

From: [Patt Junek](#)
To: sswayze@ceres-inc.com; wnelson@ceres-inc.com
Cc: [Schuerman, Peter L.](#); [Bill L Rooney](#)
Subject: Supplement: Sweet Sorghum Breeding - B. Rooney
Date: Thursday, April 24, 2008 3:57:38 PM
Attachments: [Sw Sorg Breed Sup Proposal Final.doc](#)

Gentlemen:

The proposal entitled "Enhancing the Sweet Sorghum Breeding Program" prepared by Dr. W. L. 'Bill' Rooney on behalf of Texas AgriLife Research is attached for consideration.

Texas AgriLife Research appreciates your attention and consideration of this important project furthering the advancement of bioenergy research. If further information is required, please contact Dr. Rooney at 979.845.2151 or wlr@tamu.edu for technical assistance or me for administrative assistance.

Respectfully,

- Patt

Patt Junek
Preaward Services - Supervisor
Texas A&M AgriLife, Contracts and Grants Office
2147 TAMU
College Station, TX 77843-2147

Physical Address:
3000 Briarcrest Drive, Suite 101
Bryan, Texas 77802-3056
979/845-8668 (voice); 979/862-7775 (fax)
p-junek@tamu.edu; <http://agcg.tamu.edu>

From: [Schuerman, Peter L.](#)
To: [McCutchen, Bill](#); [Avant, Bob](#)
Cc: [Schuerman, Peter L.](#)
Subject: FW: Supplement: Sweet Sorghum Breeding - B. Rooney
Date: Thursday, April 24, 2008 5:24:03 PM
Attachments: [Sw Sorg Breed Sup Proposal Final.doc](#)

Forwarding this, just to keep you in the loop.

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

From: Patt Junek [<mailto:p-junek@tamu.edu>]
Sent: Thursday, April 24, 2008 3:57 PM
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Date: Thursday, April 24, 2008 5:24:07 PM
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From: [Schuerman, Peter L.](#)
To: [Spencer Swayze](#); [Steven Bobzin](#)
Cc: [Bill Rooney](#); [McCutchen, Bill](#); [Schuerman, Peter L.](#)
Subject: [REDACTED] documentation.docx
Date: Thursday, April 24, 2008 5:33:35 PM
Attachments: [REDACTED] [documentation.docx](#)

Spencer, Steven:

Please find attached a description of a line, [REDACTED] which Ceres has expressed an interest in. It is my understanding from our records of this disclosure that this was developed outside of our project, but it is our strong desire to have Ceres be our commercialization partner for this material. We greatly value our collaboration, we're glad to learn of your interest and we look forward to discussing this with you.

Best regards,

-Peter

Peter L. Schuerman, Ph.D. Sr. Licensing Manager
Texas A&M University System <http://otc.tamu.edu>
Office of Technology Commercialization 979.845.0907

From: [Schuerman, Peter L.](#)
To: [Spencer Swayze](#); [Steven Bobzin](#)
Cc: [Bill Rooney](#); [McCutchen, Bill](#); [Schuerman, Peter L.](#)
Subject: [REDACTED] documentation.docx
Date: Thursday, April 24, 2008 5:38:46 PM
Attachments: [REDACTED] [documentation.docx](#)

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As we discussed at our quarterly meeting, a brief description of what Ceres would like to utilize this material for would be helpful in kicking off our discussions. However, please let me know if you need additional information in order to develop this or for any other reason.

Best regards,

-Peter

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Office of Technology Commercialization 979.845.0907

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Cc: "Bill Rooney"; [McCutchen, Bill](#); [Schuerman, Peter L.](#)
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Office of Technology Commercialization 979.845.0907

From: [Spencer Swayze](#)
To: [Schuerman, Peter L.](#); [McCutchen, Bill](#); wlr@tamu.edu; [Mullet, John E.](#)
Subject: FW: Press Release: Ceres Introduces the First Seed Brand for Bioenergy Crops
Date: Wednesday, April 30, 2008 1:54:05 AM

FYI.... See you all again soon.

Ceres Introduces the First Seed Brand for Bioenergy Crops

THOUSAND OAKS, Calif. - April 29, 2008 - Energy crop company Ceres, Inc. plans to market its agricultural seeds and traits under the trade name Blade Energy Crops in the United States. Company president and CEO Richard Hamilton unveiled the new brand at the BIO World Congress on Industrial Biotechnology in Chicago earlier today.

"Blade will be the first multi-crop seed brand supplying the new market for non-food, low-carbon biofuel feedstocks," Hamilton said. These biomass-dense crops will be grown as raw materials for next-generation biofuels and biopower. One of the great appeals of energy crops is that they can thrive on agricultural lands that are ill-suited to food production.

"Supported by the latest technology in genomics-based breeding, trait development and compositional analysis, we are positioning Blade as a premium seed brand for biofuel and biopower feedstocks. For growers, that means high yields and greater yield stability. Downstream, it means easier processing, and ultimately, more energy per ton of biomass," said Hamilton. "From both an economic and environmental perspective, if we are going to turn plant matter into fuel, we should use feedstocks that give us the maximum fuel yield per acre."

Seed supplies of the first products to be sold under the Blade name are currently being multiplied for Spring 2009 sowing. These include the nation's first switchgrass cultivars developed specifically for biofuels, EG 1101 and EG 1102, as well as high-biomass types of sorghum. "We expect the seed market for dedicated energy crops to grow in step with investments in bioenergy," Hamilton said.

Ceres vice president of commercial development Anna Rath says that feedstock supply has become a top-of-mind question for many biofuel producers as the industry moves from pilot-scale to demonstration and commercial-scale projects.

"We are working with biorefineries to set up feedstock supplies, offering support in crop selection and agronomy as well as the opportunity for an assured supply of seed. Most biofuel producers will use a mix of crops to mitigate risk and to provide flexibility from year to year," said Rath. She noted that high yielding, dedicated energy crops are needed in many places since widely dispersed sources of biomass are cost-prohibitive to collect and transport. "This issue becomes more evident as scale is increased," she said.

Due to their high yields, energy crops can produce more fuel per-acre than first-generation biofuel

crops, and further mitigate greenhouse gas emissions since these new crops require fewer inputs and actually build new topsoil. Ethanol made from switchgrass, for instance, produces 90% less greenhouse gas emissions than petroleum, and nearly five times more net energy than starch-based ethanol. Further improvements are likely as breeders introduce new seed varieties and innovations in refining technology are commercialized.

The company says the Blade name was inspired by its first crops, switchgrass, sorghum and canes, which are from a category of closely related grass species, known as C4 grasses. C4 grasses are the natural world's most efficient engines of photosynthesis, the process by which plants store solar energy in the form of carbohydrates. New technologies have made it possible to convert the most abundant form of these energy-rich molecules, called cellulose, into renewable fuels.

The Blade brand will appear on the company's seed packaging and farm-oriented marketing materials. The plant breeding and biotech firm will maintain the well-recognized Ceres name as its corporate identity as well as in its collaborations with biorefineries and biofuel technology providers.

ABOUT CERES

Ceres, Inc. (www.ceres.net) is a leading developer of high-yielding energy crops that can be planted as feedstocks for cellulosic ethanol production and biopower. Its development efforts cover switchgrass, sorghum, miscanthus, energycane and short-rotation woody crops. Ceres holds one of the world's largest proprietary collections of fully sequenced plant genes. The privately held company also licenses its technology and traits to other organizations.

#

From: [Bill Rooney](#)
To: ["Spencer Swayze"](#); ["Bonnie Hames"](#)
Cc: [Schuerman, Peter L.](#); jmullet@neo.tamu.edu; [Baltensperger, David](#); ["dustin borden"](#); ["Walter Nelson"](#)
Subject: List of Biomass Samples to be Sent
Date: Thursday, May 01, 2008 12:54:43 PM
Attachments: [07 Biomass Samples - Ceres.xls](#)

Spencer:

Based on our discussion this morning, I have completed listing of the biomass samples that will be sent to Ceres. In addition, if the sample is marked in the "pre-Ceres" or commercial column, it means that it is either a commercial hybrid or it was developed in our program prior to the Ceres agreement. If there is an "x" in the NREL column, the sample will be coded and sent to NREL for analysis.

Bonnie:

This list should serve as your master; we will send based on this list, as I mentioned earlier, in two sets. We will not send anything until next week.

If anyone has any questions, please let me know.

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: [Bill Rooney](#)
To: ["Walter Nelson"](#)
Cc: ["Karen Prihoda"](#); [McCutchen, Bill](#); [Schuerman, Peter L.](#); ["Spencer Swayze"](#)
Subject: Seed of Ceres Sweet Hybrids
Date: Tuesday, May 13, 2008 7:32:43 AM
Attachments: [May 12, 2008 - Walter Nelson.pdf](#)

Walter:

The seed for three sweet sorghum hybrids is being shipped with the sorghum biomass samples we are sending to Bonnie. This will be shipped today, so expect later this week, and make sure to get them from Bonnie.

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: [Bill Rooney](#)
To: ["Clint Johnson"](#)
Cc: ["Walter Nelson"](#); ["Spencer Swayze"](#); [Schuerman, Peter L.](#); [McCutchen, Bill](#); ["Karen Prihoda"](#)
Subject: seed of [REDACTED]
Date: Tuesday, May 13, 2008 7:32:43 AM
Attachments: [May 12, 2008 - Clint Johnson.pdf](#)

Clint:

We will send today (to the address on the attached letter) 15 pounds of [REDACTED] I'd recommend that you and Karen Prihoda (copied on this message and available at the number below) to make arrangements for shipping the seed. I don't want the seed lost.

Regards,

bill

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

From: [Bill Rooney](#)
To: ["Bonnie Hames"](#)
Cc: ["Walter Nelson"](#); ["Spencer Swayze"](#); [McCutchen, Bill](#); [Schuerman, Peter L.](#); ["Karen Prihoda"](#)
Subject: biomass samples
Date: Tuesday, May 13, 2008 7:51:40 AM
Attachments: [May 12, 2008 - Bonnie Hames.pdf](#)

Bonnie:

We are FINALLY shipping the samples today. Attached is the list of material that will be shipped.

I apologize for the delay - too many obligations all around!

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: [Allan, Sabrina C.](#)
To: [Schuerman, Peter L.](#)
Cc: [Allan, Sabrina C.](#)
Subject: MTA for Cornell (Bill Rooney)
Date: Tuesday, May 13, 2008 4:54:13 PM
Attachments: [MTA - CORNELL 5-13-08.doc](#)

Peter:

I have sent off a request to Bill McCutchen to sign off on this transfer; I have already written the agreement for it (attached). I should be getting a more descriptive summary from Cornell as to the research that will be conducted, but this should suffice if I don't before the deadline.

- Sabrina

Sabrina C. Allan
Licensing Assistant
TAMU Office of Technology Commercialization
(979) 862-3273

Texas A&M University
Master of Biotechnology
B.S. Genetics

From: [Steve Brown](#)
To: [Baltensperger, David](#); [Avant, Bob](#); [McCutchen, Bill](#); [Schuerman, Peter L.](#)
Cc: [Bill L Rooney](#)
Subject: Re: Fw: Sweet Sorghum
Date: Thursday, June 12, 2008 4:26:42 PM
Attachments: [Steve Brown.vcf](#)

Bill,

Let's give this a little more time. Several companies looked at the plots at Weslaco last week. I had a conversation with Bud Cary this morning. Sorghum Partners evidently sent a proposal on April 18th that I did not receive until yesterday.

I think for the moment, some are trying to decide which lines to include. If our license fee was not so high, I think that we would have had a more rapid response. (I am not saying that we should have charged less, but it is quite a deviation from previous grain type agreements)

Let's give this another couple of week and then we can set a new strategy if you wish.

Thanks,

Steve Brown
Program Director
Texas Foundation Seed Service
Email: rsbrown@ag.tamu.edu
PH: 940-552-6226
website <http://tfss.tamu.edu>
FAX:940-552-5524

>>> "McCutchen, Bill" <bmccutchen@tamu.edu> 6/11/2008 7:06 PM >>>
How do we proceed? Should we open for a second round while providing guarantee to first round collaborators?

Bill

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

From: Tim Lust <[\[REDACTED\]](#)>
To: karl wardlow <[\[REDACTED\]](#)> Larry Richardson <[\[REDACTED\]](#)> Fred Miller <[\[REDACTED\]](#)> David Thomas <[david@gtseed.tamu.edu](#)> Bill Townsend <[\[REDACTED\]](#)> jerry@gtseed.tamu.edu <jerry@gtseed.tamu.edu>; Nathan Boardman <[\[REDACTED\]](#)> John Moss <[\[REDACTED\]](#)> [\[REDACTED\]](#) <[\[REDACTED\]](#)> spencer Swayze <sswayze@ceres-inc.com>; Aaron Schuchart <[\[REDACTED\]](#)> Bill Rooney <wlr@tamu.edu>; McCutchen, Bill
Cc: hannah Lipps (E-mail) <[\[REDACTED\]](#)> Christi Stulp <[\[REDACTED\]](#)> Marsha Bryant <[\[REDACTED\]](#)> jeff dahlberg <[\[REDACTED\]](#)> Chris Cogburn <[\[REDACTED\]](#)>
Sent: Wed Jun 11 17:24:38 2008
Subject: Sweet Sorghum

All, The buzz on sweet sorghum continues to grow worldwide based upon the success of a worldwide media campaign that is on going. Over the last month, print, radio and tv worldwide have ran stories. There are still planned stories for ABC and NBC here in the US and BBC and NPR recently ran spots worldwide. We continue to say that there is great potential while being careful to not over promise seed availability as we are not aware of large quantities of sweet sorghum hybrid seed available for 2009. If any of you have thoughts

or ideas on this do not hesitate to let us know. We will be adding some of the information to our website and to sending it to our membership in days to come.

Tim Lust, CEO
National Sorghum Producers
806-749-3478 - office

From: [Spencer Swayze](#)
To: [Patt Junek](#); [Walter Nelson](#); [Gilliland, Diane M.](#)
Cc: [Schuerman, Peter L.](#); [Bill L Rooney](#); [Wilfriede van Assche](#); [Remy Jacobs](#)
Subject: RE: Supplement: Sweet Sorghum Breeding - B. Rooney
Date: Wednesday, June 18, 2008 10:31:46 PM
Attachments: [2008-06-16 Texas AgriLife - Amend I.doc](#)

Patt & Diane,

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Please let me know if you have any additional questions or comments. When you are comfortable, please print two (2) clean copies, have the appropriate representative sign both copies, and send them to the attention of Remy Jacobs at Ceres for countersignature. Remy will send you a fully executed version for your files.

We look forward to working with you on this project.

Best regards,

Spencer P. Swayze
Manager of Business Development
Ceres, Inc. "The Energy Crop Company(tm)"

Office: (805) 376-6508
Mobile: (805) 407-8799
www.ceres.net

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To: [McCutchen, Bill](#)
Cc: [Avant, Bob](#); [Riddle, David](#); [Schuerman, Peter L.](#)
Subject: FW: Supplement: Sweet Sorghum Breeding - B. Rooney
Date: Thursday, June 19, 2008 8:16:49 AM
Attachments: [2008-06-16 Texas AgriLife - Amend I.doc](#)

Bill: Ceres has sent the draft amendment for the commitment of an additional \$500,000 for the next four years. The amendment is to the existing agreement, bringing it to \$4.9M over five years.

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Sent: Wednesday, June 18, 2008 10:34 PM
To: Patt Junek; Walter Nelson; Gilliland, Diane M.
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To: [McCutchen, Bill](#)
Cc: [Avant, Bob](#); [Riddle, David](#); [Schuerman, Peter L.](#)
Subject: FW: Supplement: Sweet Sorghum Breeding - B. Rooney
Date: Thursday, June 19, 2008 8:22:52 AM
Attachments: [2008-06-16 Texas AgriLife - Amend I.doc](#)

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