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# Bulletin Board

## Agronomy

**Special Seminar – Wednesday, August 12,  
2009, 8:30 am, LILY 2-425**

**“Towards Understanding of Genetic and Molecular Basis of Heterosis in Crop Plants”**

**Dr. Qixin Sun**

Vice President of Research and Development at the  
China Agriculture University

Dr. Sun will present recent research progress in a National Basic Research Project.

Informal discussion will follow the seminar from  
9:30-10:30 am, LILY 2-425.

Prof. Qixin Sun received his Ph.D. in the Department of Agronomy of Beijing Agricultural University in 1987. He is working as a professor in the Department of Plant Genetics & Breeding of Beijing Agricultural University since 1992. Beijing Agricultural University and Beijing Agricultural Engineering University merged in 1995 to become the China Agricultural University. In 2002, Professor SUN assumed the position of Vice president of China Agricultural University. He was reappointed as the Vice President for R&D and International Relations in 2008.

Prof. Qixin Sun's research is focused on wheat genetics and genomics, wheat breeding, molecular basis of heterosis in crop plants, and stress tolerance in wheat. He has authored and co-authored more than 100 publications, including books, book chapters and papers in referred Journals and international meetings. He is currently serving as the vice president of Crop Science Society of Beijing.

You are encouraged to meet with Dr. Sun following the seminar to discuss research and to explore broader collaborations with CAU. .

*This seminar is co-sponsored by the Department of Agronomy and International Programs in Agriculture.*

**August 7, 2009**

**WELCOME KATHY HENDERSON—**

I was born in Milford, Connecticut and raised with my 3 brothers (George, Cliff, and Eric) by my parents George and Rose Kempton. Most of my family still lives there, and we try to get out for a visit at least once a year. I moved to Indiana in 1992 and have lived here since. I am married to David Henderson, the Utility Director for the City of West Lafayette. We met while I was working in the West Lafayette Clerk-Treasurer's office. We have two children Gabriel, 5 and Rachael, 7. Rachael will be in second grade at Edgelea this Fall and Gabriel will be in preschool.

Prior to Purdue University I worked in the Clerk-Treasurer's office in both the City of West Lafayette and the Town of Syracuse over the past 15 years.

Currently, I am also working part-time at the Tippecanoe County Library Downtown branch, so you may see me there.

I am an avid reader and enjoy watching the Indianapolis Colts and the New York Giants (sorry, can't help it, I'm a New Englander). I also used to be a member of the Oasis Middle Eastern Dance Troupe and hope to get back in shape and start belly dancing again.

**MARK YOUR CALENDARS**

August 24	Classes Start
October 3	Harvest Reunion
December 10	Staff Recognition

**MISSION STATEMENT** - The Agronomy Department at Purdue University provides progressive and relevant undergraduate, graduate and extension education programs; conducts high impact fundamental and applied research at multiple scales to ensure that our science addresses immediate problems and anticipates future challenges; actively engages partners in the public and private sectors; and contributes to the development of the national and international agenda for research and education.

## Summer and Fall Examination/Graduation Deadlines for Graduate Students

August 7, 2009	Doctoral students must have taken preliminary examinations by this date to be eligible for August 2010 graduation (assuming student registered Fall 2009 and Spring 2010).
August 21, 2009	Last day for a plan of study to be received by the Graduate School to graduate in December.
September 23, 2009	Last day to declare candidacy for degree for December graduation.
October 16, 2009	Last day for “exam/degree only” registrants to submit the appropriate Report of Final Examination and the Thesis Receipt forms. If these two forms are not received in the Graduate School, the registration will be revised to research credits (Does not apply to non-thesis master’s candidates.)
December 4, 2009	Last day for students to pass the final examination. Signed candidate/certification forms and final examination reports must be returned to the Graduate School, Room 170, Young Hall (YONG). Students for whom a final report is not received will not be able to graduate in December. (Final examination reports are not required for non-thesis master’s students).
December 11, 2009	All master’s and Ph.D. candidates must submit their dissertation via Electronic Thesis Deposit (ETD), at least 24 hours prior to their scheduled appointment. All required forms must be deposited at their mandatory, scheduled, final deposit appointment in the Thesis/Dissertation Office, Room 170, Young Hall (YONG). Deposit appointments can be made by calling 765-494-2600 or e-mail <a href="mailto:gradinfo@purdue.edu">gradinfo@purdue.edu</a> .
December 19, 2009	Doctoral students must have taken preliminary examinations by this date to be eligible for December 2010 graduation (assuming student registered Spring 2010 and Summer 2010).

### Recent Publications from Scott Jackson’s Lab

Lu, F, J.S.S. Ammiraju, A. Sanyal, S. Zhang, R. Song, J. Chen, G. Li, Y. Sui, Z. Cheng, A. Costa de Oliveira, J.L. Bennetzen, S.A. Jackson, R.A. Wing, M. Chen. 2009. Comparative Sequence Analysis of the *MONO-CULMI* Orthologous Regions in 14 *Oryza* Genomes. Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA. 106:2071-2076.

Gill, N., S. Findley, J.G. Walling, J. Ma, G. Stacey, J. Doyle and S.A. Jackson. Molecular and chromosomal evidence for allopolyploidy in soybean, *Glycine max* (L.) Merr. Plant Physiol. 0.1104/pp.109.137935

Varshney, R.K., S.N. Nayak, G.D.

May and S.A. Jackson. 2009. Next generation sequencing technologies and their application for crop genetics and breeding. Trends in Biotech. *in press*.

Gao, D., N. Gill, H-R. Kim, J. Walling, W. Zhang, C. Fan, Y. Yu, J. Ma, P. SanMiguel, N. Jiang, Z. Cheng, R. Wing, J. Jiang, S.A. Jackson. 2009. A lineage-specific centromere retrotransposon in *Oryza brachyantha*. Plant J. *in press*.

Cannon, S.B., G. D. May and S.A. Jackson. 2009.

Update on comparative genomics of legumes. Three sequenced legume genomes and many crop species: rich opportunities for translational genomics. Plant Physiol. *in press*.

Varshney, R.K., N.K. Singh, P.L. Kulwal, R.V. Penmetsa, R.K. Saxena, S. Datta, B. Rosen, A.D. Farmer, A. Dubey, K.B. Saxena, B. Fakrudin, M.N. Singh, K.B. Wanjari, A. Killian, G.D. May, R. McCombie, S.A. Jackson, D.R. Cook. 2009. Pigeonpea genomics initiative (PGI): an international effort towards improving crop productivity of pigeonpea (*Cajanus cajan* L.). Mol. Breeding *in press*.

### DATES TO REMEMBER

**August 7-23:** Indiana State Fair. The Our Land Pavilion. 2009 is the first year of the expanded, 17-day fair. Contact Danica Kirkpatrick at 494-9113 for more information.

**August 8:** Commencement exercises for College of Agriculture graduates at 9:30 a.m. in the Elliott Hall of Music. Reception to following the Pfendler Gallery. RSVP is required to Debby Bible at [debby@purdue.edu](mailto:debby@purdue.edu). Contact Debby Bible at 494-8493 for more information.

**August 24:** Fall semester begins

# CONSTRUCTION NEWS AND SHUT DOWNS

## **University Dr. Northbound Lane Closure (Victory Drive to Cherry Lane) 8/5-8/20**

Effective today through Thursday, August 20, the northbound lane on University Drive will be closed from Victory Drive to Cherry Lane to relocate the sidewalk as shown on the attached drawing.

Drawing may be found here: [http://www.purdue.edu/physicalfacilities/travel/pdf/Univ\\_Dr\\_Vic\\_Cherry\\_Closure.pdf](http://www.purdue.edu/physicalfacilities/travel/pdf/Univ_Dr_Vic_Cherry_Closure.pdf)

## **Traffic Signals on US 231 in WL to be Removed**

Two traffic signals on US 231 in West Lafayette will be removed by August 15. The two intersections where the traffic signals will be removed are on US 231 (Fowler Street) and Vine Street and at the intersection of US 231 (Wiggins Street) and Vine Street. US 231 traffic will not have to stop but motorists on Vine Street will be required to stop and yield to oncoming traffic.

A map of the area may be found here: [http://www.purdue.edu/physicalfacilities/travel/pdf/231\\_traffic\\_light\\_removal.pdf](http://www.purdue.edu/physicalfacilities/travel/pdf/231_traffic_light_removal.pdf)

## **SHUT DOWNS IN LILLY**

We have been informed that it will be necessary for the contractors to shut off utility lines to some of the Agronomy laboratories at various times next week, August 10-14, in order to renovate the 1<sup>st</sup> floor plumbing lines. The shutdowns will include water, gas, and air lines.

The existing lines lack shutoff valves and are poorly marked which makes it difficult for the contractors to give accurate estimates of the time periods and exact areas involved. They stated that we should expect some lines to be off for significant lengths of time, possibly 1-2 days, but any line shut off will be returned to service as soon as possible.

These shutdowns will affect rooms 2-443, 2-449, 2-459, 2-352, 2-358, 2-366, and 2-374.

We have been informed that two of the “strobic” exhaust units on the roof of the west wing of Lilly will be temporarily shut down from 7:30 AM until 12:00 noon on Tuesday, August 11, 2009, to enable the contractors make some renovations to the duct system. This will affect the air flow and hood exhausts to all of the center rooms in the west half of the west wing of Lilly, i.e. from the cross hallway connecting the 300 and 400 halls west towards Russell Street.

Normal Service will resume in the afternoon.