Collaboration for Plant Pathogen Strain Identification (CPPSI)

A science-based initiative to standardize the identification of plant pathogen strains and races based on sets of host differentials and reference plant pathogen strains

2014 Progress Report

Background:

- Consistent identification of plant pathogen strains and races is a recognized need in industry and academia
- There is no recognized global body that regulates the naming of consistent naming of plant pathogen strains and races
- A US based effort to fill this gap was initiated in 2007 by ISF in partnership with APS and an ad hoc committee was formed to develop a system to identify plant pathogen strains
- This system would be compatible with and complement existing systems in Europe (NAKT, GEVES-MATREF, IBEB)
- A US based system was created and four pilot differential host sets with reference plant pathogen strains were developed and launched
- Over time the initiative evolved from an ISF / APS based effort to one supported by ASTA and its members.
- CPPSI has continuing support from ASTA, APS and ISF.

Progress made in 2014

- ASTA enlisted Darrell Maddox of Endless Skies Consulting to develop a business plan for CPPSI. The plan was developed and distributed to ASTA, the founding supporter seed companies and the CPPSI working group.
- The UCD Seed Biotechnology Center will house CPPSI and provide the needed structural support to grow this effort and make it a functioning reality.
- Seven vegetable seed companies are lined up as founding financial supporters. They have agreed to provide annual startup funds for our project over a three year period.
- Representatives of founding companies can serve as a steering committee to guide the next round of differential host sets and reference pathogen strains in collaboration with the working group who will provide technical input
- Based on the above financial and structural support, we will begin a search for a fulltime Administrative Director to further drive the development of this initiative and manage day to day activities. The director will be hired as a UCD employee

Progress made in 2014 (Cont.)

- A website domain was licensed to our committee and is named CPPSI.org.
- While this effort is financed by vegetable seed companies, our intention is to expand to other crop types that have an interest in these tools <u>provided they</u> <u>finance and contribute technical experts to support these additional efforts.</u>
- CPPSI is now recognized by APS as a sub-committee to the APS Collections and Germplasm Committee. This sub-committee and organizational ties to UCD provide us with strong links to Academia.
- When the Director is hired, the ties and cooperation with your organizations will be reinvigorated to further develop this important resource in the US. Our goals are to avoid duplication of effort with NAKT, IBEB, ABEB and GEVES – MATREF and continue to fully cooperate with these organizations.
- Until the new Director is hired to bring this initiative to its full realization, we will
 continue our Working Group activities to map out the details of the system and
 provide needed input

Current Committee Members

- Phyllis Himmel (Chair) Marrone Bio Innovations
- Elisabetta Vivoda HM Clause
- Radha Ranganathan –International Seed Federation
- Craig Sandlin Syngenta
- William Dolezal Pioneer Hi-Bred, Inc.
- Lindsey du Toit Washing State University
- Kimberly Webb USDA ARS
- Narceo Bajet

 Eurofins labs, Inc.
- Kees van Ettekoven Naktuinbouw
- Valerie Grimault GEVES / Valerie Cadot GEVES
- Gary Pederson GA USDA ARS, Plant Genetic Resources Conservation
- Stephanie Greene CO USDA ARS, Plant Genetic Resources Conservation
- John Schoenecker HM Clause, American Seed Trade Association
- Ric Dunkle American Seed Trade Association
- Staci Rosenberger
 – Monsanto Vegetable Seeds
- Nicki Philips Enza Zaden
- Phil Brown Sakata
- Mark Ricker Bayer Crop Sciences Vegetable Seeds

Thank you!

Questions?