

21st September 2016

ANNUAL REPORT FOR THE INTERNATIONAL WHEAT YIELD PARTNERSHIP

The International Wheat Yield Partnership (IWYP) is pleased to announce the release of its first Annual Report.

For those not familiar with IWYP, the Report contains background information describing IWYP, the importance of our model, our mission and goals, and how we operate. It further includes many of our first year's activities that were focused on establishing IWYP as a leading organization in the wheat research world. Most importantly, the Report provides information about our Science Program, our current research and progress, the distinctive IWYP Hub development platform and how we are integrating our research outputs to generate added value. Lastly, some of our recent undertakings such as the annual IWYP Program Conference and our website redesign are described.

To view or download a copy of the IWYP Annual Report follow the link: <http://iwyp.org/annual-report/>

Comments

Dr. Jeff Gwyn, IWYP Program Director says: "Being able to publish our first Annual Report is an exciting milestone for IWYP in that it illustrates to others our success and the diligence we have undertaken to build a professional organization, establish our Science Program and make progress towards achieving our goals. Our work is far from done, but we are continuing to build out our research program by bringing in more of the highest quality science from around the world, coordinating the research activities, integrating the discoveries and pushing them towards delivery."

Dr. Richard Flavell FRS, CBE, who chairs the Science Impact and Executive Board of IWYP, states: "Being a part of such a worthy endeavour as IWYP that seeks to impact global food and nutritional security by seeking solutions with cutting-edge science is exhilarating. This is a unique opportunity to employ and validate a new way of working together internationally to achieve common goals that address critical needs. We are confident that we have laid the necessary groundwork and will remain focused and committed to realize our collective success."

Ends

Contact: Dr. Jeff Gwyn, International Wheat Yield Partnership, iwypprogdirector@iwyp.org

About IWYP

Globally, wheat is the most important staple crop, providing 20% of daily calories and protein. Due to population growth and changing diets, wheat demand is expected to increase by up to 70% by 2050. To meet this demand, annual wheat yield increases must grow from the current level of below 1% to at least 1.7%. These urgent global needs have provided the motivation for the formation of IWYP by major agricultural research funding organizations in many countries with the goal of raising the genetic yield potential of wheat by up to 50% over the coming 20 years.

IWYP is an independent research activity which also responds to a major priority of the G20 sponsored Wheat Initiative. It will help the Wheat Initiative to fulfil its mission to coordinate wheat research and contribute to global food security. All partners are committed to transparency, collaboration, open

communication of results, data sharing as well as improved coordination to maximize global impact and eliminate duplication of effort.

IWYP represents a long-term global endeavour that utilizes a collaborative approach to bring together funding from public and private research organisations from a large number of countries. Currently, this includes the Biotechnology and Biological Sciences Research Council of the United Kingdom (BBSRC), Grains Research and Development Corporation of Australia (GRDC), United States Agency for International Development (USAID), United States Department of Agriculture's Agricultural Research Service (USDA ARS) and National Institute of Food and Agriculture (USDA NIFA), Department of Biotechnology of India (DBT), International Maize and Wheat Improvement Center (CIMMYT), Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada (AAFC), Institut National de la Recherche Agronomique of France (INRA), Syngenta Foundation for Sustainable Agriculture (SFSA) and Secretariat of Agriculture, Livestock, Rural Development, Fisheries and Food of Mexico (SAGARPA). Over the first five years, the growing list of partners aims to invest up to US\$100 million.

Further details can be found at <http://iwyp.org>.

References

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