



The leading voice for economically and environmentally sound forage focused agriculture.

Drs. Marilyn Warburton & Per McCord
WRPIS Coordinator & Principal Investigator
Washington State University
Pullman, WA 99164, USA

Dear Drs. Warburton & McCord,

This letter is in support of your proposal entitled "Promoting long-term sustainable management and use of vital agricultural plant germplasm". We understand that this vital source of funding will secure long-term the plant genetic resource collections that directly support our agricultural industries and consumers alike.

The American Forage and Grassland Council (AFGC) is a nonprofit, member-driven organization dedicated to advancing the use and management of forages and grasslands in agriculture. It brings together producers, researchers, educators, industry professionals, and public-sector partners to promote profitable and environmentally sound forage-based systems. Through education, outreach, research support, and networking opportunities—most notably its annual conference and affiliate council network—AFGC works to improve forage production, grazing management, and the overall sustainability of agricultural systems across the United States.

The Western Regional Plant Introduction Station (WRPIS) in Pullman, WA is responsible for conserving and promoting the use of many important crops including large and diverse collections of temperate grasses and legumes used by the forage and seed industries that we represent. The traits from the germplasm collections are used predominantly by plant breeders at public and private research organizations for developing improved cultivars that our industries use for sustainable agricultural production. As indicated in your proposal, your efforts to sustain the long-term conservation and the promotion of germplasm and associated information use is a key service that must continue. In addition, the research on collaborative evaluations of forage germplasm and the proposed prebreeding efforts align with our community stakeholder needs.

As we have indicated here, we are extremely supportive of the mission of the WRPIS and look forward to being able to provide input and participate, as needed, in developing strategies that aid in meeting your continued objectives.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me anytime.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Tina Bowling".

Tina Bowling
AFGC Executive Director