



To whom it may concern,

The Division of Plant Breeding Methodology at the University of Göttingen, headed by Prof. Tim Beissinger, has been exploring collaborative research projects with the research group of Assistant Prof. Yong Suk Chung, a senior researcher of the Subtropical Horticultural Research Institute, at Jeju National University, South Korea. Both groups share a mutual interest in plant breeding and genetics.

Our groups are working on establishing a preliminary joint maize field trial with locations in Germany and South Korea. We intend to grow a collection of genotypes in these disparate locations to assess the genetic control of agronomic traits across environments. Epistasis, or gene x gene interactions, is one of the primary genetic factors we intend to assess. We plan to implement high-throughput phenotyping methodologies, including hyperspectral image acquisition with unmanned aerial vehicles.

We are optimistic that this research project will be the first in a series of fruitful collaborations. We have also been exploring the feasibility of co-advising one or more PhD students who may benefit from our multi-national partnership.

Sincerely,



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