

North Central Crop Evaluation Committee

Minutes from August 13-14, 1996 meeting Manhattan, Kansas

1. The meeting was called to order by Kraig Roozeboom at 1:10 p.m.
2. Everyone introduced themselves and gave a brief report of crop conditions in their state. Those in attendance were:
 1. Kansas
 1. Kraig Roozeboom, Crop Performance Testing Coordinator
 2. Ed Quigley, Bob Cochrane, Technicians
 3. Matt Franko, Linsay Allison, Student workers
 4. Pat Evans, NW Research-Extension Center, Colby
 5. Merle Witt, Assoc. Professor-Crops, SW Research-Extension Center, Garden City
 6. Gerry Posler, Agronomy Head
 7. George Ham, Associate Director Kansas Ag. Exp. Station
 2. Ohio: Dave Jordon, Jim Beuerlein
 3. Missouri: Harry Minor, Carl Morris
 4. Michigan: Keith Dysinger
 5. Wisconsin: Joe Lauer, Ed Oplinger
 6. Iowa: Bruce Voss, Ken Ziegler
 7. Nebraska: Len Nelson
3. George Ham
 1. Presented current situation and alternatives regarding NCR Committee status. He stated that variety testing is an important activity and he would like to see it continue. However, a number of factors are working against approval as a NCR Committee:
 1. Strong tendency to reduce the number of committees in recent years
 2. Fewer administrative advisors available to service existing and new projects
 3. Fewer dollars available for travel and increased accountability
 4. NCR directors focusing on other, higher priorities
 5. Emphasis on multidisciplinary projects and those that cover a broader geographical region
 2. Dr. Ham presented three alternatives for our group.
 1. Symposia or other gatherings at annual professional meetings (likely ASA)
 2. Join up with SRIEG-33, Vance Watson new administrative advisor
 1. Dr. Ham recommended exploring this, if nothing develops, then try applying for NCR Committee status again
 3. Continue meeting on ad-hoc basis
 3. Discussion followed regarding the above alternatives
 1. Would likely be each individual state's responsibility to apply for membership of SRIEG-33

2. Several individuals expressed interest in maintaining summer meeting, SRIEG-33 meets in February-March
 3. Are there any benefits to official NCR Committee status?
 1. Actually may be a good bit of time and energy expended on administrative paperwork
 2. Can probably do what we need to do without it
 4. Suggested that we continue on ad-hoc basis using reworked NCR proposal as statement of purpose
4. Gerry Posler
 1. Reviewed KSU Agronomy Department programs, structures, and personnel
 2. Answered question regarding regionalization of programs
 1. Financially necessary
 2. Will likely see more regionalization over time
 3. Tough to do because of personnel changes, lose momentum
 5. Break
 6. Roozeboom led a discussion of the groups future plans
 1. Consensus that we continue meeting on ad-hoc basis
 1. Can re-evaluate NCR status in a few years
 2. Should set up guidelines for voting, deciding issues
 2. Approved name of group as "North Central Crop Evaluation Committee"
 3. Ad-hoc committee appointed to develop by-laws
 1. Made up of past chairs: Ken Ziegler, Joe Lauer, Ed Oplinger, Kraig Roozeboom
 2. Will have draft copy distributed to all participants prior to next year's meeting
 7. Jim Beuerlein offered to host next year's meeting in Ohio next year
 1. Likely meet in Toledo, tour NW Research Station and possibly option of touring shipping port before or after meeting
 2. Tentative date - August 5-6, 1997
 3. Possibly have evening work session if needed
 4. Possible discussion topics
 1. How, why measure agronomic and other characteristics in tests; responsibility assigned to individuals to come with recommendations and information
 1. Minor - soybean
 2. Ralph Esgar - corn
 3. Ken Kephart - small grains (tentative)
 5. Everyone should forward names and addresses to Beuerlein to round out mailing list to include as many performance testing personnel as possible from North Central states
 8. Harry Minor - Comments on testing transgenic cultivars
 1. Defined problem as products coming to market without participation in university tests
 2. Is some feeling that standard testing programs can adequately address testing of transgenics

3. Missouri tried testing Roundup-Ready (RR) soybeans over past couple of years
 1. Split plot, RR lines w/ Roundup as one whole plot and standard herbicides as other whole plot; included high-yield checks without Roundup in both blocs
 2. Mississippi and Arkansas also willing to participate
 3. Proposal rejected by RR soybean marketers
4. Tried same thing with STS soybean varieties
 1. DuPont paid half of fees
 2. Sent to 75 companies
 3. Received 25 entries
5. Tried RR test again and did get small test going in 1996
6. Did same thing for Bt corn
 1. \$1000/entry (lots of extra notes re insect infestations)
 2. Received about 30 entries, none approved for market
7. Minor agrees that standard tests likely adequately test RR soybeans
8. Ziegler tried high-oil corn test
 1. Didn't work because companies would not identify pollinators
9. Wisconsin testing high-oil corns using DuPont protocol
10. Michigan now testing a procedure for testing high-oil corns
9. Discussed research agreements and policing of private use of university trial results
 1. Usually phone call or letter to offenders takes care of problem
10. Joe Lauer - Crop Variety Select Software
 1. Can now download from Internet at <http://corn.agronomy.wisc.edu>
 2. 300K compressed, expands to 4-5M, (only corn and soybean)
 3. May serve as a model for electronic distribution of regional testing results
 4. Discussed how far back data really needs to go to be useful, 5 years probably enough
11. Meeting adjourned at 5:30
12. Tuesday evening: dinner and tour at Konza Prairie
13. Wednesday Morning
 1. Karl Mannschreck, Agronomy Research Farm Director, reviewed land and facilities available for agronomy research
 2. Vernon Schaffer, Kansas Foundation Seed, reviewed Foundation Seed Program and cooperation with Crop Performance Testing Program
 3. Reviewed Kansas Crop Performance Testing Equipment and program structure
 4. Bill Schapaugh, soybean breeder, reviewed soybean testing program and equipment
 5. Viewed sorghum and corn plots at Agronomy North Farm
 6. Break, moved to Ashland Bottoms
 7. Larry Patton, Wheat Breeding Project, reviewed wheat breeding project equipment
 8. Richard Wynia, USDA-NRCS Plant Materials Center, reviewed Plant Materials Center program, projects, and facilities

9. Adjourned until next year's meeting in Ohio

Respectfully submitted,

Kraig Roozeboom