

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH, EDUCATION, AND WELFARE
PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICE
NATIONAL INSTITUTES OF HEALTH

SEP 29 1971

Date: September 29, 1971
Reply to: Head, DP&CSDS, PRA, DR&D, C, NCI
Subject: Minutes of Plant Meeting, September 22, 1971
To: Distribution List

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12-11

The meeting was attended by Drs. Schepartz, Wood, and Hartwell, Miss Abbott, Mrs. Murray, Mrs. Mancher, and Mr. Richman. A summary of the meeting follows:

1. Dr. Hartwell will request USDA to submit proposed lists of common weeds and trees not to be collected.
2. PRA will furnish a list of NCI plants for which the file has 10 or more samples with the same genus and species.
3. PRA will query the biological file to identify plant materials not tested in 3PS or 9KB. The output will list: (1) NSC number; (2) in which of the test systems of interest the material had not been tested; and (3) the highest sample number tested in any test system, provided that an extract numbered "002" or above had been tested.
4. A plant registry system, to duplicate check new samples will not be developed at this time. Dr. Hartwell defined a duplicate as a plant sample for which three previous samples had been processed that were identical in genus, species, part of plant, and location of collection.

Dr. Hartwell proposed that new samples be duplicate-checked against the Confirmed Plant List. However, per Mr. Richman, this would require the same programming effort as using the entire file. Richman reported that the USDA programming staff may be persuaded to program the duplicate-check feature. (Such data processing efforts are charged to the overhead of the Agriculture Research Service and not against NCI contract funds.)

5. PRA will make available to USDA a magnetic tape containing plant header information for all USDA plants; i.e., plants with an identifying number, prefixed by PR. With this tape will be the necessary programming information, such as record layouts, blocking factor, labels, etc. The programming staff at USDA has agreed to attempt reformatting this information into a file which may be updated with information for new USDA collections. (This program, with some modification, could be used to reformat the DR&D plant header work tape to permit manipulating all data elements of plant header information, including part of plant.
6. ~~Mrs. Murray commented on the feasibility of eliminating multiple transcription of plant header information at USDA, the extractor, and Vitro Labs.~~
7. Miss Abbott raised objections to having NSC numbers assigned by USDA rather than the extractor because there would be gaps in the number sequence and it is useful to have ranges of NSC numbers associated with extractors.
8. Dr. Wood will explore the feasibility of eliminating NIH Form 772; Miss Abbott will prepare a Materials Shipping List for materials to be shipped for additional testing, provided that an NIH Form 772 is not also required.

Sid Richman
Sidney Richman *mrh*

cc: Miss Abbott
Dr. Hartwell
Mrs. Mancher
Mrs. Murray
Dr. Schepartz
Dr. Wood