TO: Persons Interested in 2016 New York Corn Performance Trials for GRAIN

DATE: 18 February 2016

This is your invitation to join our 2016 corn grain testing program. As in recent years, we are required to get a Standard Product Testing Agreement signed and returned, to meet University and College needs. If you have any concerns about this agreement, please feel free to contact me. Further details are explained below. We need the agreement signed before the growing season begins!

Our aim is to help you evaluate your hybrids in comparison with other new varieties over a range of environments in New York. These results can help you in deciding which of your hybrids to market in this area. They also provide us with information for the corn grain hybrid rating tables in our publication, Cornell Guide for Integrated Field Crop Management. Hybrids entered in 2016 will appear in multi-year testing tables in the subsequent year's Cornell Guide (i.e., hybrids tested in 2016 will be published in the Cornell Guide that comes out in 2017).

In 2016 we will provide comparisons for grain yield and moisture, stalk lodging, and disease resistances or other traits for which we are able to collect high quality data. Hybrids will be planted in tests at three to five locations. We will test in the following groups:

- Early 1400-1900 Growing Degree Days, 70-85 Days Relative Maturity (will be merged with the medium early test if we do not get at least 10 entries)
- Medium Early 1900-2300 Growing Degree Days, 85-100 Days Relative Maturity
- Medium 2300-2800 Growing Degree Days, 100-118 Days Relative Maturity

For help in placing hybrids in these groupings, you may wish to check your copy of our 2015 test results to note where your hybrids fit last year. This may help in placing hybrids in the appropriate maturity groupings for this year's tests. The results are available on our webpage at http://plbrgen.cals.cornell.edu/research-extension/crop-variety-trials/corn-variety-testing

The charge this year will be $475 per entry per maturity group for all hybrids entered in these tests. I regret having to raise our testing fee, but the University is levying indirect charges on testing income, so we have to cover those as well as our costs for this work. For the $475 entry fee, each hybrid will be planted in tests at three to five locations in differing areas of the state, corresponding with the above maturity groups. No provision is made for reimbursement of entry fees due to late arriving seed entries. Three replications with a two-row plot (1/500th acre) for each rep will be used at each location. Data will be collected, analyzed, summarized, and presented for each location and summarized over locations for each maturity group in our annual New York Hybrid Corn Grain Performance Trials report. The entry fee covers only a portion of the costs of this testing program and fortunately we can continue to subsidize this effort to some degree.

Please make checks payable to Cornell University, fill out the Product Supplier (“Client”) section on the first page of the Cornell University Standard Product Testing Agreement, sign in the Client Signature boxes on the second page, and return the agreement with your entry information.

To help us with our planning, please return the enclosed entry form, naming the hybrids that you plan to enter. In listing your entries, please note the relative maturity of the hybrids you enter in days to maturity, degree days, heat units, or any other means of indicating relative hybrid maturity. Knowing your maturity rating can help us fit them in the right slot. Also please indicate what genetically engineered traits are present and seed treatments applied for each hybrid entered.
Please send in your entry form as soon as possible. Also please send 5 lbs. of seed of each entry per maturity group as soon as you can, preferably on or before March 31. Late arrivals cost us in time and labor. We recognize that some situations are not controllable (like late seed from winter production areas). If you have a specific problem that may delay one or more entries past the above date, please call Keith at 607-255-1322 to let us know, so that we can make arrangements.

Judy Singer will handle administrative aspects of our corn grain testing program (entry lists, product testing agreements, payments) and seed should be sent to Keith Payne. Sherrie Norman and Keith Payne will jointly manage the field aspects of the testing program.

Please send entry form to:  
Judy Singer  
Cornell University  
Dept. of Plant Breeding & Genetics  
410B Bradfield Hall  
Ithaca, NY 14853-1901  
Phone: 607-255-5461  
Fax: 607-255-6683  
Email: jls10@cornell.edu

Please ship seed to:  
Keith Payne  
Cornell University  
H. H. Love Laboratory  
126 Medicago Drive  
Ithaca, NY 14853-1905  
Phone: 607-255-1322  
Fax: 607-255-6344  
Email: krp6@cornell.edu

For those of you shipping seed from outside the United States, we are providing two import permit options. Permit number P41-13-00190 is to be used for seed originating from Canada. Permit number P41-13-00248 is to be used for all Other Approved Countries of origin. A phytosanitary certificate must accompany each shipment. You may find links to both permits on our webpage at http://plbrgen.cals.cornell.edu/research-extension/crop-variety-trials/corn-variety-testing

Important Notice ***** EPA ***** OSHA ***** DEC ***** Please Note

To comply with OSHA Safety and Health requirements and EPA Worker Protection Standard requirements, we need to have information available to our workers who handle seed. Please place a label for the chemical used for treating the seed on each sample bag. EPA is performing spot checks and without such labeling we are vulnerable. We have many MSDSs on file from previous years. We can then cross-reference our MSDS file. If we are lacking a particular MSDS we can request it from you. Thank you for providing us with whatever information you have available.

Thank you for your interest and participation in our program. We hope the information will be helpful to you and your company.

Sincerely yours,

Margaret E. Smith  
Extension Leader, Plant Breeding & Genetics

MES:jls