

February 6, 1989

Dear Professor Min:

With Rockefeller Foundation support, Dr. Steven Tanksley and colleagues at Cornell University recently constructed a molecular genetic map of rice based on RFLP markers. A reprint of results published in Theoretical and Applied Genetics is enclosed. A second map based on a population of double haploids derived from anther culture is also in preparation at Cornell. This population can be made available for propagation in any location and will enable many rice researchers to work simultaneously on adding markers and tagging genes for agronomic traits. For traits that are difficult or time-consuming to score using conventional methods, RFLP analysis offers a hopeful alternative. We believe that the RFLP map of rice will be one of the first products of the Foundation's rice biotechnology program to have significant impact on rice breeding.

In order to facilitate transfer to and use of RFLP techniques in rice breeding and research programs, Dr. Tanksley and Dr. Gary Kochert are offering a training course at Cornell University, July 23-30, 1989. As you can see from the enclosed outline, it will be an intensive lecture and laboratory course. Participating scientists should have experience with the use of genetic markers in breeding, and a basic understanding of molecular biology techniques.

Dr. Tanksley, Dr. Kochert, and the Foundation invite the China National Rice Research Institute to nominate a candidate for participation in the training course. To truly benefit from the course, the candidate you nominate should have prior experience in the use of genetic markers, a basic understanding of molecular biology techniques, and fluency in English. Anyone who cannot understand the IAG reprint is probably not qualified to participate in the course. If your nominee is accepted for participation in the course, the Rockefeller Foundation will cover the travel and registration expenses. Dr. Toshio Murashige has suggested that Mr. Zheng Kang-le is well qualified to participate in the course.

Please let us know as soon as possible if you intend to nominate a candidate for participation in the Rockefeller Foundation RFLP Training Course at Cornell University, July 23-30, 1989. The nomination should include the candidate's curriculum vitae and other documentation indicating his or her qualifications.

In addition and prior to the training course at Cornell, I am pleased to inform you that Dr. Gary Kochert has agreed to give lectures on the rice RFLP technology at selected rice breeding institutions in Asia. The purpose is to inform breeders of the work being done at Cornell, Georgia, and elsewhere on rice genetic maps and markers, and to discuss how the technology

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might most effectively be used to meet your specific breeding and genetic research objectives. This also will enable Dr. Kochert to interview candidates nominated for the training course.

If you would like Dr. Kochert to lecture at CNRRI on the RFLP technology, let us know as soon as possible. His travel schedule and the dates of the lecture tour, most likely sometime in April or May, will be determined once we receive responses. If Dr. Kochert will need a special invitation or other government approvals to obtain a visa for travel to your country, these should be sent to the Foundation along with your response.

We hope that the China National Rice Research Institute will be able to participate in the Cornell training course and Dr. Kochert's lecture tour.

Sincerely,

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