

From: [McCutchen, Bill](#)
To: wlr@tamu.edu; [Mullet, John E.](#)
Subject: Re: Confidential IBERS
Date: Saturday, November 07, 2009 8:56:31 PM

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
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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

The discussion will not include cane.

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

- > John and Bill,
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- > 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

