

# North Central Crop Evaluation Committee

## Minutes from August 23, 1994 meeting Iowa State University, Ames, IA

9:00

Call to Order by Ken Ziegler

9:10

Welcome by Dr. Ron Cantrell - ISU Agronomy Department Head

Self introductions and brief descriptions of individual state testing programs.

Ziegler opened the discussion and asked; Do we need an annual meeting of variety testing personnel?

Unanimous verbal response - Yes.

Reference was made to the SRIEG group, need for an information exchange in the North, and the format for meetings. The suggestion was made to piggy-back with another group, and the need for a faculty coordinated effort.

### **Presentations by Dr. Tom Fretz, Associate Dean and Director, IAHEES**

Fretz described the possible programs available for a meeting like this. In particular, the NC, NCR, and NCT programs could be possibilities. The more logical choice would be an NCR status. He also suggested several other groups that we could join as a sub-group. The NCR167 group (corn breeding) would have similar interests. Their meeting structure was briefly discussed and thoughts were shared about private industry people attending.

Cantrell asked if NCR preferred if faculty vs. staff coordination and attendance would be an issue. Fretz thought there should be some faculty personnel involved.

More open discussion involved the pros and cons of NC, NCR, and NCT affiliation.

10:15 Break for coffee.

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10:30

Ziegler proposed we decide whether we want to be an organized group (such as NCR) or just meet annually as a self-organized group. After some discussion Dr. Harry Minor made the motion to apply for NCR status. Seconded by Kraig Roozeboom. Unanimous verbal agreement.

Ken Ziegler was chosen to assemble a proposal and send it to all NCR states for review before submitting it.

Ken asked for ideas for the proposal. The following suggestions were made. Duration of 4 years. Information exchange. Standardization of yield tests. Continuity between states. Regional database. Data exchange. Liaison with industry. Distribution of results.

Some discussion followed concerning the are of recommending varieties and hybrids. Nelson, Ziegler, Potter, Roozeboom, Dysinger, Nafziger gave their thoughts.

It was decided to send the minutes and addresses to all participants. Minor suggested a summer meeting for plot and machinery idea exchange.

The list of the 12 North Central states was given: Illinois, Indiana, Kansas, Missouri, Michigan, Nebraska, Minnesota, Wisconsin, North Dakota, South Dakota, Ohio, and Iowa. All but North Dakota and South Dakota were present at the meeting.

Some discussion followed about proposed participants. It was suggested that the proposal should state that one variety test person would be named by each Experiment Station Director, all variety test personnel would be welcome, meetings would be open to industry people, but only one voting member per state Agriculture Experiment Station.

11:30 Lunch

1:00 Ken Ziegler opened discussion for additional suggestions for proposal. An October 1 deadline was established for submitting the proposal.

The 1995 Meeting was discussed. Dr. Ed Oplinger (Wisconsin) volunteered to host the meeting. August 22 and 23 were agreed on for the dates. Oplinger suggested submitting topics for discussion 2-3 months in advance. He agreed to send a letter for input for program ideas. Approved unanimously.

Proposal Title: Crop Variety Testing

Crops being tested now: corn (grain, forage, and specialty), soybeans (grain and specialty), sorghum (grain and forage), sunflower, wheats, rice, alfalfa, barley, oat, forage grasses, canola, proso, amaranth, popcorn, crambe, cotton, dry beans, sugar beets and peas.

Possible topics for 1995: Publication and distribution of results, description of programs, fee structures, applications for entry, statistical analysis, protein and oil sampling, electronic data distribution, data acquisition systems.

Dr. Fretz returned and the proposal date deadline of October 1 was confirmed by him. The NCR director meeting will be in early November.

Ziegler requested each state determine the number of people involved in their variety testing programs.

End of business session.

Open discussion followed:

PCSAS analysis, mainframe computers, statistical analysis packages, missing plot data calculations, and methods for printing and distributing variety test reports. Danny Greene demonstrated the software program 'VarTest Data II', and the 'Select' program being assembled by Wisconsin was also described.

3:15 Break

3:30 Final discussion of distribution of results, machinery needs, widely grown surveys, test sizes, land requirements, fees for public entries, level of significance for reporting LSD's, and entry name changes.

4:20 End of meeting.

Respectfully submitted by:

B.K. Voss

K.E. Ziegler

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**Persons Attending  
1994 Regional Variety Testing Meeting  
Iowa State University - Ames Iowa  
August 23, 1994**

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**\*Suggested Station Representatives**

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