

6/3/2024

## Genetic Technology Committee Report

The Genetic Technology committee met on Monday, June 3<sup>rd</sup>. The group reviewed the duties of the committee, the progress we've made over the last year, and planned out our goals for the year ahead. We reviewed the results of our proficiency test for this past year and the outcome of the very successful 2024 Genetics Superworkshop held at Iowa State University in February. We passed around a sign up sheet for upcoming projects and collected several commitments from our members in doing so.

Goals were created for each subcommittee with a requirement that one goal from each subcommittee be fulfilled before the next annual meeting. The Lab Standards goals included the creation of a presenter's guide for the Genetics Superworkshops held biannually and a new member welcome packet to better outline what the committee is and what one can expect from committee membership.

The Education subcommittee goals included webinar production over the most missed topics on the RGT exam as well as the annual proficiency test. The most labor-intensive project will be updating the RGT/CGT Study Guide, an update we feel is long overdue.

The Research subcommittee gave an update on the creation of a virtual Herbicide Bioassay practical exam, a problem that has evolved from the committee being unable to source seed for our practical. Kalyn gave a review of the progress of this initiative and anticipates being able to complete it by this August. Other goals include having a workshop brainstorming session as well as a research study proposal brainstorming session once the virtual exam is completed.

The Newsletter subcommittee goals include articles on most missed RGT exam topics, an update on the devitalization by freezing study, a review of the genetics proficiency test, meeting minutes every month, and study material provided for each newsletter. We also hope to post these study articles and proficiency tests on our webpage for candidates looking for practice and guidance.

We discussed the need to keep up to date on newer technologies, including SNP's and newer herbicides that are currently not being taught in our workshops or covered on our exams. These concerns will be fleshed out further with our monthly meetings.

We held a joint meeting with Cultivar Purity this year to discuss the potential for the merge of the two committees after consolidation. We feel there is enough overlap to do so within our groups and will discuss the structure and name of the new committee once consolidation approaches further.

We also put out a call for new members in Genetic Technology, those studying for their exams, those who are just interested in the subject material, and those who just want to help. We welcome our new members who have already answered that call and who will do so in the future. You are valuable, and we are ready to show that we see that and are excited to see what you are capable of.

Respectfully Submitted,

Molly Richeson & Kalyn Brix, Genetic technology co-chairs