

**North Central Crop Evaluation Committee**  
**Minutes from the 2006 Annual Meeting**  
**August 15 & 16, 2006**  
**Purdue University**

Meeting hosted by Purdue University and was called to order by Phil DeVillez. States in attendance were: Illinois, Ohio, Michigan, Iowa, Wisconsin, Pennsylvania & Indiana.

The meeting opened with crop reports from each state. Overall reports were good but cool wet conditions across the Midwest in May had caused some planting delays and poor stand establishment in some locations.

Kelly Delp communications specialist from Purdue presented a summary of variety testing websites. She gave the group information on web etiquette and examples of good web features as well as things we should avoid. One problem was that some programs don't have direct control over their website or are restricted by the university system.

The group voted to move the NCCEC website to Purdue University, since Kansas State can no longer host the site. Kelly Delp will work with Phil DeVillez to have the new site up and running before the next meeting. New ideas for the website included creating a list serve, posting of informational power point presentations, written articles on topics of interest to producers and a section on FAQ's.

The next topic of discussion was entry forms. Each state provided a copy of their forms and gave a brief explanation of how it was used. There was a lot of discussion on the benefits of putting the entry forms on line.

Benefits listed were:

Being able to transfer hybrid lists directly into data management programs.

Easier access for companies / increased participation.

Increased time efficiency, no more typing in entries.

Streamlining the whole process from entry forms to billing to posting trial lists.

Data reporting and data formats were the next topic of discussion. Each state provided the group with trial results. One question remains. Will the group benefit themselves and clientele by standardizing the testing in all states?

After lunch Cory Gerber director of the DTC (Diagnostic Training Center) gave a presentation of his program and talked specifically about marketing it to companies.

Jim Beaty, Farm Manager, then gave the group a tour of the Purdue Agronomy farm.

On the 16<sup>th</sup> discussion focused once again on website development. The group looked at the FIRST website and discussed the pros & cons of their layout. The uniformity of the

data presentation and the cooperator pages were both considered positive features of the FIRST website.

Ohio State volunteered to host the 2007 meeting in Dayton.

Topics suggested for the meeting were:

Software used for data analysis.

Promotional ideas.

Trait data reporting. Starch, oil, protein, etc.