

Meeting Agenda
 USDA, ARS Forage and Range Research Laboratory
 Focus Group Meeting
 October 5, 2010
 Logan Utah

8:30 am	Meeting Introduction and Objectives	USDA Representatives
8:45 am	Introduction to the FRRL	Jack Staub (Research Leader)
	Major accomplishments 2010 and current partnerships	
	Overview	Jack Staub (15 minutes)
	Partnership with NRCS	Tom Jones (15 minutes)
	Partnership between US & China	Kevin Jensen (15 minutes)
9:30 am	Status of Working Groups	Jack Staub
	Accomplishments related to 2009 Focus Group Discussions	
10:00 am	The FRRL Planting Guide 2011/2012	Kevin Jensen
10:15 am	Break	
10:30 am	Scientist Introductions	11 Scientists
	Focus on past and current linkage with clients/shareholders	
11:00 am	New and upcoming FRRL products	
	Blair Waldron, The potential of new forage kochia gemrplasm (20 minutes)	
	Shaun Bushman, The potential of molecular markers in grass (20 minutes)	
	Tom Monaco, The potential of ecologically-based land management (20 minutes)	
12:30 pm	Lunch (box lunch provided with video presentation)	
1:15 pm	Problem Statement Discussions	
	Discussion purpose and direction	Jack Staub
	Group 1: Current plant materials are unable to meet the needs of changing climates and environments. (Doug Johnson, Facilitator)	
	Group 2: Invasive plants, wildfires, and disturbances contribute to desertification and loss of rangeland function. (Tom Monaco, Facilitator)	
	Group 3: Current forage production systems do not meet maximum productivity potentials for rangeland and pasture growing environments. (Kevin Jensen, Facilitator)	
3:00 pm	Break	
3:15 pm	Facilitator Reports	
	Facilitator of each group to present summary report (10 minutes per group)	
3:45 pm	Open Focus Group Discussion	Jack Staub (Facilitator)
	To seek Focus Group member comment on major issues	
4:20 pm	Meeting Feedback (Scientists absent)	Jack Staub/Kevin Jensen
	To seek feedback on Focus Group meeting and concepts and direction presented	
5:00 pm	Adjourn	

**Focus Group Small Group Scientist Presentations
October 5, 2010**

Group 1 Current plant materials are unable to meet the needs of changing climates and growing environments.

Time Presentation

- 1:15-1:25 1) Elucidation of salinity tolerance in *Poa pratensis* (SB)
- 1:25-1:30 2) Evaluation of water use efficiency in *Poa pratensis* (SB)
- 1:30-1:40 3) Evaluation of promising Eurasian grass collections for reduced-input turf applications (DJ)
- 1:40-1:50 4) Development and characterization of salt tolerance in alfalfa (MP)
- 1:50-2:00 5) Development of wheatgrass species for low-maintenance turfgrass (JR)
- 2:00-2:10 6) Identification and pyramiding of drought-tolerance genes in bluebunch wheatgrass (RW)
- 2:10-2:20 7) Development of kentucky bluegrass germplasm with increased salinity tolerance (JR)
- 2:20-2:30 8) Fine-leaf fescue development for low-input turf applications (JS)
- 2:30-2:40 9) Development of technologies for improved abiotic stress tolerance in grasses (JS)
- 2:40-2:50 10) Changes in functional traits in response to selection in bluebunch wheatgrass (TJ)
- 2:50-3:00 11) Collection, evaluation, and release of North American legumes for revegetation (DJ)

Group 2 Invasive plants, wildfires, and disturbances contribute to desertification and loss of rangeland function.

Time Presentation

- 1:15-1:25 1) Quantifying ecological processes that contribute to plant performance (Cheatgrass) (TM)
- 1:25-1:30 2) Transitory inhibition of seed shattering in wheatgrass for seed production (RW)
- 1:30-1:40 3) Development of blue bunchgrass for degraded landscape applications (JS)
- 1:40-1:50 4) Establishment of two rangeland legumes across environmental and genetic gradients (SB)
- 1:50-2:00 5) Defining community traits that confer resistance to invasion by annual grasses (TM)
- 2:00-2:10 6) Evaluating ecologically-based revegetation strategies for various rangeland conditions (TM)
- 2:10-2:20 7) Enhanced plant genetics for disturbed land restoration (KJ)
- 2:20-2:30 8) Bluebunch wheatgrass development for rehabilitation of the Great Basin rangelands (BW)
- 2:30-2:40 9) Forage kochia development for rehabilitation and bioremediation of arid, saline soils (BW)
- 2:40-2:50 10) Identification of genes to prevent seed shattering in wheatgrass and wildryes (SL)

Group 3 Current forage production systems do not meet maximum productivity potentials for rangeland and pasture growing environments.

Time Presentation

- 1:15-1:25 1) Forage kochia development for fall and winter grazing on arid rangelands (BW)
- 1:25-1:30 2) Mapping of flowering time in tetraploid orchardgrass (SB)
- 1:30-1:40 3) Selection and molecular genetic analysis of rhizome growth habit in alfalfa (IM)
- 1:40-1:50 4) Establishment and management approaches (KJ)
- 1:50-2:00 5) Fall-winter-spring forage (KJ)
- 2:00-2:10 6) Development of forage legumes for improved grazing lands (MP)
- 2:10-2:20 7) Grass-legume mixtures to improve sustainability of livestock production (MP)
- 2:20-2:30 8) Intermediate wheatgrass genomics (SL)
- 2:30-2:40 9) Small burnet improvement, quality characterization and herbicide tolerance (MP)
- 2:40-2:50 10) Development of orchardgrass cultivars with increased agronomic performance (JR)
- 2:50-3:00 11) Gene discovery and heterosis in creeping x basin wildrye hybrids and other grasses (SL)



Dr. Jack Staub (Research Leader) briefing Focus Group members on annual activities for the FRRL



Small group discussions where Dr. Shaun Bushman is explaining the details of his proposed work on salt tolerance in turf



Small group discussions where Dr. Mike Peel is explaining a concept related to forage production systems