Welcome to the latest edition of the International Cocoa Quarantine Centre (ICQC, R) Newsletter. In this issue we report on the relocation of the International Cocoa Quarantine Centre facilities to a new, purpose-built facility. We also report on recent releases from quarantine, the new ICQC, R website and the updating/ translating of the Safe Movement of Cacao Germplasm guidelines.

New Facilities for ICQC, R

The International Cocoa Quarantine Centre moved to new greenhouse facilities at the end of 2014 from its old location at the University’s Field Unit. The new facility is located on one of the University’s farms (“Hall Farm” about 2km from the previous location and 6km from the University campus) within a secure self-contained walled garden area. The move has provided a very good opportunity to upgrade the ICQC, R facilities.

The greenhouse, which previously housed the University plant nursery unit, was refurbished during the course of last year to meet the specific requirements of the quarantine operation. The new greenhouse complex contains separate sections so that recently received material and those undergoing quarantine can be isolated from those that have passed quarantine. The greenhouse contains a modern fertigation system and movable shade screens that reduce excessive sunlight and which, together with twin layer cladding, contribute towards considerable energy saving at night.

Each greenhouse compartment is controlled by a bespoke computer system which enables optimisation of environmental conditions in terms of heating, cooling and light levels.

The new facilities were opened on 24th June 2015 by the University’s Vice-Chancellor, Sir David Bell, who highlighted the world-wide importance of the International Cocoa Quarantine Centre, which has now been located at the University of Reading for 30 years. The opening event was attended by over 40 delegates.

Recent Releases from Quarantine

Recent releases from quarantine include clones that have been screened for witches’ broom disease at CRU in Trinidad, clones from the CFC/ICCO/Bioversity Collection (which were selected for superior yield traits and/ or disease resistance) and one clone from the Chalmers Collection.

For full details of each clone, click on the underlined clone name in Table 1 and this will take you to the ICGD website.

Table 1: Recent releases of accessions from quarantine, which are now available for budwood export.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Clone</th>
<th>Reading Accession Number</th>
<th>Donor Genebank</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>APA 5</td>
<td>RUQ 1695</td>
<td>CATIE</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BE 8</td>
<td>RUQ 1694</td>
<td>CATIE</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CC 71</td>
<td>RUQ 1690</td>
<td>ICG, T</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CRINKLE LEAF</td>
<td>RUQ 1700</td>
<td>CIRAD</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Clones screened for witches’ broom disease resistance at CRC

Enchanced breeding material for black pod resistance (Trinidad)

CFC/ICCO/Bioversity Collection

Updated Website

We have updated the website for ICQC, R so that it now contains dynamic clone lists of available material and accessions currently undergoing quarantine. The new website address is:-

http://www.icgd.reading.ac.uk/icqc/

Safe Movement Guidelines

The CacaoNet Technical Guidelines for the Safe Movement of Cacao Germplasm were updated in 2014, following further input from experts in cocoa pathology, entomology and virology, to include some new information on cocoa pests and diseases. The guidelines are now also available in English, Spanish and French. They can be downloaded from the address below or else we can send you a hard copy if required.

http://www.icgd.reading.ac.uk/icqc/documents.php

Feedback Please

We are always interested in receiving feedback from germplasm recipients on the success rate in establishing imported material and any comments on how we could make our service better. We are also interested to hear whether clones provided by ICQC, R have been used in breeding trials, local evaluations or as planting material. Furthermore, if you wish to receive a clone that is not currently in the ICQC, R collection then please let us know and we will endeavour to obtain it.

Enquiries

Enquiries or further information on ICQC, R and how to receive germplasm should be directed to: Andrew Daymond, curator of ICQC, R.

(a.j.daymond@reading.ac.uk).

To Receive Budwood

Cocoa budwood is supplied free of charge on the understanding that the material will remain in the public domain. Please provide as much advanced warning of your requirements as possible and send us an import permit at least two weeks before the date of shipment. This should state that you wish to import cocoa as budwood and any treatment of the budwood required (e.g. pesticide and/ or fungicide treatment, if applicable). Please send the permit as an e-mail attachment or by post to:-

Andrew Daymond, School of Agriculture, Policy and Development, the University of Reading, Whiteknights, Reading, RG6 6AR, UK.

Funding

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Acronyms and Abbreviations

CATIE: Centro Agronomico Tropical de Investigación y Enseñanza
CRC: Cocoa Research Centre (formerly CRU)
ICG, T: International Cocoa Genebank, Trinidad