

From: [John Mullet](#)
To: [McCutchen, Bill](#)
Cc: wlr@tamu.edu
Subject: Re: Confidential IBERS
Date: Sunday, November 08, 2009 9:03:02 AM

Bill,

I will contact Mike and let him know that we are meeting with IBERS on Friday and that he may also want to talk to Iain about cane X Miscanthus opportunities. I thought he had already done this, but lets make sure.

Thanks,

John

PS: Mendel/BP was always going to be difficult to align with Chevron/Ceres.

On Nov 7, 2009, at 8:56 PM, McCutchen, Bill wrote:

> I am OK with the approach, but want you to know that Gould was in my
> office Thursday. It is looking like his relationship with Mendel
> may finally be ending - they are trying to screw us. So he wants to
> meet with IBERS and has contacted them.
>
> So may I suggest and so that we don't look uncoordinated, and so
> that we don't upset the apple cart too much, I believe it would be a
> good idea for one of us to let Mike know about the meeting per their
> request. Perhaps we could also spend a little time with IBERS about
> potential Weslaco needs, crossing houses, etc.
>
> Please work with me gentlemen. Our long range future, success and
> potential growth will undoubtedly have Weslaco as an important
> component for our bioenergy goals. We need to work together as much
> as possible.
>
> By the way, Bob and I are meeting with Chevron mid December to
> discuss ideas about a bioenergy Center.
>
> ----- Original Message -----
> From: Bill Rooney <wlr@tamu.edu>
> To: Mullet, John E.; McCutchen, Bill
> Sent: Sat Nov 07 12:00:44 2009
> Subject: RE: Confidential IBERS
>
> Nice summary and logical approach forward. I concur.
>
> 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: John Mullet [<mailto:jmullet@tamu.edu>]
> Sent: Saturday, November 07, 2009 8:50 AM
> To: McCutchen, Bill
> Cc: Bill Rooney
> Subject: Re: Confidential IBERS
>
> Bill and Bill,
>
> I think this one is pretty straight forward.
>
> IBERS contacted Bill and me about discussing sorghum X miscanthus
> opportunities. This discussion is separate from IBERS collaboration
> with Ceres but there is potential for linkage at some point that we
> should keep open. It seems unlikely that any sorghum X miscanthus
> collaboration will involve Weslaco scientists or that location.
> However, if involvement of any REC or other unit became important,
> then the unit head and scientists would be brought into the
> discussion.
>
> Weslaco's ongoing research with Mendel on miscanthus could
> significantly inhibit the IBERS/sorghum group discussion.
>
> Apparently IBERS separately contacted Mike about cane X miscanthus
> opportunities. This is good and allows a separate research discussion
> involving cane/miscanthus and IBERS/Weslaco. This sounds like a good
> opportunity for our cane research group.
>
> So the IBERS discussion has three tracks;
> - IBERS/Ceres (funded project)
> - IBERS/sorghum group
> - IBERS/cane group
>
> You and Bob Avant are in the loop in both IBERS discussions (I will
> ask Bob if he can have Michelle, Adam or Shay sit in on our
> discussion). If either IBERS engagement develops to the point of a
> formal proposal, then synergies with other groups/proposals should be
> explored.
>
> Remember, there are no funds associated with this opportunity, only
> access to germplasm and collaboration.
>
> I would recommend and will schedule an hour wrap up meeting between
> you/Bob and Iain Donnelson (IBERS lead) following our morning research
> discussion. This way if IP and larger project issues, etc. need to be
> addressed, this can be done right after the meeting.
>
> I plan to ask Bob if we can use his conference room to make this
> convenient. If we can schedule lunch, then you/Bob can talk to Iain
> during this time.
>
> Let me know what you think about this approach.
>
> Thanks,
>
> John
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> The discussion will not include cane.

> On Nov 6, 2009, at 3:48 PM, McCutchen, Bill wrote:

>

>> John and Bill,

>>

>> Please keep this bw us, please. I (we) am in a scientific and

>> political quandary. Gould is talking with Mendel and IBERS per

>> miscanthus, etc. and has already been contacted by both. To help me

>> (us), is there a possibility that we could invite Baltensperger and

>> Gould to IBERS meeting on the 13th? If schedule is booked, no
>> matter.

>>

>> Let's discuss by phone if necessary.

>>

>> Bill

>

>