 007 critical are do we have enough other germplasm not committed to Ceres that is more than viable?

From: McCutchen, Bill
To: Mullet, John E.; Helms, Adam; Avant, Bob
Cc: 'wlr@tamu.edu' <wlr@tamu.edu>; 'stelly@tamu.edu' <stelly@tamu.edu>; Schuerman, Peter L.; Hurley, Janie C.
Sent: Wed Oct 07 08:15:10 2009
Subject: Re: Highest Priority: DARPA Energy Crops

On another subject, how important would the likes of [REDACTED] be as germplasm/seed stock for our sorcane RD? We are running into barriers with Ceres on the license?

Bill

From: John Mullet <jmullet@tamu.edu>
To: Helms, Adam; Avant, Bob
Cc: McCutchen, Bill; Bill Rooney <wlr@tamu.edu>; Stelly_David Stelly <stelly@tamu.edu>
Sent: Wed Oct 07 07:56:07 2009
Subject: Re: Highest Priority: DARPA Energy Crops

Adam and Bob,

This looks excellent. In addition, I would suggest creating a version that adds one more layer of information - Milestones that define the path or steps to achieve the Deliverable. In this version, one could quickly understand what we intend to deliver, how success will be measured, and the steps we intend to take to achieve the goal.

I will work a bit on Goal 2 as an example and send later today so you can decide if this approach is useful (possibly for STO slides, if not for the proposal).

Thanks,

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On Oct 6, 2009, at 9:17 PM, Helms, Adam wrote:

Good evening:

Today we met with Dr. Giroir and he gave us some advice for moving forward with the DARPA-Energy Crops Proposal. Perhaps the most relevant was how we proceed with the Milestones & Deliverables document and the discussion of the Milestone vs. Deliverable vs. Metric and how DARPA likes these presented – whether for the entire project, per goal or per task. Bob, Shay and I had a lengthy discussion about this very topic when we returned and how we felt it should best be presented.

First, for each goal there is one deliverable with quantifiable metrics. For example, below are the “over-arching” goals, deliverables and metrics for this project –

Goal 1: Grow and optimize production of current energy sorghum hybrids at sites of importance to national security.

Deliverable: Energy sorghum production maximized in locations of national security importance using optimized management practices, harvest logistics, and economic assessment.

Metric: 10-15 dry tons of lignocellulosic biomass produced per acre per year delivered to biorefineries at ~\$60/dT providing a ~75% GHG offset for biofuels or ~95% for biopower

Goal 2: Build a full-scale integrated genomics-to-breeding technology platform that will accelerate the rate of genetic improvement of energy sorghum and wide-hybrids.

Deliverable: Energy sorghum hybrids with increased yield and optimized composition for advanced biofuels and biopower generation designed using an integrated genomics-to-energy crop breeding technology platform.

Metric: Improve energy crop yield to 15-20 dT/acre and optimize biomass composition for conversion processes.

Goal 3: Develop next generation energy crops using novel wide hybridization technology that enables sorghum to be crossed with energy cane and other energy grasses.

Deliverable: Novel wide-hybrid energy crops propagated vegetatively and/or through seed production and an understanding of the genetic basis of wide hybridization.

Metric: Development of the mass-production of hybrid seed from crosses with energy canes. 25-90+% cost reduction for planting energy canes. A suite of newly created next-generation energy grasses for advanced biofuels and biopower generation in diverse agricultural and climatic conditions.

To move forward with the process to submit another iteration to DARPA, we need the following:

1. Milestones and Deliverables document that reflects the narrative. At present, there is not a consistency between the “work plan” presented per task in the narrative to the Milestones and Deliverables document. I have attached an example “Narrative_MDexample” from John Mullet’s Task 2.1. Review the example to see if your task and milestones/deliverables are similar. Please use this format and note that in the Milestones and Documents example, the specific milestones are more specific than in the narrative.

2. For each task you are assigned, we need 18 month and 36 month “Go/No Go” quantifiable metrics. These “Go/No Go” quantifiable metrics are what DARPA will use to determine if we are funded for the next 18 months and the last 24 months. I realize that this puts everyone into the middle of a year of research, but please remember, we don’t want yearly reviews from DARPA, so every 18 months will suffice. Additionally, it will not kill the project if the metric isn’t obtained. If your goal is to improve efficiency 50%, and you only achieve 40% then that is ok, DARPA understands this is still research.

For example:

Task 2.1 (which is Goal 2 Task 1) – State the objective

Milestones

Deliverables

18 month and 36 month quantifiable metrics

The 60 month metrics could be the 3 overarching metrics listed above – the reason those 3 were achieved were because of the attainment of many metrics per goal and per task.

3. We need this by close of business Thursday. I know it is a short turn around, but for the most part, it is only simple formatting.

Thanks, and as always, please contact me at your earliest convenience if you have any questions/comments.

Best,

Adam

Adam Helms
AgriLife Research Corporate Relations
979-255-0752 (mobile)
979-458-2677 (office)

<DARPA RD Proposal SemiFinal.doc><DARPA MILESTONES
AND DELIVERABLES_Master.doc><Narrative_MD
example.doc>

From: [Rene Clara](#)
To: [Bill Rooney](#)
Date: Wednesday, October 07, 2009 11:40:22 AM

Dear Dr. Bill,

I am in contact with Ing. Julián Ramírez, ICTA Director manager and René Velásquez, PROSEMILLAS Director in Guatemala. We are planning to do a visit of pursuit to his plans of work in sorghum to observe the experimental varieties for forage (grain and forage) and the problems in the seed producción of the sorghum varieties.

I am programming this visit for the 27th, 28 and 29 of Octubre/09. I want to know if you approve it.

Regards,

René Clará V.
INTSORMIL
Host Regional Coordinator

CENTA, Apdo. Postal 885,
San Salvador, El Salvador, C.A.
Tel. (503) 2302 0239 - (503) 7815 2238 cel.
Fax: (503) 2302 0239

E-mail: reneclara@yahoo.com

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Descarga gratis el nuevo Internet Explorer 8
<http://downloads.yahoo.com/ieak8/?l=e1>

From: [Slovacek, Jackie](#)
To: [Bill Rooney](#)
Cc: [Mullet, John E.](#)
Subject: RE: Confidential
Date: Wednesday, October 07, 2009 11:43:08 AM

I checked with Bill Mc and he says the first week of November is okay. We are available November 4-5th from 11-1:00 pm. Let me know if either day work for you guys.

Thanks
Jackie

Jackie Slovacek
Assistant to the Associate Director
Texas AgriLife Research
113 Jack K Williams Administration Bldg
College Station, Texas 77843-2142

979.845.7980
979.458.4765 Fax

-----Original Message-----

From: Bill Rooney [<mailto:wlr@tamu.edu>]
Sent: Wednesday, October 07, 2009 11:39 AM
To: Slovacek, Jackie
Cc: Mullet, John E.
Subject: RE: Confidential

Jackie:

I've got plenty to do next week when I return, but if we need to meet next week, then I can make the Tuesday time.

However, I Bill Mc is willing to wait, the first week of November is good (later in the week).

Regards,
bill

-----Original Message-----

From: Slovacek, Jackie [<mailto:j-slovacek@tamu.edu>]
Sent: Tuesday, October 06, 2009 4:17 PM
To: Mullet, John E.
Cc: Bill Rooney
Subject: RE: Confidential

I wonder if this lunch can wait until the first week of November? What do you guys think? Bill Mc is out the last week in October.

I will wait to hear from Rooney.

Jackie

Jackie Slovacek

Assistant to the Associate Director
Texas AgriLife Research
113 Jack K Williams Administration Bldg
College Station, Texas 77843-2142

979.845.7980
979.458.4765 Fax

-----Original Message-----

From: John Mullet [<mailto:jmullet@tamu.edu>]
Sent: Tuesday, October 06, 2009 4:10 PM
To: Slovacek, Jackie
Cc: Bill Rooney
Subject: Re: Confidential
Importance: High

Jackie,

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Need to check Bill Rooney's schedule because he is traveling a lot right now.

John

On Oct 6, 2009, at 3:31 PM, Slovacek, Jackie wrote:

> See email below:
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> 11-1 pm, or Tuesday, Oct 13th 11-1 pm.
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> Please let me know if either of these days work for you.
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> Thanks
> Jackie
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> From: McCutchen, Bill
> Sent: Monday, October 05, 2009 6:18 PM
> To: Slovacek, Jackie
> Subject: Fw: Confidential
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> Can you set a 2hr of campus lunch with Bill and John please?
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> Bill
>
> ----- Original Message -----
> From: Bill Rooney <wlr@tamu.edu>
> To: McCutchen, Bill; Mullet, John E.
> Sent: Sat Oct 03 08:26:59 2009
> Subject: RE: Confidential
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> Bill, I'd be happy to discuss integration into the research
> programs.....
>

> Bill r.
>
> -----Original Message-----
> From: McCutchen, Bill [<mailto:bmccutchen@tamu.edu>]
> Sent: Saturday, October 03, 2009 8:01 AM
> To: wlr@tamu.edu; Mullet, John E.
> Subject: Confidential
>
> Bill and John,
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> First I want to say thanks for your leadership and guidance not only
> for
> DARPA, but the significant accomplishments that you have achieved in
> bioenergy over the years. It has been challenging and imperfect,
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> has been fun and rewarding.
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> IF we are successful in securing the DARPA funding, could I ask you to
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> sorcane? I would also like to ask you a favor and allow me to engage
> and provide oversight of this student that would be an student
> appointment in one or both of your labs.
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> If you possible, I would like to discuss in person with both of you.
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> Thanks for considering.
>
> Bill
>

From: [John Mullet](#)
To: [Bill Rooney](#)
Subject: Re: AGENDA Chevron/AgriLife Quarterly Review in Weslaco
Date: Wednesday, October 07, 2009 11:44:27 AM

Thanks Bill, I will be attending and arrive in time Thursday for the ppt. Any relevant information would be helpful.

John

On Oct 7, 2009, at 11:35 AM, Bill Rooney wrote:

Shay:

There's no way I can be in Weslaco in time for presentations on Thursday, so I'll likely not make the trip.

I think that John is confirmed for that trip so I'll convey any pertinent information to him.

Regards,

Bill

From: Simpson, Shay [<mailto:shay-simpson@tamu.edu>]
Sent: Tuesday, October 06, 2009 6:37 PM
To: Bill Rooney
Subject: FW: AGENDA Chevron/AgriLife Quarterly Review in Weslaco

Bill:

I don't know if you ever made plans to go to Weslaco for the quarterly review with Chevron. We were not able to adjust the schedule to have the review part on Friday. You are still very welcome to come down after your classes on Thursday and be with the group for the dinner that night and Friday during the tour of sugar cane harvest and the mill. There will still be plenty of opportunity for you to have discussions. The current plan is to have 2 vans transporting all of the group from place to place, BUT Mike is trying to find a bus so we are all together and you could use the microphone to make an "on-the-go" presentation.

Let me know if you want to go. I know you're traveling a lot, so understand if you miss it this time.

Thanks,
Shay

Shay L. Simpson
Associate Director, Corporate Relations
Texas AgriLife Research
Centeq Building 100D
979-845-6315 Office
979-571-3137 Mobile

shay-simpson@tamu.edu

From: Simpson, Shay

Sent: Tuesday, October 06, 2009 6:27 PM

To: Long, Michelle Y. (YLON) (MYLong); Jones, Doug M

Cc: Gould Mike; 'John Mullet'; El-Hout Nael; 'Erik Mirkov'; John Jifon; Ted Wilson (lt-wilson@tamu.edu); Paul Baumann (p-baumann@tamu.edu); Bill Rooney; McCutchen, Bill; Avant, Bob; Helms, Adam; Nelson, Michelle; Zak, Kendra; Travis Miller; Alex Thomasson; McCutchen, Bill; Slovacek, Jackie; Baltensperger, David; ['tmaldonado@tamu.edu'](mailto:tmaldonado@tamu.edu)

Subject: AGENDA Chevron/AgriLife Quarterly Review in Weslaco

Michelle and Doug:

Please find attached the close-to-final agenda and attendee list for our meeting in Weslaco next week. Please forward to your team and Curt and Paul. Note that the dress is casual with work shoes as we will be in the fields and in agricultural processing plants both days.

If you have any suggested changes to the schedule, please forward them.

Mike Gould's team will be forwarding a written report soon.

Thanks,
Shay

Shay L. Simpson
Associate Director, Corporate Relations
Texas AgriLife Research
Centeq Building 100D
979-845-6315 Office
979-571-3137 Mobile
shay-simpson@tamu.edu

From: [Borden, Dustin Ross](#)
To: [bill ronney](#); [Delroy Collins](#)
Subject: Jason Wright using forage harvester
Date: Wednesday, October 07, 2009 11:48:39 AM

Dr. Rooney and Delroy

Jason wants to know if he can use the one row harvester here. I told him that I would leave that up to Delroy.

He also is still insisting on taking the one row to wesalco to harvest things, but I told him that I dont think it is worth the time and money. His test is just as bad as our (lodging).

Thanks

Dustin

Dustin Borden '07
Research Assistant
Sorghum Breeding and Genetics
Texas A&M University
College Station, TX 77843
(979)845-2151

From: [John Mullet](#)
To: [Bill Rooney](#)
Subject: Re: Confidential
Date: Wednesday, October 07, 2009 11:51:32 AM

Bill,

I talked briefly to Bill Mc this am about this topic. He wants to guide a GS on insect R (CN-glycosides) from identification of the loci in sorghum through their use in WH. We are working a bit on the CN pathway although not with funding from DARPA, and I would be happy to have a student work along with us part time on characterizing these genes in sorghum if you can handle the WH application. Also, if Bill is a member of your department, it makes sense for you/he to be co-chairs and I could join as a committee member if need be.

Not sure where the funding comes from to do this....? CN work is not a high priority right now for DARPA work.

Lets talk more before meeting with Bill Mc? Maybe in Weslaco if you will be there Friday am.

John

On Oct 7, 2009, at 11:38 AM, Bill Rooney wrote:

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>
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> meet next
> week, then I can make the Tuesday time.
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> From: Slovacsek, Jackie [<mailto:j-slovacek@tamu.edu>]
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> Jackie Slovacsek
> Assistant to the Associate Director
> Texas AgriLife Research
> 113 Jack K Williams Administration Bldg

> College Station, Texas 77843-2142
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> 979.845.7980
> 979.458.4765 Fax
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> -----Original Message-----
> From: John Mullet [<mailto:jmullet@tamu.edu>]
> Sent: Tuesday, October 06, 2009 4:10 PM
> To: Slovacek, Jackie
> Cc: Bill Rooney
> Subject: Re: Confidential
> Importance: High
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>> If you possible, I would like to discuss in person with both of you.
>>
>> Thanks for considering.
>>
>> Bill
>>
>
>

From: [Selahattin Aydin](#)
To: cwsmith@tamu.edu; [Bill Rooney](#)
Subject: Visit from Namik Kemal University, Turkey
Date: Wednesday, October 07, 2009 1:39:34 PM

Dear Dr. Smith and Dr. Rooney,

I hope you are doing well, and having good time with your loving ones.

The reason I am writing this e-mail is that one group (President of Namik Kemal Uni., Dean of Engineering Faculty, and one assistant prof from Biology Dept) is going to visit TAMU, and Texas Tech in October, 2009.

I kindly would like to ask you a convenient time for meeting with this group. If you have an available time on Oct. 27th, 2009 or Oct. 30th, 2009, please let me know.

Prof. Dr. Nizameddin Senkoylu President of Namik Kemal Uni.
Prof Dr. Oguzhan Cicekoglu Dean of Engineering Faculty of Namik Kemal Uni.
Asst. Prof Dr.Ozden Cobanoglu Faculty of Biology Dept.

I look forward to hearing from you. If you have any question, please let me know, best regards...

Selahattin Aydin

From: [Joan Frederick](#)
To: wlr@tamu.edu
Subject: 2009-2010 US. Project Budgets
Date: Wednesday, October 07, 2009 2:00:13 PM
Attachments: [Budget Template TAM 101.xls](#),
[DRAFT BUDGETS.xls](#)

Bill Rooney;

2009-2010 U.S. Project Funds:

I am starting to prepare the paperwork for the allocation of funds for the U.S. Projects. The budgets sent in August is what I have attached.

1. I want you to confirm you did **NOT** allocated any pass thru funds
2. I also ask you to confirm that the budget you submitted has gone through your accounting office to finalize. If not please do so and send me the final approved version.

Please respond as soon as you can, so we can prepare the paperwork for your award of funds. Questions? give me a call.

(See attached file: Budget Template TAM 101.xls)(See attached file: DRAFT BUDGETS.xls)

=====
Joan Frederick
INTSORMIL
University of Nebraska
114 BCH
Lincoln NE 68583-0748
402-472-7058
jfrederick1@unl.edu

From: [McCutchen, Bill](#)
To: wlr@tamu.edu; [Mullet, John E.](#)
Cc: [Schuerman, Peter L.](#); [Hurley, Janie C.](#)
Subject: Re: Highest Priority: DARPA Energy Crops
Date: Wednesday, October 07, 2009 4:11:47 PM

Bottom-line, how much is it worth to potentially alienate Ceres and can we work around without too much trouble?

In other words, how critical to our RD program are these recessive alleles and corresponding markers in [REDACTED] to advance our causes?

Understand that we will try to negotiate a deal with Ceres, but IF they make a "stand" over THIS...? Knowing that we could gain significant political chips for future and current endeavors and negotiations.

Bill

From: Bill Rooney <wlr@tamu.edu>
To: Mullet, John E.
Cc: McCutchen, Bill; Schuerman, Peter L.; Hurley, Janie C.
Sent: Wed Oct 07 11:32:56 2009
Subject: RE: Highest Priority: DARPA Energy Crops

John has an excellent point with the markers... hadn't thought about that.

Bill

From: John Mullet [<mailto:jmullet@tamu.edu>]
Sent: Wednesday, October 07, 2009 11:31 AM
To: Bill Rooney
Cc: 'McCutchen, Bill'; 'Helms, Adam'; 'Avant, Bob'; stelly@tamu.edu; 'Schuerman, Peter L.'; 'Hurley, Janie C.'
Subject: Re: Highest Priority: DARPA Energy Crops

Bill Mc,

I concur that keeping FTO on the [REDACTED] is useful because they are now in many other backgrounds and useful for energy crop development. In other words, if you license [REDACTED] it seems wise to retain FTO on these alleles at a minimum. Even though they are now in different backgrounds, it will be easy to trace the alleles back to [REDACTED].

John

On Oct 7, 2009, at 11:21 AM, Bill Rooney wrote:

Bill and John:

[REDACTED] and that might be of value to us. However, we've got those alleles in a lot of other material now and as long as that material is not turned over to Ceres, I think we'll be fine.

[REDACTED] has value in the sorghum world as a pollinator. In the sorcane scenario, the pollinator is

mostly derived from sugarcane. Hence it is on that seed parent side of things where sorghum is more important (right now). So, sweet seed parents – when and if those are licensed – it would be critical to maintain our breeding rights to move high sugar into iap seed parent backgrounds.

Regards,

Bill

From: John Mullet [<mailto:jmullet@tamu.edu>]
Sent: Wednesday, October 07, 2009 8:53 AM
To: McCutchen, Bill
Cc: Helms, Adam; Avant, Bob; wlr@tamu.edu; stelly@tamu.edu; Schuerman, Peter L.; Hurley, Janie C.
Subject: Re: Highest Priority: DARPA Energy Crops

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3. We need this by close of business Thursday. I know it is a short turn around, but for the most part, it is only simple formatting.

Thanks, and as always, please contact me at your earliest convenience if you have any questions/comments.

Best,

Adam

Adam Helms
AgriLife Research Corporate Relations
979-255-0752 (mobile)
979-458-2677 (office)

<DARPA RD Proposal SemiFinal.doc><DARPA MILESTONES AND
DELIVERABLES_Master.doc><Narrative_MD example.doc>

From: [John Mullet](#)
To: [Bill McCutchen](#); [Peter Schuerman](#)
Cc: [Bill Rooney](#)
Subject: Re: Highest Priority: DARPA Energy Crops
Date: Wednesday, October 07, 2009 5:41:45 PM

Bill and Peter,

For WH, we could work around the [REDACTED] alleles if need be either by using recessive alleles of other maturity genes, or by generating EMS recessives of [REDACTED] genes in a different background. Just so you know there are options.

The main point for me is to be sure we can continue using the [REDACTED] alleles and alleles for other [REDACTED] genes in Bill's energy hybrid breeding program.

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On Oct 7, 2009, at 4:11 PM, McCutchen, Bill wrote:

Bottom-line, how much is it worth to potentially alienate Ceres and can we work around without too much trouble?

In other words, how critical to our RD program are these recessive alleles and corresponding markers in [REDACTED] to advance our causes?

Understand that we will try to negotiate a deal with Ceres, but IF they make a "stand" over THIS...? Knowing that we could gain significant political chips for future and current endeavors and negotiations.

Bill

From: Bill Rooney <wlr@tamu.edu>
To: Mullet, John E.
Cc: McCutchen, Bill; Schuerman, Peter L.; Hurley, Janie C.
Sent: Wed Oct 07 11:32:56 2009
Subject: RE: Highest Priority: DARPA Energy Crops

John has an excellent point with the markers... hadn't thought about that.

Bill

From: John Mullet [<mailto:jmullet@tamu.edu>]
Sent: Wednesday, October 07, 2009 11:31 AM
To: Bill Rooney
Cc: 'McCutchen, Bill'; 'Helms, Adam'; 'Avant, Bob'; stelly@tamu.edu; 'Schuerman, Peter L.'; 'Hurley, Janie C.'
Subject: Re: Highest Priority: DARPA Energy Crops

Bill Mc,

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they are now in many other backgrounds and useful for energy crop development. In other words, if you license [REDACTED] it seems wise to retain FTO on these alleles at a minimum. Even though they are now in different backgrounds, it will be easy to trace the alleles back to [REDACTED]

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Regards,

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To: McCutchen, Bill
Cc: Helms, Adam; Avant, Bob; wlr@tamu.edu; stelly@tamu.edu; Schuerman, Peter L.; Hurley, Janie C.
Subject: Re: Highest Priority: DARPA Energy Crops

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Adam Helms
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979-255-0752 (mobile)
979-458-2677 (office)

<DARPA RD Proposal SemiFinal.doc><DARPA MILESTONES
AND DELIVERABLES_Master.doc><Narrative_MD
example.doc>

From: [Bartek, Matthew Scott](#)
To: [Bill Rooney](#)
Subject: Brazil study abroad
Date: Thursday, October 08, 2009 7:40:50 AM

Dr. Rooney,
I was wanting to know if I could go on the Brazil study abroad trip with Dr. Feagly. It is from Jan. 1 through Jan. 18. I wanted to check before I applied but I just saw that the deadline is Oct. 9.

Matt

From: [Pam Wilhelm](#)
To: [Bill L Rooney](#)
Cc: [Lea Dell Morris](#); [Carol Rhodes](#); [Sonnie Feagley](#)
Subject: RE: last years Cropping Systems money
Date: Thursday, October 08, 2009 7:55:47 AM

It's O.K. for you to have many requests. LeaDell will just handle each trip as it come along and you will use what money is available at that time for the appropriate account your traveling for. I'm sure Sonnie could also help you out if you need her to. How long before you start the process of hiring a replacement?
We're here to help when you need us.

>>> "Bill Rooney" <wlr@tamu.edu> 10/8/2009 3:59 AM >>>
Pam:

Understood, and didn't know we had that much money left. However, if we don't do a blanket, the number of requests will go up exponentially. How are we to handle that? Until we replace Karen, there is no way that we can.

After that, I would defer to the appropriate approach based on input from all (Karen's replacement, Lea Dell and you).

Thanks,

Bill

-----Original Message-----

From: Pam Wilhelm [<mailto:PWilhelm@ag.tamu.edu>]
Sent: Tuesday, October 06, 2009 4:59 PM
To: Bill L Rooney
Cc: Sonnie Feagley
Subject: last years Cropping Systems money

Afternoon Dr. Rooney,

You had many many blanket travel P.O.'s on this account that were established last September. I had to release them because they cannot be used for travel after 9-1-09. So you now have an unspent balance in this account of \$9169. I suggest that you do not use blanket P.O.'s for this very reason. As a rule we stopped doing that several years ago.

From: [Zak, Kendra](#)
To: [Zak, Kendra](#); [Helms, Adam](#); [Schmitt, Brian C.](#); wlr@tamu.edu; [Mullet, John E.](#); stelly@tamu.edu; rhanson@sonnenschein.com
Cc: [McCutchen, Bill](#); [Schuerman, Peter L.](#); [Avant, Bob](#); [Slovacek, Jackie](#)
Subject: Scheduled: Discussion of Wide Hybridization FTO Opinion by Rob Hanson.
Date: Thursday, October 08, 2009 8:12:28 AM

All,

This conference call has been scheduled for Monday October 19th from 10-11 am.

Please dial in using 888-296-6500 and pin 801464#.

Thank you,

Kendra Zak
Administrative Assistant
AgriLife Corporate Relations
1500 Research Pkwy Suite 100
College Station, TX 77845
office: 979-845-4281
cell: 512-304-5373
fax: 979-458-2155
kzak@tamu.edu

From: Zak, Kendra
Sent: Tuesday, October 06, 2009 1:16 PM
To: Zak, Kendra; Helms, Adam; Schmitt, Brian C.; 'wlr@tamu.edu'; Mullet, John E.; 'stelly@tamu.edu'; 'rhanson@sonnenschein.com'
Cc: McCutchen, Bill; Schuerman, Peter L.; Avant, Bob; Slovacek, Jackie
Subject: CHANGE: Discussion of Wide Hybridization FTO Opinion by Rob Hanson.

All,

October 13th is not going to be a good day for the call.

Rescheduled to Monday October 19th from 10-11 am. Please let me know by 5 pm tomorrow October 7th if this date and time are good for you.

Thank you,

Kendra Zak
Administrative Assistant
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1500 Research Pkwy Suite 100
College Station, TX 77845
office: 979-845-4281
cell: 512-304-5373
fax: 979-458-2155
kzak@tamu.edu

From: Zak, Kendra
Sent: Tuesday, October 06, 2009 9:11 AM

To: Helms, Adam; Schmitt, Brian C.; 'wlr@tamu.edu'; Mullet, John E.; 'stelly@tamu.edu'; rhanson@sonnenschein.com
Cc: McCutchen, Bill; Schuerman, Peter L.; Avant, Bob; Slovacek, Jackie
Subject: RE: Discussion of Wide Hybridization FTO Opinion by Rob Hanson.

All,

Adam and Brian have asked that a conference call be scheduled to discuss Wide Hybrid FTO. Please let me know by 5 pm today if you are available next Tuesday October 13th at 2 pm.

Thank you,

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Adam:

At the AgriLife IMPCT meeting this past week, you asked me if Rob Hanson would be available to summarize his findings in the FTO opinion for the PI's working on WH.

I just spoke with Rob and he would be happy to do this. He will be prepared to summarize his findings, counsel the PI's on how to treat his findings and answer additional questions the PI's may have.

Regards,

Brian Schmitt

Brian Schmitt, J.D.
Intellectual Property Manager
Registered Patent Attorney
Office of Technology Commercialization
Texas A&M University System
800 Raymond Stotzer Parkway
College Station, TX 77845
979-862-6832
bschmitt@tamu.edu

From: [Gary C. Peterson](#)
To: [David Baltensperger](#); [Jaroy Moore](#); [Steve Brown](#); [Bill McCutchen](#)
Cc: [Janie C. Hurley](#); [Peter L. Schuerman](#); [Bill A. Dugas](#); [Bill L. Rooney](#)
Subject: RE: Rosenow Release Observation
Date: Thursday, October 08, 2009 9:57:21 AM
Attachments: [IMAGE.bmp](#)

Bill,

There are older releases, introductions from other countries, and a few converted lines that should be freely available. The first group of lines, [REDACTED] (I am aware of). Most of the lines have not been released and an MTA should be required per existing policy. The first column (Status) gives information as to whether the lines have been released or origin, etc. The second column (Recommendation) lists whether an MTA should be required based on my understanding of current release policy.

If additional information is need let me know.

Regards,

Gary



Gary C. Peterson
Professor
Texas AgriLife Research & Extension Center
1102 E. FM 1294
Lubbock, TX 79403
g-peterson1@tamu.edu or gpeterso@ag.tamu.edu
tel: 806-746-4019
fax: 806-746-6528

>>> "McCutchen, Bill" <bmccutchen@tamu.edu> 10/7/2009 7:36 AM >>>

Gary,

Can I assume that these are parental lines from the Rosenow nursery which are publicly available? If so, then we certainly keep them publicly available, but with all other material we should require an MTA, per our existing System policy. I am going to forward this list to Janie and OTC so that they have a record as well.

Thanks for the heads up.

Bill

--

Bill F. McCutchen, Ph.D.
Associate Director

Texas AgriLife Research
Texas A&M University System
113 Jack K. Williams Administration Building
2142 TAMU College Station, TX 77843-2142
979-845-8488 Tel
979-458-4765 Fax
bmccutchen@tamu.edu

From: Gary C Peterson [<mailto:g-peterson1@tamu.edu>]
Sent: Monday, October 05, 2009 10:44 AM
To: Baltensperger, David; Jaroy Moore; Steve Brown; McCutchen, Bill
Cc: Bill L Rooney
Subject: Rosenow Release Observation

Bill,

A list of breeding lines (see attached) from the Rosenow breeding program was distributed to many sorghum scientists in August. The breeding lines represent the range of germplasm in that program. Individuals evaluating the lines at either College Station or Lubbock were told the material would be available with an MTA.

I have classified the lines for status - released, unreleased, etc - and whether an MTA is appropriate. Bill Rooney has looked at the list and the status/recommendation.

If there are any questions please call.

Regards,

Gary

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g-peterson1@tamu.edu or gpeterso@ag.tamu.edu
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From: [Schuerman, Peter L.](#)
To: [Mullet, John E.](#); [McCutchen, Bill](#)
Cc: [Bill Rooney](#)
Subject: RE: Highest Priority: DARPA Energy Crops
Date: Thursday, October 08, 2009 10:01:38 AM

Understood; thanks.

From: John Mullet [mailto:jmullet@tamu.edu]
Sent: Wednesday, October 07, 2009 5:42 PM
To: McCutchen, Bill; Schuerman, Peter L.
Cc: Bill Rooney
Subject: Re: Highest Priority: DARPA Energy Crops

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From: [Juerg Blumenthal](#)
To: [Adam Helms](#); [Bob Avant](#); [Bill McCutchen](#); [John E. Mullet](#); [Steve Searcy](#); [Bill L. Rooney](#)
Subject: Re: FW: DARPA project
Date: Thursday, October 08, 2009 11:20:44 AM

All,

If Ceres really does not want to do the testing, one strategy could be to run the thing through my shop at crop testing. We currently run similar projects. My suggestion would be as follows:

For this project I would need the collaboration of Brent Bean at Amarillo and Nael El-Hout at Weslaco. I will contact them as soon as a definite approach is decided on.

Tasks to the investigators:

Blumenthal: trials at 2 environments (years 1+2) and 3 environments (years 3-5) in central and east Texas, gathering of entries, packaging seed for all locations, coordinating reporting; (40% of funding).

Bean: trials at 2 environments (years 1+2) and 3 environments (years 3-5) in the Texas High Plains; (30% of funding)

El-Hout: trials at 2 environments (years 1+2) and 3 environments (years 3-5) in the Rio Grande Valley and the Coastal Bend. (30% of the funding)

Keep me posted about your thoughts and the progress of the situation.

Jrg Blumenthal

Jrg M. Blumenthal, Ph.D.
Associate Professor
State Sorghum Cropping Systems Specialist
Soil & Crop Sciences Department
Texas A & M University
351c Heep Center
Mailstop 2474
College Station, TX 77843-2474

Phone: (979) 845-2935
Fax: (979) 845-0604

>>> "Avant, Bob" <bavant@tamu.edu> 10/8/2009 09:56 >>>
CONFIDENTIAL

It looks like Ceres may not want to take on Task 1. As Plan B we need to prepare an approach where we conduct the trialing - - ASAP.

Bob Avant
Program Director
Texas AgriLife Research
979/845-2908
512/422-6171 (Cell)
bavant@tamu.edu
<http://agbioenergy.tamu.edu>

-----Original Message-----

From: Avant, Bob
Sent: Thursday, October 08, 2009 9:53 AM
To: 'Walter Nelson'
Subject: RE: DARPA project

Thanks Walter,

I'll watch for your call and step out of meeting.

Bob Avant
Program Director
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979/845-2908
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-----Original Message-----

From: Walter Nelson [<mailto:wnelson@ceres.net>]
Sent: Thursday, October 08, 2009 6:21 AM
To: Avant, Bob
Subject: DARPA project

Bob,

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Had discussions around ideas we discussed and our current position would still prefer A&M handle the research proposal trialing with language saying Ceres will negotiate with DARPA for commercial access to materials as preferred customer etc....

Also spoke to Richard briefly last night and am keen to try to find a solution that will work well for all. Intend to discuss with McCutchin tomorrow at lunch.

Will try reaching during my drive from Austin to College Station.

Walter

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From: Avant, Bob [<mailto:bavant@tamu.edu>]
Sent: Tuesday, October 06, 2009 7:56 PM
To: Helms, Adam
Cc: wlr@tamu.edu; stelly@tamu.edu; Mullet, John E.; ssearcy@tamu.edu; jwrichardson@tamu.edu; jmgould@ag.tamu.edu; pklein@tamu.edu; Russell Jessup; thomasson@tamu.edu; Nael El-Hout; Walter Nelson; Juerg Blumenthal; Simpson, Shay; Spurlin, Shayna; Nelson, Michelle; Bridges, Brenda; McCutchen, Bill
Subject: Re: Highest Priority: DARPA Energy Crops

Thanks Adam

This is presented well and the changes are essential. I would reiterate the importance of receiving the changes by COB Thursday.

PI's please take care to follow a consistent format so we can avoid major reformatting. Please call if you have questions.

In addition to these changes, we will need to redo the milestones document, redo the Gantt chart, prepare the PPT.
Sent from my iPhone

On Oct 6, 2009, at 9:17 PM, "Helms, Adam" <ahelms@dsmail.tamu.edu> wrote:

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- > forward with the DARPA-Energy Crops Proposal. Perhaps the most
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> The 60 month metrics could be the 3 overarching metrics listed above

> - the reason those 3 were achieved were because of the attainment of

> many metrics per goal and per task.

> 3. We need this by close of business Thursday. I know it is a
> short turn around, but for the most part, it is only simple
> formatting.

> Thanks, and as always, please contact me at your earliest
> convenience if you have any questions/comments.

> Best,

> Adam

> Adam Helms

> AgriLife Research Corporate Relations

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> 979-255-0752 (mobile)
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> 979-458-2677 (office)
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> <DARPA RD Proposal SemiFinal.doc>
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From: [John Mullet](#)
To: [Juerg Blumenthal](#)
Cc: [Bill Rooney](#); [Bob Avant](#)
Subject: Re: DARPA project
Date: Thursday, October 08, 2009 11:43:24 AM

I was thinking that some of the trials need to be done at the 1-3 sites selected by DARPA sites to optimize hybrids vs. sites? This is why we engaged Ceres so that Hawaii was covered. If so, I would factor in the cost of trials in Hawaii and do fewer in Tx.

John

On Oct 8, 2009, at 11:20 AM, Juerg Blumenthal wrote:

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>>> "Avant, Bob" <bavant@tamu.edu> 10/8/2009 09:56 >>>

> CONFIDEDNTIAL

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> Program Director

> Texas AgriLife Research

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> Subject: Re: Highest Priority: DARPA Energy Crops
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Cc: [Adam Helms](#); [McCutchen, Bill](#); [Mullet, John E.](#); [Steve Searcy](#); [Bill L Rooney](#); [David Baltensperger](#)
Subject: Re: DARPA project
Date: Thursday, October 08, 2009 12:13:18 PM

Thanks Juerg,

We need to discuss. Testing must be conducted at 3 DOD strategic locations - - probably CS, Hawaii, Pecos

Their interest is jet fuel production from biomass probably using FT tech.

Sent from my iPhone

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> Best,
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>
> Adam
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>
> Adam Helms
>
> AgriLife Research Corporate Relations
>
> 979-255-0752 (mobile)
>
> 979-458-2677 (office)
>
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> <DARPA RD Proposal SemiFinal.doc>
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From: [Avant, Bob](#)
To: [Juerg Blumenthal](#)
Cc: [Adam Helms](#); [McCutchen, Bill](#); [Mullet, John E.](#); [Steve Searcy](#); [Bill L Rooney](#); [Baltensperger, David](#)
Subject: Re: DARPA project
Date: Thursday, October 08, 2009 2:04:33 PM

I have contacts with Hawaii Bioenergy. They own 400000 acres on several islands, but we don't have time to engage now. Need to make some assumptions now

Sent from my iPhone

On Oct 8, 2009, at 11:53 AM, "Juerg Blumenthal" <jblumenthal@ag.tamu.edu> wrote:

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Juerg Blumenthal

Sent from my iPhone

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Thanks Juerg,

We need to discuss. Testing must be conducted at 3 DOD strategic locations - - probably CS, Hawaii, Pecos

Their interest is jet fuel production from biomass probably using FT tech.

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Tasks to the investigators:

Blumenthal: trials at 2 environments (years 1+2) and 3 environments (years 3-5) in central and east Texas, gathering of entries, packaging seed for all locations, coordinating reporting; (40% of funding).

Bean: trials at 2 environments (years 1+2) and 3 environments (years 3-5) in the Texas High Plains; (30% of funding)

El-Hout: trials at 2 environments (years 1+2) and 3 environments (years 3-5) in the Rio Grande Valley and the Coastal Bend. (30% of the funding)

Keep me posted about your thoughts and the progress of the situation.

Jürg Blumenthal

Jürg M. Blumenthal, Ph.D.
Associate Professor
State Sorghum Cropping Systems Specialist
Soil & Crop Sciences Department
Texas A & M University
351c Heep Center
Mailstop 2474
College Station, TX 77843-2474

Phone: (979) 845-2935
Fax: (979) 845-0604

>>> "Avant, Bob" <bavant@tamu.edu> 10/8/2009 09:56
>>>
CONFIDENTIAL

It looks like Ceres may not want to take on Task 1. As Plan B we need to prepare an approach where we conduct the trialing - - ASAP.

Bob Avant
Program Director
Texas AgriLife Research
979/845-2908
512/422-6171 (Cell)
bavant@tamu.edu
<http://agbioenergy.tamu.edu>

-----Original Message-----

From: Avant, Bob
Sent: Thursday, October 08, 2009 9:53 AM
To: 'Walter Nelson'
Subject: RE: DARPA project

Thanks Walter,

I'll watch for your call and step out of meeting.

Bob Avant
Program Director
Texas AgriLife Research
979/845-2908
512/422-6171 (Cell)
bavant@tamu.edu
<http://agbioenergy.tamu.edu>

-----Original Message-----

From: Walter Nelson [<mailto:wnelson@ceres.net>]
Sent: Thursday, October 08, 2009 6:21 AM
To: Avant, Bob
Subject: DARPA project

Bob,

Didn't get to followup with everyone here till late last night
and
then
had to go to dinner with family. Leave for Austin on 6:50am
flight
this
morning so won't be avail by phone till about 9:30 your time
in San
Diego.

Had discussions around ideas we discussed and our current
position
would
still prefer A&M handle the research proposal trialing with
language
saying Ceres will negotiate with DARPA for commercial access
to
materials as preferred customer etc....

Also spoke to Richard briefly last night and am keen to try to
find a
solution that will work well for all. Intend to discuss with
McCutchin
tomorrow at lunch.

Will try reaching during my drive from Austin to College
Station.

Walter

-----Original Message-----

From: Avant, Bob [<mailto:bavant@tamu.edu>]
Sent: Tuesday, October 06, 2009 7:56 PM
To: Helms, Adam
Cc: wlr@tamu.edu; stelly@tamu.edu; Mullet, John E.;
ssearcy@tamu.edu;
jwrichardson@tamu.edu; jmgould@ag.tamu.edu;
pklein@tamu.edu; Russell

Jessup; thomasson@tamu.edu; Nael El-Hout; Walter Nelson; Juerg Blumenthal; Simpson, Shay; Spurlin, Shayna; Nelson, Michelle; Bridges, Brenda; McCutchen, Bill
Subject: Re: Highest Priority: DARPA Energy Crops

Thanks Adam

This is presented well and the changes are essential. I would reiterate the importance of receiving the changes by COB Thursday.

PI's please take care to follow a consistent format so we can avoid major reformatting. Please call if you have questions.

In addition to these changes, we will need to redo the milestones document, redo the Gantt chart, prepare the PPT.
Sent from my iPhone

On Oct 6, 2009, at 9:17 PM, "Helms, Adam" <ahelms@dsmail.tamu.edu> wrote:

- > Good evening:
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- > Today we met with Dr. Giroir and he gave us some advice for moving
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From: [McCutchen, Bill](#)
To: [wlr@tamu.edu](#); [Avant, Bob](#); [JBlumenthal@ag.tamu.edu](#)
Cc: [ahelms@tamu.edu](#); [Mullet, John E.](#); [s-searcy@tamu.edu](#); [Baltensperger, David](#); [Schuerman, Peter L.](#)
Subject: Re: DARPA project
Date: Thursday, October 08, 2009 4:24:12 PM

Hamilton is OK and informed, but his team says they can't be stretched at this time - but they are supportive of our efforts with DARPA.

Bob, can you add more as you met face to face with Hamilton in San Diego?

Peter and I have lunch with Walter and Anna tomorrow; so should learn more.

Thanks,

Bill

From: Bill Rooney <wlr@tamu.edu>
To: Avant, Bob; 'Juerg Blumenthal' <jblumenthal@ag.tamu.edu>
Cc: 'Adam Helms' <ahelms@tamu.edu>; McCutchen, Bill; Mullet, John E.; 'Steve Searcy' <s-searcy@tamu.edu>; Baltensperger, David
Sent: Thu Oct 08 16:19:15 2009
Subject: RE: DARPA project

Bob, Jurg et al:

Between Bob's contacts and contacts that I have on Hawaii, I think we can get the work done. Given the time and situation, I think we have to make some assumptions that we will get the work done and not be particular on whom we will be working with.

I am a little more concerned regarding the lack of interest from Ceres in participating. It seems to me that this would be an excellent opportunity to enhance their testing and with a little extra funding. Seems odd to me.... Regardless, we need to make sure that they are onboard as a commercial partner.

I'll get the contacts when I get back to College Station on Monday.

Regards,

Bill

From: Avant, Bob [<mailto:bavant@tamu.edu>]
Sent: Thursday, October 08, 2009 2:05 PM
To: Juerg Blumenthal
Cc: Adam Helms; McCutchen, Bill; Mullet, John E.; Steve Searcy; Bill L Rooney; Baltensperger, David
Subject: Re: DARPA project

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Keep me posted about your thoughts and the progress of the situation.

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Sent: Thursday, October 08, 2009 6:21 AM

To: Avant, Bob
Subject: DARPA project

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Had discussions around ideas we discussed and our current position would still prefer A&M handle the research proposal trialing with language saying Ceres will negotiate with DARPA for commercial access to materials as preferred customer etc....

Also spoke to Richard briefly last night and am keen to try to find a solution that will work well for all. Intend to discuss with McCutchin tomorrow at lunch.

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> <Narrative_MD example.doc>

From: [Tim Trop](#)
To: [Bill Rooney](#)
Subject: Re: Maui biofuel project
Date: Thursday, October 08, 2009 5:11:04 PM

When can you come to Maui ?

Ps bob osgood of harc will also contact you. He is very worried about birds

On Oct 8, 2009, at 11:28 AM, "Bill Rooney" <wlr@tamu.edu> wrote:

Tim:

Questions to ask

1. Why is it too rocky for grain sorghum?
 - a. Too difficult to plant?
 - b. Fertility/watering an issue?
 - c. Harvest? (If so, how is the harvest done?)
2. What is grown there? (ie, what is the soil not too rocky for?)
3. Have you ever grown grain sorghum on this land before? (NOT SWEET or FORAGE SORGHUM!)
4. IF the answer to 3 is yes, please provide a list of the hybrids, the agronomic conditions and the agronomic production information.

If you can get answers to those questions, then I can give you some specific insight.

If there are not any answers to those questions, then the only way to start is to actually have a look at the location and get a soil and water analysis done. THEN start testing.

As I said before, I have a difficult time understanding without specific information, why on earth it is not too rocky to cultivate, but it is too rocky to grown grain sorghum. Those two statements by themselves don't make a lot of sense.....(in my experience). There has to be another scientific explanation or it is not valid.

Regards,

Bill

From: Tim Trop [mailto:tntrop@tphm.com]
Sent: Thursday, October 08, 2009 11:26 AM
To: Bill Rooney
Subject: Maui biofuel project

Bill

The landowner on Maui, HCS, has us persuaded that the rockiness of some fields may well be a problem for growing grain sorghum. We are meeting today with HARC at HCS's suggestion to do field trials. They already have stations in place on HCS property. Also they have done tests there on sweet sorghum . So now I need to figure out how to analyze whether a major portion of the 35000 acres is too rocky for sorghum. I would like your input on how to proceed. We also have an issue with topography and use of center pivot irrigation.

Tim Trop

From: RVOSGOOD@aol.com
To: wlr@tamu.edu
Cc: swhalen@harc-hspa.com
Subject: Stillwater proposal
Date: Thursday, October 08, 2009 7:08:47 PM

Bill,

I am looking forward to meeting and working with you in Indonesia next week. Expect it to be a challenging project being so isolated.

I am writing now regarding a meeting held today at the Hawaii Agriculture Research Center (HARC). I do occasional consulting at HARC and today was asked to participate in a meeting with Stillwater Associates and Plant Energy LLC. Attending for Stillwater were David Hackett, and Thomas Gieskes. For Plant Energy: Timothy Trop. Stephanie Whalen, the Executive Director of HARC and Lance Santo, HARC agronomist also attended. You may know that Mike Poteet has left HARC for another position, which is the reason I was asked to attend. We all signed non disclosure statements as I understand you have also.

Hawaiian Commercial and Sugar Co., located on Maui, suggested the meeting as they are the proposed site for a large grain sorghum /ethanol project. It was proposed by HC&S that HARC work with Stillwater to help design a testing program for GS. This would be a bit risky since no one at HARC has any experience with the crop. HARC could do the experimental work but would need help designing experiments and in determining which of the 40,000 acres at HC&S is suitable for sorghum. Some land is very stony and slopes may be too great for center pivot irrigation in other fields. Micro climates on the farm vary from low to high sunlight and are moderately rainy or very dry. Soils are quite variable too (molisols, oxisols, sand)

Your name came up as one who might be available to help with the experimental program including a visit to Hawaii to take a look at the situation. They (Stillwater) are not aware that we will be working together on the Indonesian project. Did not see any reason to disclose this at the meeting. If you are interested, suggest contacting Thomas Gieskes (tgieskes@stillwaterassociates.com). The task would be to advise HARC on a sorghum research program centered around agronomic practice and variety testing. (Stillwater would be the contractor)

Much of the discussion today was on problems with bird predation at planting and at harvest. Any small plot work we have done was seriously impacted by birds and not sure if this would carry over into large field plantings. Are there bird resistant cultivars?

I asked a lot of questions regarding why grain sorghum and not sweet sorghum. The main reason seems to be storability of the grain but probably other reasons not disclosed.

Are there disease resistant, high yielding varieties adapted to Hawaii conditions is my main question?

Since GS or SS have never been grown on any scale in Hawaii, I think there is a long learning curve and will be interested in your thoughts.

Bob Osgood

From: rwjessup@inbox.com on behalf of [Russell Jessup](#)
To: [McCutchen Bill](#)
Cc: [Baltensperger David](#); [Schuerman Peter L.](#); [Schmitt Brian C.](#); wlr@tamu.edu; [Avant Bob](#)
Subject: RE: Russell Jessup
Date: Thursday, October 08, 2009 10:49:58 PM

Peter,

Towards enabling maximum progress at next Monday's meeting, I would like to frame my inquiry beforehand. Broadly, I would like to discuss encumbrances and FTO in perennial grass crops my program could deploy for biofuels, turfgrass, forage, etc. markets. Specifically:

- 1) Perennial, diploid (*S. bicolor* x *S. propinquum*) sorghum per the CERES agreement.
- 2) Perennial, polyploid (*S. bicolor* x *S. halepense*, *S. alnum*) 'columbusgrass' per the CERES agreement.
- 3) Miscanes, *Miscanthus sinensis*, *M. x giganteus*, *Erianthus ravennea*, *E. giganteum* per the Chevron agreement. 'Background IP' within the agreement and its effects upon elite, separate & distinct *M. sinensis* I could provide to Weslaco but also plan to develop as its own biomass crop.
- 4) Other 'agency' SRAs that might effect perennial grasses (Napiergrass, Pearl Millet-Napiergrass, Buffelgrass, Bermudagrass, Buffalograss, Bluegrass--TX, KY, TX x KY, Switchgrass, Kleingrass, Guineagrass).
- 5) AgriLife policy regarding 'agency' SRAs vs. traditional 'PI' limited SRAs.

Having the CERES/Chevron/etc. agreements available Monday or earlier would aid my understanding of our commitments immensely. If any further preliminary discussion would be beneficial please feel free to contact me.

Many thanks,

Russ

=====

Russell Jessup
Assistant Professor
Perennial Grass Breeder
Dept. of Soil & Crop Sci.
Texas A&M University
rjessup@tamu.edu
979-315-4242

-----Original Message-----

From: j-slovacek@tamu.edu
Sent: Tue, 29 Sep 2009 07:44:29 -0500
To: bmccutchen@tamu.edu, kzak@tamu.edu, rjessup@tamu.edu
Subject: RE: Russell Jessup

Meeting has been set for Monday, October 12th at 1:30 pm in suite 113 Jack K Williams Admin Building conference room.

Thanks all for responding! Have a great day!

Jackie

Jackie Slovacek

Assistant to the Associate Director

Texas AgriLife Research

113 Jack K Williams Administration Bldg

College Station, Texas 77843-2142

979.845.7980

979.458.4765 Fax

From: Slovacek, Jackie

Sent: Monday, September 28, 2009 4:03 PM

To: McCutchen, Bill; Zak, Kendra; 'Russell Jessup'

Cc: Baltensperger, David; Schuerman, Peter L.; Schmitt, Brian C.; 'wlr@tamu.edu'; Avant, Bob; Judy Young

Subject: RE: Russell Jessup

Importance: High

Dear Drs. Baltensperger, Rooney and Jessup:

The following dates are available for McCutchen, Schuerman, Avant and Schmitt:

Oct 5th at 3:00 pm

Oct 6th at 3:30 pm

Oct 12th from 1:30 pm until 5:00 pm

Oct 13th from 8-10 am and 1:30 – 5:00 pm

Please let me know if any of these dates work with your schedules and I will be happy to set up this meeting.

Thanks

Jackie

Jackie Slovacek

Assistant to the Associate Director

Texas AgriLife Research

113 Jack K Williams Administration Bldg

College Station, Texas 77843-2142

979.845.7980

979.458.4765 Fax

-----Original Message-----

From: McCutchen, Bill

Sent: Monday, September 28, 2009 3:36 PM

To: Slovacek, Jackie; Zak, Kendra

Cc: Baltensperger, David; Schuerman, Peter L.; Schmitt, Brian C.;

'wlr@tamu.edu'; Avant, Bob

Subject: Russell Jessup

Jackie and Kendra,

Can you please arrange for a meeting (in the next couple of weeks with this entire cc:d group) with Dr. Jessup to discuss his RD program and FTO questions?

Also, please forward to Dr. Jessup as I don't have his email on BB.

Thanks,

Bill

From: [Slovacek, Jackie](#)
To: [Bill Rooney](#)
Cc: [Mullet, John E.](#)
Subject: RE: Confidential
Date: Friday, October 09, 2009 7:14:27 AM

Meeting has been set for November 4th at 11:00 am in our conference room and lunch will be served.

Thanks
Jackie

Jackie Slovacek
Assistant to the Associate Director
Texas AgriLife Research
113 Jack K Williams Administration Bldg
College Station, Texas 77843-2142

979.845.7980

979.458.4765 Fax

-----Original Message-----

From: Bill Rooney [<mailto:wlr@tamu.edu>]
Sent: Thursday, October 08, 2009 4:02 AM
To: Slovacek, Jackie
Cc: Mullet, John E.
Subject: RE: Confidential

Wednesday, November 4th is the best for me.

Bill

-----Original Message-----

From: Slovacek, Jackie [<mailto:j-slovacek@tamu.edu>]
Sent: Wednesday, October 07, 2009 11:43 AM
To: Bill Rooney
Cc: Mullet, John E.
Subject: RE: Confidential

I checked with Bill Mc and he says the first week of November is okay. We are available November 4-5th from 11-1:00 pm. Let me know if either day work for you guys.

Thanks
Jackie

Jackie Slovacek
Assistant to the Associate Director
Texas AgriLife Research
113 Jack K Williams Administration Bldg
College Station, Texas 77843-2142

979.845.7980

979.458.4765 Fax

-----Original Message-----

From: Bill Rooney [<mailto:wlr@tamu.edu>]
Sent: Wednesday, October 07, 2009 11:39 AM

To: Slovacek, Jackie
Cc: Mullet, John E.
Subject: RE: Confidential

Jackie:

I've got plenty to do next week when I return, but if we need to meet next week, then I can make the Tuesday time.

However, I Bill Mc is willing to wait, the first week of November is good (later in the week).

Regards,
bill

-----Original Message-----

From: Slovacek, Jackie [<mailto:j-slovacek@tamu.edu>]
Sent: Tuesday, October 06, 2009 4:17 PM
To: Mullet, John E.
Cc: Bill Rooney
Subject: RE: Confidential

I wonder if this lunch can wait until the first week of November? What do you guys think? Bill Mc is out the last week in October.

I will wait to hear from Rooney.

Jackie

Jackie Slovacek
Assistant to the Associate Director
Texas AgriLife Research
113 Jack K Williams Administration Bldg
College Station, Texas 77843-2142

979.845.7980
979.458.4765 Fax

-----Original Message-----

From: John Mullet [<mailto:jmullet@tamu.edu>]
Sent: Tuesday, October 06, 2009 4:10 PM
To: Slovacek, Jackie
Cc: Bill Rooney
Subject: Re: Confidential
Importance: High

Jackie,

I will be tied up through the end of next week getting the DARPA project done and then heading to the Chevron meeting Wed-Friday next week.

Need to check Bill Rooney's schedule because he is traveling a lot right now.

John

On Oct 6, 2009, at 3:31 PM, Slovacek, Jackie wrote:

> See email below:
>
> Bill Mc is available next week for a two hour lunch on Monday, Oct
> 12th
> 11-1 pm, or Tuesday, Oct 13th 11-1 pm.
>
> Please let me know if either of these days work for you.
>
> Thanks
> Jackie
>
>
>
> -----Original Message-----
> From: McCutchen, Bill
> Sent: Monday, October 05, 2009 6:18 PM
> To: Slovacek, Jackie
> Subject: Fw: Confidential
>
> Can you set a 2hr of campus lunch with Bill and John please?
>
> Bill
>
> ----- Original Message -----
> From: Bill Rooney <wlr@tamu.edu>
> To: McCutchen, Bill; Mullet, John E.
> Sent: Sat Oct 03 08:26:59 2009
> Subject: RE: Confidential
>
> Bill, I'd be happy to discuss integration into the research
> programs.....
>
> Bill r.
>
> -----Original Message-----
> From: McCutchen, Bill [<mailto:bmccutchen@tamu.edu>]
> Sent: Saturday, October 03, 2009 8:01 AM
> To: wlr@tamu.edu; Mullet, John E.
> Subject: Confidential
>
> Bill and John,
>
> First I want to say thanks for your leadership and guidance not only
> for
> DARPA, but the significant accomplishments that you have achieved in
> bioenergy over the years. It has been challenging and imperfect,
> but it
> has been fun and rewarding.
>
> IF we are successful in securing the DARPA funding, could I ask you to
> consider funding a graduate student that might focus on the
> potential to
> transfer insect, herbicide and/or disease traits from sorghum to
> sorcane? I would also like to ask you a favor and allow me to engage
> and provide oversight of this student that would be an student
> appointment in one or both of your labs.
>
> If you possible, I would like to discuss in person with both of you.
>

- > Thanks for considering.
- >
- > Bill
- >

From: [Tim Trop](#)
To: [Bill Rooney](#)
Subject: FW: Bird Resistant Grain Sorghum
Date: Friday, October 09, 2009 9:41:37 AM

-----Original Message-----

From: Thomas Gieskes [<mailto:tgieskes@organicfuels.com>]
Sent: Friday, October 09, 2009 12:01 AM
To: Tim Trop; Dave Hackett
Subject: Bird Resistant Grain Sorghum

Gents,

First, let me thank you for the privilege of your company during our fact finding mission this week. I thoroughly enjoyed it. Still sitting at the airport, I went back through my earlier downloads and links related to Sorghum, with a little more focus on bird resistance. The reports on high tannin varieties are unanimous: birds will not touch high tannin sorghum.

The tannin is an issue when feeding the sorghum to cattle (it has to be harvested with a relatively high moisture content, dried and stored over a

certain length of time, whereby the tannin will slowly break down to make

the grain palatable. For our purposes, that is a non-issue.

It does make it necessary however to extend our crop tests into product testing as well. When we get the crops in from the test plots, there is an

additional test protocol that we will have to define: drying, milling, fermenting, etc., to determine the composition of the waste streams and the quality of the DDGS derived from the BR sorghum.

There may be some proprietary and potentially patentable IP in the use of

very high tannin sorghum in arid environments to produce fuel ethanol (a non-edible crop, marginal lands, etc.), destruction of the tannins in the

fermentation and distillation of the ethanol to produce palatable DDGS for ruminants, etc.

Thomas

From: [Wolfgang Friedt](#)
To: wlr@tamu.edu
Subject: Sorghum accessions
Date: Friday, October 09, 2009 9:44:36 AM

Dear Dr. Rooney

For a new research project on sorghum for biomass production (in Germany) we would be interested in obtaining accessions from the Sorghum Conversion Program at your institution. I do hope that you can help us with this request. Of course, we would be prepared to cover any cost for the material provided.

I shall be glad to answer any questions you may have in this matter.

I am looking forward to your answer.

With best regards,

Wolfgang Friedt

--

Wolfgang Friedt, Prof. Dr. Dr.h.c.
Plant Breeding Department, IFZ
Justus-Liebig-University of Giessen
Heinrich-Buff-Ring 26-32
D-35392 Giessen
Tel. +49 641 99-37420
Fax +49 641 99-37429
Cell +49 178-6456025

From: [George L Hodnett](#)
To: [Bill L Rooney](#)
Subject: Re: inspection 955
Date: Friday, October 09, 2009 11:39:46 AM

Bill,

955 is my greenhouse and it is clean. I don't know anything about an inspection of the greenhouse though. Can you fill me in?

With respect to what we need: a tank water shut off valve repaired, cooling pads replaced (some are falling apart), a metal lip placed at the bottom of the cooling pads to catch the water would help eliminate the algae growth on the cement floor, and we need to change the heater system from radiant heat to forced air. I cannot have my males near the heater when it is operating for obvious reasons. That limits the space we can use.

Regards,
George

>>> "Bill Rooney" <wlr@tamu.edu> 10/9/2009 1:48 AM >>>
Is 955 your greenhouse (or is it my half greenhouse)?

If it is yours, and it is now clean, we can respond immediately. In that case, write what is needed and we'll get it taken care of immediately. If not yours, let me know and I'll deal with it.

Bill

From: [Rene Clara](#)
To: [Bill Rooney](#)
Cc: [John Yohe](#); [Joan Frederick](#)
Subject: Official delivery of germoplasma INTSORMIL-CENTA
Date: Friday, October 09, 2009 3:05:52 PM

Dear Dr. Bill,

I am planning the following activity to realize it in some country of this region:

We have finished the phase of improvement of forage sorghum varieties with "bmr" genes and now we are doing to them the first evaluation. For in Febrero/2010, we thought to distribute this germplasm to the national programs of seven countries of Central America (Guatemala, El Salvador, Honduras, Nicaragua, Costa Rica, Belize and Panama), to do a tidy delivery and that every program took more responsibility in doing its own evaluations and liberations. We are going to prepare three nurseries (high, medium and dwarf plants) to deliver them to him to every country.

We will do this act of delivery in collaboration of the " Central American System of Integration of Agricultural Technology " (SICTA). Those who will do the invitations to representatives of seven countries.

The economic part of this activity, only would consist of paying the tickets of plane and 2 nights of hotel to Dr. John Yohe y Dr. Bill Rooney, those who would do the delivery of this seed.

I need your opinion on this matter.

Regards,

René Clará V.
INTSORMIL
Host Regional Coordinator

CENTA, Apdo. Postal 885,
San Salvador, El Salvador, C.A.
Tel. (503) 2302 0239 - (503) 7815 2238 cel.
Fax: (503) 2302 0239

E-mail: reneclara@yahoo.com

From: [Tim Trop](#)
To: [Bill Rooney](#); [David Hackett](#)
Cc: tgieskes@stillwaterassociates.com
Subject: RE: Rocks on Maui
Date: Friday, October 09, 2009 4:07:16 PM

Bill

It is cane but here are the differences:

1. The cane is only harvested once every two years, while we would need to harvest at least twice a year:
2. They don't collect the stover while we do.
3. They burn the cane in place while we would not
4. Because of item one above we would use center pivot irrigation while they use disposable poly they burn in the field when they harvest
5. The rocks continually rise up through soil

We can probably deal with the rocks by using a different crop on worst fields but we need to id fields where sorghum may not be practical. The big concern right now is the birds.

Tim

From: Bill Rooney [mailto:wlr@tamu.edu]
Sent: Friday, October 09, 2009 4:01 PM
To: 'David Hackett'
Cc: tgieskes@stillwaterassociates.com; Tim Trop
Subject: RE: Rocks on Maui

The residue on the field appears to be cane. Is that correct? If so, how do they deal with rocks on sugarcane. The situation will be no worse with sorghum than it is with sugarcane.

There will likely need to be some modification of planter units, ie, sweep to remove rocks from the planting area. Also, you may not be able to harvest as low as normal. I'd also have to understand the Hawaiiin concern to understand if it is a legitimate problem.

Regards,

Bill

From: David Hackett [mailto:dhackett@pacbell.net]
Sent: Friday, October 09, 2009 11:12 AM
To: wlr@tamu.edu
Cc: tgieskes@stillwaterassociates.com; tntrop@tphm.com
Subject: Rocks on Maui

Hi Bill,

Tim Trop asked me to send you these cell phone pictures I took on Maui on Monday. This is a

recently plowed field. I took the pictures to illustrate the size and distribution of the rocks in a field that Lee Jakeway, HC&S' manager, had selected to represent a problem field from a rock perspective.

Best regards,

Dave Hackett

From: [Kathy Ferguson](#)
To: [Bill L Rooney](#)
Subject: RE: Sugarcane Geneticist and Breeder - WESLACO candidate
Date: Friday, October 09, 2009 4:30:41 PM

Hi Bill,
I hear you are in Ireland...now that's nice, I hope you are enjoying yourself?

I put you down on the 14th for 30 minutes at 2:00 at Foundation Seed (your office) this is right after David Stelly at 1:30 at his office. Will 30 minutes be enough for you?

Kathy

>>> "Bill Rooney" <wlr@tamu.edu> 10/9/2009 4:07 PM >>>

Kathy:

I'm open on the 14th and can meet with her at anytime. Please fit me in the schedule as appropriate and let me know.

Regards,

Bill

From: Kathy Ferguson [<mailto:KFerguson@ag.tamu.edu>]
Sent: Friday, October 09, 2009 3:51 PM
To: Amir M Ibrahim; Kevin Crosby; Martin Dickman; Steve Hague; Seth C Murray; Terry J Gentry; Dirk Hays; Frank Hons; Hong Bin Zhang; John E Mullet; Dave Stelly; Patricia Klein; Russell Jessup; Scott Finlayson; Bill L Rooney
Cc: David Baltensperger; C. Wayne Smith; Judy Young
Subject: Fwd: Sugarcane Geneticist and Breeder - WESLACO candidate

I received additional information so please see revised itinerary below! You will note Dr. Hale is flying out on the evening of October 14th, therefore there will be no meetings scheduled the following morning.

Once again, please reply as quickly as possible so we can finalize her itinerary.

Thanks,
Kathy

>>> Kathy Ferguson 10/9/2009 3:26 PM >>>

Dr. Ana Hale, candidate for the Plant Geneticist position in Weslaco, is coming in next week, she will be in Weslaco on Monday and Tuesday, arriving here in College Station the afternoon of the 13th. We will be scheduling meetings for the following day (October 14th). I have set the meeting blocks in 30 minute increments, however, this is flexible.

We are only days away from Dr. Hale arriving. Please reply as quickly as possible.

Please review this schedule and let me know what is the best time for you, and where you would like to meet with Ana.

October 13, 2009

Arriving in College Station @ 4:14 pm Continental Flight CO 1520

Pick up at Airport & delivered to Hawthorn Suites:

Dinner Meeting:

October 14, 2009

7:00 am Breakfast Meeting - Wayne Smith (drop off at H.R. by 8:15 am)

9:15 am Pick up from H.R. by:
(Deliver to Heep so she can prepare for her seminar)

11:00 am - possible tour of facilities (after seminar) by:

12:00 pm Lunch Meeting:

1:30 pm

2:00 pm

2:30 pm

3:00 pm

3:30 pm - Wrap up - David Baltensperger

4:00 pm - SCSC Seminar

5:00 pm - Dinner Meeting with:

6:00 pm - Deliver to Airport for departing flight at 7:15 pm by:

Thank you!
Kathy

Make it a GREAT day!

Kathy Ferguson

Senior Office Associate

Soil & Crop Sciences | Instruction Programs

MEPS | Instruction Programs

Texas A&M University

TAMU 2474

Heep Center, Rm 217

Phone: 979-845-4620 | MEPS: 979-845-0532 | Fax: 979-458-0533

"Learning is ever in the freshness of its youth, even for the old." Aeschylus

From: [Nilesh Dighe](#)
To: [Ed Wolfrum](#)
Cc: [Bill Rooney](#)
Subject: Re: Visit to NREL
Date: Friday, October 09, 2009 5:01:48 PM

Ed-

Would the week of 2nd Nov (Nov 2-6) good for me to visit your lab. I remember last time, because of my foreign nationality, we had to get a clearance for me to work in your lab. Do you think we have to go through that process again? If yes, then please let me know what all things do you need from me to facilitate the process?

Regarding the liquid samples: Each sample is approx. 12-15 ml. The samples are stored in 15 ml plastic tubes. Could you let us know how clean the samples need to be? Though most of our samples are fairly clean, some of them might have small amounts debris including leaf tissue or seed. Would that be a problem?

Regarding predictions: Do you have the new model built? We like to get predictions on 220 samples so that we can use composition data as one of the criterion in making selection decisions. If you have the new model, would it be possible for you to give us the predictions if I send you their spectra?

Thanks,
Nilesh

----- Original Message -----

From: "Ed Wolfrum" <Ed.Wolfrum@nrel.gov>
To: "Nilesh Dighe" <nileshdighe@neo.tamu.edu>
Sent: Friday, October 9, 2009 9:30:24 AM GMT -06:00 US/Canada Central
Subject: RE: Visit to NREL

Nilesh,

We get the FOSS XDS installed next week. As far as November dates go, we are pretty open. The last week in October (10/26) as well.

I think 250 samples would take at 3-4 days, if everything goes well. How much of each sample do you have?

Ed

-----Original Message-----

From: Nilesh Dighe [<mailto:nileshdighe@neo.tamu.edu>]
Sent: Wednesday, October 07, 2009 6:48 AM
To: Wolfrum, Ed
Cc: Bill Rooney
Subject: Visit to NREL

Ed-

Dr. Rooney mentioned me that he had a discussion with you about me coming over to NREL in November, 2009 to scan some liquid samples on your new FOSS instrument. Would it still be possible for me to come in November? If so, could you please let me know the available dates that I can use the instrument. I like to scan around 250 samples, so please take into account the number of days needed

to process these many samples, when assigning the potential dates.

I would appreciate if you could let me know the available dates at your earliest.

Thanks.

Best Regards,
Nilesh

> understand if it is a legitimate problem.

>

>

>

>

> Regards,

>

>

>

> Bill

>

>

>

>

>

>

>

> From: David Hackett

> [<mailto:dhackett@pacbell.net>]

>

> Sent: Friday, October 09, 2009 11:12 AM

>

> To: wlr@tamu.edu

>

> Cc: tgieskes@stillwaterassociates.com;

> tntrop@tphm.com

>

> Subject: Rocks on Maui

>

>

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>

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>

>

> Hi Bill,

>

>

>

> Tim Trop asked me to send you these

> cell phone pictures I

> took on Maui on Monday. This is a recently plowed

> field. I took the

> pictures to illustrate the size and distribution of the

> rocks in a field that

> Lee Jakeway, HC&S manager, had selected to

> represent a problem field from

> a rock perspective.

>

>

>

> Best regards,

>

>

>

> Dave Hackett

>

>

>

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>
>
>

From: [Stelly David](#)
To: [Stelly David David M.](#); [Ibrahim Amir](#); [Hays Dirk](#); [Zhang Hongbin](#); [Finlayson Scott](#); [Gentry Terry](#); [Rooney Bill](#); [Seth Murray C.](#); [Smith Wayne](#); [Hague Steve](#)
Cc: [David Baltensperger](#)
Subject: Schedule AgriGenomics Lab meeting 19th or 21st?
Date: Saturday, October 10, 2009 7:45:59 AM

Below is a scheduling link ([Doodle.com](#)) to help us identify time(s) of greatest availability for a AgriGenomics Lab Discussion Meeting. Based on schedules for me, Russ and Seth, I narrowed it to the week after next: M and W the 19th and 21st.

<http://www.doodle.com/cz9xygyrht8d2gsz>

As per earlier email to most of you and hallway discussions with a few of you, it would be helpful, I think to discuss where we are and how to move forward from here in developing our shared facilities. There are probably two key matters there -- meeting our needs and not unnecessarily duplicating shared facilities, at least where expenses are significant and and time considerations don't demand in-house capabilities.

I think that we must interface now or later with external elements to make sure that we coordinate well with them either at this meeting or after it, e.g.,

IPGB, the (Trish Klein as point of contact? Or Eun-Gyu No?)
Vet school, (Chris Seabury as point of contact?)
DNA Technologies Core Laboratory (Jim Derr)
Animal Sci, and the (??? Clare Gill ? Penny Riggs? other?)
TAMUS Genomics initiative (whatever they calling them now). (Clare ? Penny?)
(Is this = LSB investment, or separate?)
Biology (ask McKnight for best contact point, but probably Larry Harris-Haller.)

Genomics & Bioinformatics Facility Core, (Robert Chapkin) (-- expression)

Flow Cytometry Core Laboratory (Roger Smith) --- not sure if they run plants
Flow Cytometry (Spencer Johnston) --- they run some plants
I am not sure which strategy would be most fruitful in the long run, but it may be that we should talk among ourselves (SCSC) first, then visit with Dr. Baltensperger (overall and research) and with Dr. Smith (teaching), then externally. Comments?

Let me know, please if there are others that need to be roped into this process.

David

On Sep 16, 2008, at 6:12 AM, Stelly_David wrote:

This was my take on the meeting and discussion yesterday --- **subject to your amendments and comments (please insert them)**:

We looked at 3 locations in regards to the AgriGenomics Laboratory (AGL),

AFL (renovated lab area -- part fixed up nicely)
955 (Zhang room, hallway; sorghum and FISH area)
NBL (Stelly and some shared research/teaching area)

We strived to determine which might be most appropriate -- one consideration being the sorts of activities, equipment and people that would be using a core lab facility such as the AGL. The location will also affect what items PIs will be willing to "donate" to the core.:

There are four areas of endeavor for the AGL that seem most pressing:
SAMPLE PREPARATION
GENOTYPING
DATA ANALYSIS
STORAGE

Key elements of the areas:

SAMPLE PREPARATION -- with robotics: 2 systems now available --
Xtractor (Corbett, now Qiagen) and the Autogen
Tissue (e.g., lyophilization; grinding/homogenization)
DNA
RNA
(protein)

GENOTYPING & DOSAGE ANALYSES

Stelly will get info on KBiosciences forthcoming proposal for SNPs; there are several other platforms, including Illumina, Sequenom, Fluidigm ...
SSRs (eGene Genetic Analyzer, now Qiagen "QIAxcel") and especially SNPs (**TBD**)

Need for progressively more automated and lower-cost platforms:

Test putative SNPs (low-moderate throughput)

Validate putative SNPs (e.g., by mapping): (moderate throughput)

Use SNPs (moderate - high throughput, increasing over time)

DATA ANALYSIS (and storage) -- use other resources as available:

Dirk and Seth lead development -- software (free or not) and hardware needs: note -- (SCSC owns part of a apple cluster in Teague, now idle?)

Fingerprinting

Mapping: Linkage, Radiation Hybrid

QTLs

Phylogenetic / cluster / MDS / PAUP / ...

Sequence analyses .. (R. Aramayo of BIOL has set up a nice apple cluster for this ... open; not sure how convenient physically, but accessible)

Data storage

STORAGE --

Stelly will get info on technology and cost of dry-down RT storage system for DNA, versus -80 freezers and -20 freezers

Tissue (e.g., lyophilization; grinding/homogenization)

DNA

RNA

(protein)

(Back-up power, alarms)

=====

One scenario for genotyping would have the following:
[1] in-house capability to test putative SNPs (identified in silico), i.e., sufficiently to warrant further investments for their development
[2] use of KBiosciences as a service for follow-up testing and mapping
[3] use of KBiosciences, Illumina (GoldenGate assays, possibly Infinium) or other low-cost platform for mass application, the choice depending on relative costs to establish & apply the SNP in that platform for the expected number of samples
(We did not discuss the oncoming usage of coded samples and Next-gen sequencing to genotype; this presents a very different strategy to genotyping).

=====

We discussed if a technician or professional might be associated with the AGL. The cost would have to be distributed on soft money from PIs. This might not happen, unless it is coupled with a funded position from which time could be "bought" to do AGL activities by the users.

From: [Rene Clara](#)
To: [Bill Rooney](#)
Subject: Is anything happening?
Date: Saturday, October 10, 2009 11:07:33 AM

Dear Dr. Bill,

I don't know what is happening, but lately you have not answered to my emails. The import permit that I sent to you, won on September 25 and You not sent me the engaged germoplasma. I ask you if these in agreement that I visits the ICTA and Prosemillas of Guatemala and you do not answer me. I consult you on the plan of delivery of the bmr advanced lines in Central América and I am expecting your answer. Please say to me what it happens? Are you uncomfortable with me?

René Clará V.
INTSORMIL
Host Regional Coordinator

CENTA, Apdo. Postal 885,
San Salvador, El Salvador, C.A.
Tel. (503) 2302 0239 - (503) 7815 2238 cel.
Fax: (503) 2302 0239

E-mail: reneclara@yahoo.com

De: Bill Rooney <wlr@tamu.edu>
Para: Rene Clara <reneclara@yahoo.com>
Enviado: mié, octubre 7, 2009 10:39:39 AM
Asunto: RE: Expenses report

Rene:

Thanks for the information. I'll look for the package and once approved, I'll send it on to Joan.

Regards,

Bill

From: Rene Clara [<mailto:reneclara@yahoo.com>]
Sent: Tuesday, October 06, 2009 12:53 PM
To: Bill Rooney
Cc: Joan Frederick
Subject: Expenses report

Dear Dr. Bill,

This morning I sent to you the expenses report of PCCMCA meeting of Vilma, Salvador, Mario Jaco and René Clará, by *EMS* courier.

We all spend the received money, neither return nor restoration money. Jaco bought the ticket, but it did not use it, because at the last hour the CENTA Director did not authorize his trip. This ticket is available in CENTA.

Vilma and Salvador did not use the funds for buy of tickets of plane because they obtained it of FOCAGRO.

Regards,

René Clará V.

INTSORMIL

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Fax: (503) 2302 0239

E-mail: reneclara@yahoo.com

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From: [Jeff Dahlberg](#)
To: [Aaron Schuchart](#); [Addison Lee Lawrence](#); [Andrew H. Paterson](#); [Angela Thompson McClure](#); [B. Rogers Leonard](#); [Barney Gordon](#); [Barry Miller](#); [Ben Benton](#); [Bill Dugas](#); [Bill Payne](#); [Bill Rooney](#); [Billy Williams](#); [Bob Hutmacher](#); [Bob Klein](#); [Bob Sis](#); [Bob Stewart](#); [Bonnie Pendleton](#); [Brent Bean](#); [Brent Rockers](#); [Brian Arnall](#); [Brian Olson](#); [Bruce Hamaker](#); [Bruce Maunder](#); [Buddhi P. Lamsal](#); [Calvin L. Trostle](#); [Case Medlin](#); [Cassandra McDonough](#); [Charles Miller](#); [Charlie Rush](#); [Charlie Woodfin](#); [Chris Bailey](#); [Chris Little](#); [Clarence E. Watson](#); [Cleve Franks](#); [Clint Magill](#); [Cole, Andy](#); [Curtis L. Weller](#); [Curtis Wiltse](#); [Dale L. Fjell](#); [Dan Mandel](#); [Daniel G. Peterson](#); [Danielle D. Bellmer](#); [Dave Ellis](#); [David D Baltensperger](#); [David J. Boethel](#); [David L. Miller](#); [David Mengel](#); [David R. Porter](#); [David S. Jackson](#); [David Thomas](#); [David W. Laird](#); [Deanna Funnell](#); [Dennis Ray](#); [Diane K. Hartle](#); [Dirk Maier](#); [Don Vietor](#); [Don Wysocki](#); [Donghai Wang](#); [Donnie Swink](#); [Doug Heatwole](#); [Douglas Jardine](#); [Fadi M. Aramouni](#); [Fangneg Huang](#); [Felix Fritschif](#); [Fred R. Miller](#); [Gary A. Pederson](#); [Gary C. Peterson](#); [Gary N. Odvody](#); [Gary Pierzynski](#); [Gebisa Ejeta](#); [Gene Kronberg](#); [Gene Stevens](#); [Gerson Santos-Leon](#); [Glen Art Barnaby, Jr.](#); [Gloria Burow](#); [Graig Bednarz](#); [Greg Crohnolm](#); [Gregory Glenn](#); [Hugo Zorilla](#); [Ismail Dweikat](#); [Jaime E. Malaga](#); [James A. Radtke](#); [James N. Osborne](#); [James P. Stack](#); [James Phillips](#); [James Zhang](#); [Jason Kelley](#); [Jeff Dilbeck](#); [Jeff F. Pedersen](#); [Jeffrey Bennetzen](#); [Jeffrey D. Miano](#); [Jens Walter](#); [Jerry O'Rear](#); [Jess Reed](#); [Jianming Yu](#); [Joe D. Hancock](#); [John Yohe](#); [John B. Howe](#); [John Brethour](#); [John Burke](#); [John C. Reese](#); [John D. Burd](#); [John Erickson](#); [John Erpelding](#); [John F. Rajewski](#); [John H. Ashworth](#); [John H. Sanders](#); [John Jaster](#); [John Leslie](#); [John Mullet](#); [John Russin](#); [Joseph M. Awika](#); [Julie Miller Jones](#); [Julious L. Willet](#); [Jurq M. Blumenthal](#); [K.C. Das](#); [Karl Wardlow](#); [Kassim Al-Khatib](#); [Kay Porter](#); [Ken Kofoid](#); [Kenneth Zimmerhanel](#); [Kevin Larson](#); [Kraig Roozeboom](#); [Larry D. Earnest](#); [Larry Lambright](#); [Larry McDowell](#); [Larry Richardson](#); [Larry Seitz](#); [Lee Tarpley](#); [Len Marquart](#); [Leon Clement](#); [Lisa Kelly](#); [Lloyd W. Rooney](#); [Louis Prom](#); [Maria Balota](#); [Maria G. Salas-Fernandez](#); [Mark A. Marsalis](#); [Mark Haub](#); [Mark McCaslin](#); [Martin B. Dickman](#); [Matt Veal](#); [Maureen Whalen](#); [Mike Lenz](#); [Mike Northcutt](#); [Mike Ottman](#); [Mike Williams](#); [Mitch Tuinstra](#); [Najeeb Siddiqui](#); [Nancy Turner](#); [Neal Gutterson](#); [Nick Bajjalieh](#); [Nolan Clark](#); [Patricia E. Klein](#); [Paul C. Hay](#); [Paul Tooley](#); [Paxton Payton](#); [Peggy G. Lemaux](#); [Peter Goldsbrough](#); [R. Dewey Lee](#); [R. L. Vanderlip](#); [Ray Huhnke](#); [Reggie Underwood](#); [Rex DeLong](#); [Rick Kochenower](#); [Rick Mascagni](#); [Rob Meyer](#); [Robert Gillen](#); [Robert M. Aiken](#); [Robert V. Avant, Jr.](#); [Roger Gribble](#); [Roger Monk](#); [Ron Gardner](#); [Ron L. Madl](#); [Ronald L. Prior](#); [Ronald Levy](#); [Sangu Angadi](#); [Scott Bean](#); [Scott Staggenborg](#); [Shankar Podduturi](#); [Spencer Swayze](#); [Stephen C. Mason](#); [Steve Amosson](#); [Steve Kresovich](#); [Stewart Duncan](#); [Susan O'Shaughnessy](#); [Susana Goggi](#); [Ted McCollum, III](#); [Terry A. Howell](#); [Terry Klopfenstein](#); [Teshfaye Tesso](#); [Thomas H. Ulrich](#); [Thomas J. Herald](#); [Tilman Schober](#); [Tom Isakeit](#); [Tom Royer](#); [Tom. J. Gerik](#); [Tony Davis](#); [Troy Weeks](#); [Tryon Wickersham](#); [Vincent M. Russo](#); [Wesley Rosenthal](#); [Wilfred Vermerris](#); [Wolfrum, Ed](#); [X. Susan Sun](#); [Xin, Zhanguo](#); [Yilma Kebede](#); [Yinghua Huang](#); [Yong-Cheng Shi](#); [P.V. Vara Prasad](#); [Susmita Patnaik](#); [Patty Waits Beasley](#)
Subject: Darrell Roseonow
Date: Saturday, October 10, 2009 2:26:57 PM

It is with a truly saddened heart that I am informing everyone that Dr. Darrell Rosenow passed away early this morning, Saturday October 10, 2009. Darrell was a great mentor to me and many others and he will be greatly missed among the sorghum community.

Funeral arrangements are being made and I will inform people when I have more details about the time and place.

Please keep Darrell and his family in your prayers.

Jeff

Dr. Jeff Dahlberg
USCP
4201 N. Interstate 27
Lubbock, TX 79403
Office: 806-687-8727
Cell: 806-438-8501
E-mail: jeff@sorghumcheckoff.com

From: [Jeff Dahlberg](#)
To: [Bill Rooney](#); [Bruce Maunder](#); [Cleve Franks](#); [Gary C. Peterson](#); [Gary N. Odvody](#); [Gebisa Ejeta](#); [Jeff F. Pedersen](#); [Jeffrey Wilson](#); [Ken Kofoid](#); [Larry McDowell](#); [Mike Lenz](#); [Mitch Tuinstra](#); [Roger Monk](#); [Steve Kresovich](#); [Yilma Kebede](#); [Mark A. Bohning](#); [Peter Bretting](#); [Dave Ellis](#); [John Erpelding](#); [Bob Klein](#); [Fred R. Miller](#); [Gary A. Pederson](#); [Kay Simmons](#); [Spinks, Merrelyn](#); [Ann Marie Thro](#); [Chris Walters](#); [John Yohe](#)
Subject: Darrell Rosenow
Date: Saturday, October 10, 2009 2:27:22 PM

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Jeff

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E-mail: jeff@sorghumcheckoff.com