

From: [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: FSANZ Workshop on New Plant Breeding Techniques [SEC=UNCLASSIFIED]
Date: Thursday, 2 February 2012 10:26:00 AM

Thanks [REDACTED] for your comments.

Sorry I missed the chance to follow up with you about this. I'm on leave now until 13 Feb, so will try and touch base with you once I return to work.

Re the chairing, we don't believe ACPFG involvement in the SPT technology is an impediment to you chairing the meeting so if you are still happy to do it then that would be our preference.

In the meantime, we have come up with a list of techniques that we would like to cover in the workshop, they are:

1. SPT technology
2. Reverse breeding
3. Zn finger nuclease technology
4. GM rootstock grafting
5. Oligo-directed mutagenesis

Of course there are many more that we could have included but we feel that these are probably the ones most likely to have commercial applications at this stage, however if you feel there is a glaring omission please let me know. As I said, I will try and touch base with you some time after the 13th, when I return from leave.

Best regards

[REDACTED]

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From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, 27 January 2012 5:02 PM
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: FSANZ Workshop on New Plant Breeding Techniques [SEC=UNCLASSIFIED]

Dear [REDACTED]

I have been giving some thought to this since we last spoke. I've recently visited [REDACTED] and heard a fair bit about the targeted integration with Zn finger nucleases. They have been testing a number of applications in several crops. [REDACTED] has been evaluating some aspects in wheat for them. Some of the applications are definitely GM while others may not be. The technology also allows establishment of specific sites for transgene integration and this may help with some regulatory approvals. [REDACTED] said that they would be willing to send someone to explain the various applications of the technology.

As I mentioned to you, we have a project with [REDACTED] Again they'd be willing to send someone or we could ask [REDACTED] who works here on the application of [REDACTED] to wheat and could explain the technology. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] and [REDACTED] would be good to cover the horticultural issues and [REDACTED] is always good value. I'm not sure that [REDACTED] would be the best for the panel and it might be better to have someone with more of a breeding background. Another person who has a good background in horticultural breeding is [REDACTED] also from Plant and Food Research NZ.

He would be a bit more 'down to earth' than [REDACTED] I agree that it's best to keep the panel small.

I'm happy to chair the meeting if you don't feel my potential conflict of interest is a problem.

Otherwise [REDACTED] or [REDACTED] could act as chair.

All the best

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]

Sent: Tuesday, 24 January 2012 1:36 PM

To: [REDACTED]

Subject: FSANZ Workshop on New Plant Breeding Techniques [SEC=UNCLASSIFIED]

Dear [REDACTED]

This is just a follow-up email after our previous chat before Christmas re the above workshop.

Following some internal discussions we think you would be the most suitable person to Chair the workshop. Would you be agreeable?

We have been thinking about format, and we will probably model the workshop along similar lines as the Animal Feeding Studies Workshop which we held in 2007, which you attended. So we would start with a few presentations, then follow with a round table discussion by the panel, the idea being to systematically discuss a range of new techniques and reach a view as to whether the food products should be regarded as products of gene technology and therefore subject to pre-market approval. In terms of output, we would be looking at some form of report with a number of recommendations to FSANZ.

We have also been thinking about possible attendees and have come up with a wish list, which I just wanted to get your reaction to before we start approaching people. In addition to yourself, we are thinking of inviting [REDACTED]. We are trying to keep the panel reasonably small but at the same time trying to have a good breadth of expertise, so if you think an additional person is necessary, or if you think any of those nominated may not be suitable please let me know. There will also be FSANZ panel members (ie myself, the Chief Scientist and probably one other) plus it is likely that the OGTR will also be represented.

As far as timing is concerned, we are thinking late April/early May. Are you able to advise us of the days that would best suit you? That way we can have some possible dates when we start approaching others.

In the meantime, we are doing some background research on the various new techniques and hope to have a list soon of those we wish to cover during the workshop.

I'll give you a call next week, if I don't hear back from you before then.

Cheers

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

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