# 7th INTERNATIONAL RICE GENETICS S Y M P O S I U M

5 - 8 November 2013 Dusit Thani Hotel | Manila, Philippines

# **CALL FOR REGISTRATION**



# www.rice-genetics.com



Dear fellow researchers and scientists,

On behalf of the International Rice Research Institute, it is my pleasure and honor to invite you to the 7th International Rice Genetics Symposium (RG7) from 5 to 8 November 2013 at the Dusit Thani Hotel in Manila, Philippines.

In pursuit of IRRI's aim to disseminate knowledge and skills and to promote discussions on important issues relevant to rice science, we hope to again provide an important forum where leading experts in the fields of classical genetics and genomics will come together to share their expertise to solve the myriad problems that the rice production sector is currently facing. The leading researchers and key opinion leaders in rice breeding and genetics, genomics, genetic resources and evolution, pathology, and grain quality are invited to facilitate sessions and deliver lectures, thus ensuring a world-class and quality symposium experience for all.

A series of interactive business and educational activities have also been planned for delegates' participation during the symposium. There will be abundant learning opportunities at plenary and concurrent sessions, as well as during the poster presentations. Participants can also look forward to expanding their network at various networking events such as the symposium dinner, and the IRRI field tour.

Apart from the exciting scientific program and exhibition showcase, we welcome participants to embrace and enjoy what Manila has to offer – its unique blend of contemporary and traditional ways of life as well as its cultural landmarks, attractions, and entertainment.

Our partnership with the local and international rice industry is what keeps the science of our field moving. We sincerely hope that you will support us in Manila.

Thank you and I look forward to your participation.

Yours faithfully,

**Eero Nissila** Convenor 7th International Rice Genetics Symposium 2013

# **ABOUT THE ORGANIZERS**

#### International Rice Research Institute (IRRI)

The International Rice Research Institute (IRRI) is a non-profit independent research and training organization. IRRI is a member of the **CGIAR** Consortium.

IRRI develops new rice varieties and rice crop management techniques that help rice farmers improve the yield and quality of their rice in an environmentally sustainable way. We work with our public and private sector partners in national agricultural research and extension systems in major rice-growing countries to do research, training, and knowledge transfer. Our social and economic research also informs governments to help them formulate policy to improve the equitable supply of rice.

#### **Our Mission**

To reduce poverty and hunger, improve the health of rice farmers and consumers, and ensure environmental sustainability through collaborative research, partnerships, and the strengthening of national agricultural research and extension systems.

#### **Our Goals**

- Reduce poverty through improved and diversified rice-based systems.
- Ensure that rice production is sustainable and stable, has minimal negative environmental impact, and can cope with climate change.
- Improve the nutrition and health of poor rice consumers and rice farmers.
- Provide equitable access to information and knowledge on rice and help develop the next generation of rice scientists.
- Provide rice scientists and producers with the genetic information and material they need to develop improved technologies and enhance rice production.

#### Local Organizing Committee (LOC)

Convenor	Dr. Eero A.J. Nissila
Member	Dr. Ruaraidh Sackville Hamilton
Member	Dr. Nese Sreenivasulu
Member	Dr. Abdelbagi Ismail
Member	Dr. Hei Leung
Member	Dr. Kenneth McNally
Member	Dr. Kshirod K. Jena
Member	Dr. Glenn Gregorio
Member	Dr. Ajay Kohli
Member	Dr. Inez Slamet-Loedin
Member	Dr. Casiana Vera Cruz
Member	Dr. Michael Thomson

Member Dr. Bertrand Collard

# **INVITED SPEAKERS**

\*Updated on 10 September 2013.

#### **Keynote Presentation**

**Dr. Achim Dobermann** Deputy Director General for Research International Rice Research Institute (IRRI)

#### Plenary

**Dorian Fuller, United Kingdom** University College of London

Frank White, USA Kansas State University

Guangcun He, China Wuhan University

Guoliang Wang, USA Ohio State University

Hei Leung, Philippines International Rice Research Institute (IRRI)

Jan Leach, USA University of Colorado

Julio Saez-Vasquez, France Université de Perpignan via Domitia

Masahiro Yano, Japan National Institute of Agrobiological Sciences

Nagendra Singh, India National Research Centre on Plant Biotechnology

Naoki Hirotsu, Japan Toyo University

**Concurrent Session** 

Anil Grover, India University of Delhi South Campus

Anthony J Greenberg, USA Cornell University

Antonio A. Alfonso, Philippines International Rice Research Institute (IRRI) Qian Qian, China China National Rice Research Institute

Rex Bernardo, USA University of Minnesota

Richard W. McCombie, USA Cold Spring Harbor Laboratory

**Robert Henry, Australia** Queensland Alliance for Agriculture and Food Innovation, University of Queensland

**Robert Zeigler, Philippines** International Rice Research Institute (IRRI)

Rod Wing, USA University of Arizona

Susan McCouch, USA Cornell University

William Quick, Philippines International Rice Research Institute (IRRI)

Yusaku Uga, Japan National Institute of Agrobiological Sciences

Arun Lahiri Majumder, India Bose Institute

Ashok Singh, India Indian Agricultural Research Institute

Ashwani Jha, India Institute of Himalayan Bioresource Technology

# **INVITED SPEAKERS**

\*Updated on 10 September 2013.

Ashwani Pareek, India Jawaharlal Nehru University

Balram Marathi, Philippines International Rice Research Institute (IRRI)

**Bienvenido O. Juliano, Philippines** Philippine Rice Research Institute (PhilRice)

Disna Ratnasekera, Sri Lanka University of Ruhuna

Dayun Tao, China Yunnan Academy of Agricultural Sciences

Elizabeth Ryan, USA Colorado State University

**Emma Huang, Australia** Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organisation (CSIRO)

**Georgia Eizenga, USA** USDA-ARS Dale Bumpers National Rice Research Center

Gerard Barry, Philippines International Rice Research Institute (IRRI)

Hee-Jong Koh, Korea Seoul National University

**Hideshi Yasui, Japan** Kyushu University

**Hiromi Nakanishi, Japan** Tokyo University

**Hyeon-So Ji, Korea** National Institute of Agricultural Sciences

J.M. Jamago, Philippines Central Mindanao University

**Ju-Kon Kim, Korea** Myongji University Jun Lyu, China State Key Laboratory of genetics and evolution, Kunming Institute of Zoology

Kanako Yasuda, Japan Kyoto University

Kent McKenzie, USA California Cooperative Rice Research Foundation

Khady Nani Drame, Tanzania Africa Rice Center

Krishna Jagadish, Philippines International Rice Research Institute (IRRI)

Kuldeep Singh, India Punjab Agricultural University

Lizhong Xiong, China Huazhong Agricultural University

Mariafe Calingacion, Philippines International Rice Research Institute (IRRI)

Masanori Tamaoki, Japan National Institute for Environmental Studies

Matthias Wissuwa, Japan Japan International Research Center for Agricultural Sciences

Michael Dingkhun, Philippines International Rice Research Institute (IRRI)

Michael Riemann, Germany Karisruhe Institute of Technology

Michael Thomson, Philippines International Rice Research Institute (IRRI)

Nourollah Ahmadi, France AGAP, Cirad, Montpellier

# **INVITED SPEAKERS**

\*Updated on 10 September 2013.

Nazmul Hoque, Bangladesh Biotechnology Division, Bangladesh Institute of Nuclear Agriculture (BINA)

Nickolai Alexandrov, Philippines International Rice Research Institute (IRRI)

Pankaj Jaiswal, USA Oregon State University

**Prasanta Subudhi, USA** Louisiana State University Agricultural Center

**Qinghua Pan, China** South China Agricultural University

Raj R. Dinesh, India Rajiv Gandhi Centre for Biotechnology

Ramaiah Venuprasad, Nigeria Africa Rice Center

Raman Sundaram, India Directorate of Rice Research

Ramanjulu Sunkar, USA Oklahoma State University

Roger Thilmony, USA USDA, ARS, PWA, WRRC-CIU

Sadequr Rahman, Malaysia Monash University Sebastien Cunnac, France Institut de Recherche pour le Developpement

Shailaja Hittalmani, India University of Agricultural Sciences, Bangalore

Shoba Rani, India Directorate of Rice Research

**Sonia Negrão, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia** King Abdullah University of Science and Technology

**Takasige Ishii, Japan** Graduate School of Agricultural Science, Kobe University

Toshiyuki Takai, Japan National Institute of Agricultural Sciences

Tsutomu Ishimaru, Philippines International Rice Research Institute (IRRI)

Utut Widyastuti Suharsono, Indonesia Bogor Agricultural University

Vic Knauf, USA Arcadia Biosciences

**Yoshimichi Fukuta, Japan** Japan International Research Center for Agricultural Sciences (JIRCAS)

# **PROGRAM AT A GLANCE**

\*Updated on 10 September 2013.

Time / Date	4-Nov	5-Nov	6-Nov	7-Nov	8-Nov
0630 - 0700					
0700 - 0730					
0730 - 0800					
0800 - 0830					
0830 - 0900					
0900 - 0930			Plenary 4	Plenary 6	
0930 - 1000					
1000 - 1030		Plenary 1			
1030 - 1100		Opening Session			Field Tour
1100 - 1130			Plenary 5	Plenary 7	
1130 - 1200					
1200 - 1230					
1230 - 1300		Lunch			
1300 - 1330					
1330 - 1400					
1400 - 1430		Plenary 2	Poster Session 1	Poster Session 2	
1430 - 1500					
1500 - 1530			<b>Concurrent Session 1</b> Evolutionary Genetics	<b>Concurrent Session 5</b> Biotic Stress Resistance	
1530 - 1600		Plenary 3	Concurrent Session 2	Concurrent Session 6	
1600 - 1630			Yield Potential	Genomic Diversity	
1630 - 1700	Arrival and Registration		Concurrent Session 3 Gene Regulation	Concurrent Session 7 Grain Quality and	
1700 - 1730			Concurrent Session 4	Nutrition	
1730 - 1800			Abiotic Stress Tolerance	Breeding Applications	
1800 - 1830					
1830 - 1900					
1900 - 2130		Symposium Dinner			

## PRELIMINARY TIME TABLE

# Tuesday, 5 November 2013

Time	Program
09:15-10:00	Welcome and Introduction Opening Remarks
10:00-10:35	<b>Keynote Presentation</b> Accelerating crop improvement for sustainable development <i>Dr. Achim Dobermann</i> <i>Deputy Director General for Research, IRRI</i>
10:35-11:45	Plenary 01         Linking genome wide association studies (GWAS) and plant breeding to better utilize natural variation in rice         Dr. Susan McCouch, USA         Ecology and Cultural History made rice: adaptive episodes, diversification and reticulation over 8000 years         Dr. Dorian Fuller, United Kingdom
12:00-13:15	Lunch
13:15-15:00	Plenary 02         Functional and nutritional traits from wild rices         Dr. Robert Henry, Australia         What we've learned and Are still learning about using molecular markers to improve         grain yields in maize         Dr. Rex Bernardo, USA         Next-generation breeding in rice: challenges and perspectives         Dr. Masahiro Yano, Japan
15:00-15:30	Coffee Break
15:30-16:40	Plenary 03Cloning and application of a series of high-yield genes IPA1/DEP1/GW8 in riceDr. Qian Qian, ChinaRNA molecular machines and protein making factoriesDr. Julio Saez-Vasquez, France
19:00-21:30	Symposium Dinner

\* Updated on 10 September 2013. Program is subject to change. Please visit <u>http://rice-genetics.com</u> for the latest program.

# SYMPOSIUM PROGRAM

# Wednesday, 6 November 2013

Time	Program
	Plenary 04 Engineering a C4 rice Dr. William P. Quick, Philippines
08:20-10:05	Characterization of biotic stress resistance gene in rice Dr. Guangcun He, China
	Genetic improvement of root system architectures to enhance drought avoidance in rice <i>Dr. Yusaku Uga, Japan</i>
10:05-10:25	Coffee Break
10:25-12:10	<b>Plenary 05</b> The Genetic control of rice yield through gleaning superior genes <i>Dr. Naoki Hirotsu, Japan</i>
	Bacterial blight of rice: A window to evolution, disease and everything else <i>Dr. Frank White, USA</i>
	Genomics-assisted transfer of QTLs for tolerance to drought, flooding and salinity in to Indian mega rice varieties <i>Dr. Nagendra K. Singh, India</i>
12:10-13:30	Lunch
13:30-15:00	Poster Session 01
15:00-17:55	<ul> <li>Concurrent 01: Evolutionary Genetics <ul> <li>Closed panicles in rice domestication</li> <li>In search of vestige of artificial selection in rice</li> <li>Bayesian multi-phenotype genome-wide association methods for experimental designs of arbitrary complexity</li> <li>Genetic structure of cultivated rice (<i>Oryza sativa L.</i>) and its progenitor, <i>O. rufipogon</i> in India</li> <li>Origin and ecotypic differentiation of Bangladeshi indica rice</li> <li>Phylogenetic relationship among weedy, wild and cultivated species of Sri Lankan rice (<i>Oryza spp</i>) based on morphological traits</li> <li>Patterns of rice diversity from SNP delineated the origin of the atypical <i>O. sativa</i> group in Madagascar from intermediary forms of the Indian sub-continent</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
	<ul> <li>Concurrent 02: Yield Potential</li> <li>Toward improvement of yield potential in Basmati rice: from mapping to marker-assisted selection</li> <li>Identification of a gene involving in rice grain yield loss by air pollution gas, ozone</li> <li>Quantitative Trait loci and their interactions in regulating the flowering time variation and photoperiodic response in rice</li> <li>Identification and characterization of QTL involving rate of photosynthesis in high yielding rice</li> <li>Molecular mapping and introgression of novel yield enhancing QTLs from <i>O. longistaminata</i></li> <li>Genetic improvement of the yield potential of indica-type rice by using japonica-type varieties</li> <li>Introgression of erect panicle genes (QTL) from AA genome species to increase yield potential in rice (<i>Oryza sativa</i>)</li> </ul>

<ul> <li>Concurrent 03: Gene Regulation <ul> <li>Jasmonate-dependent transcriptional regulation in response to different environmental cues</li> <li>Genome-Wide Discovery of <i>cis</i>-Elements in Promoter Sequences</li> <li>Tiny RNAs big impact on genome regulation</li> <li>Novel Gene Expression Tools for Rice Biotechnology</li> <li>Role of MicroRNA-guided post transcriptional gene regulations in plants</li> <li>Update on Gramene database features and functions: case study on co-expression and regulation under salinity</li> <li>Improving salinity tolerance by understanding the significance of allelic variants in HKT1;5</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
<ul> <li>Concurrent 04: Abiotic Stress Tolerance <ul> <li>Restructuring of Root Architecture is a Key to Engineer Drought Tolerance</li> <li>A novel pathway mediated by SNAC1-OsSRO1c-DST promotes stomata closure for drought resistance in rice</li> <li>Raising salinity and drought tolerant rice using forward and reverse genetics approaches</li> <li>Salt stress amelioration in rice through manipulation and regulation of inositol metabolism</li> <li>Advances in the development of iron-toxicity tolerant rice varieties for resource poor farmers in sub Saharan Africa</li> <li>Physiological and genetic advances to unravel heat stress responses in rice</li> <li>How does the molecular machinery of rice seedlings 'react' to heat stress?</li> </ul> </li> </ul>

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# Thursday, 7 November 2013

Time	Program
08:20-10:05	Plenary 06         MAGIC populations for genetic research and breeding applications         Dr. Hei Leung, Philippines         Molecular dissection of rice innate immunity to Magnaporthe oryzae         Dr. Gouliang Wang, USA         New whole genome de-novo assemblies of three divergent strains of rice document novel         gene space in aus and indica missed by previous reference assemblies         Dr. Bichard W. McCombin. USA
10:05-10:25	Coffee Break
10:25-12:10	Plenary 07         Impacts of rising temperatures on R-gene-mediated resistance in rice         Dr. Jan Leach, USA         (Presentation title to be confirmed)         Dr. Rod Wing, USA         (Presentation title to be confirmed)         Dr. Robert Zeigler, Philippines
12:10-13:30	Lunch
13:30-15:00	Poster Session 02
15:00-17:55	<ul> <li>Concurrent 05: Biotic Stress Resistance         <ul> <li>Cloning and characterization of the <i>Bph18</i> gene conferring resistance to BPH</li> <li>Simultaneous transfer and mapping of novel bacterial blight resistance genes from <i>Oryza glaberrima</i> and <i>O. rufipogon into O. sativa</i></li> <li>Co-differentiation of blast races and rice in global level</li> <li>Bacterial blight of rice: From population structures to tailored resistance genes in Africa</li> <li>Function, evolution, interaction, and utilization of rice blast Pik alleles</li> <li>Molecular Breeding for Durable bacterial blight resistance in rice</li> <li>Recent advances in leafhopper and planthopper resistance in rice</li> <li>Detection of novel QTLs and major genes associated with leaf blast resistance and introgression of resistance in drought tolerant rice cultivars</li> </ul> </li> <li>Concurrent 06: Genomic Diversity         <ul> <li>Assessment of root trait variation under phosphorus deficiency through genome-wide association analysis</li> <li>Genetic change of <i>Pyricularia grisea</i> in different host genomes</li> <li>The GRISP Global Rice Phenotyping Network: A multi-environment program to tap into useful genetic diversity</li> <li>Utilization of active mite mapping as a novel genetic tool for modification of stress response in rice</li> <li>Genetic diversity of upland rice landraces and traditional varieties of Bukidnon, Philippines</li> <li>Harnessing rice functional genomics for variety development through tilling</li> <li>International Rice Informatics Consortium</li> </ul> </li> </ul>

<ul> <li>Concurrent 07: Grain Quality and Nutrition <ul> <li>Healthier Rice Varieties: an approach to reducing dietary inadequacy of micronutrients.</li> <li>Cadmium rice</li> <li>Production of rice bran oil with improved fatty acid composition and stability</li> <li>Marker-assisted discovery and utilization of gene/QTLs associated with Grain Quality Traits in aromatic rices in India</li> <li>Rice Bran: A food ingredient with Global Public Health Opportunity for disease prevention and crop Improvement</li> <li>A multi-platform metabolomics and genomics approach to identify new quality traits in rice</li> <li>Grain quality</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
<ul> <li>Concurrent 08: Breeding Applications <ul> <li>Overview of rice molecular breeding activities at the Africa Rice Center</li> <li>California Rice Breeding: The First 100 Years</li> <li>Prediction of cooked rice taste using diagnostic DNA markers</li> <li>Rice Diversity Panel 1, to develop novel germplasm for breeding</li> <li>Comparing the genetic architecture of two MAGIC populations: a case study of brown spot resistance</li> <li>High-Throughput SNP Genotyping for Breeding Applications in Rice</li> <li>Rice molecular breeding applications at PhilRice</li> </ul> </li> </ul>

\* Updated on 10 September 2013. Program is subject to change. Please visit <u>http://rice-genetics.com</u> for the latest program.

# **FIELD TOUR**

An exclusive field tour of IRRI in Los Baños is available for delegates' registration on a firstcome, first-serve basis. The tour will highlight the institute's research products, field and laboratory facilities and also provide opportunities for delegates to meet and discuss with IRRI scientists. A Filipino festive lunch will be served for all registered participants.

As there is a capacity limit of 400 persons for this field tour, delegates are encouraged to sign up early for the Symposium and field tour <u>here</u>.

#### **Draft Itinerary (8 November)**

- 0645 Departure from Dusit Thani Manila
- 0830 Expected arrival at IRRI, Los Baños
- 0845 Welcome
- 0900 Field Tour
- 1200 Lunch Break
- 1330 Free Schedule: Visit to Genotyping Services Lab, Genetic Transformation Lab and Gene Bank
- 1500 Depart IRRI, Los Baños

#### **Details of Field Tour**

Participants can look forward to a tour of the following areas:

- Drought / Anaerobic Germination(AG) / Green Super Rice (GSR) / MAGIC-Multiparent Advanced Inter-Cross
- 2. International Network for Genetic Evaluation of Rice (INGER) / Genetic Resources Center (GRC)
- 3. Plant Breeding, Genetics and Biotechnology Demo Plot
- 4. Salinity, Pstol/Pup1 and Zn Def Tol
- 5. Novel Gene Resources / Biotic stress resistance
- 6. Submergence & Stagnant water

#### **Note to Participants**

If you plan to join the IRRI field tour, please arrange your flight to depart either in the evening of November 8 (around 8pm) or on November 9. Travel time from Los Baños to Manila Airport takes 2 to 3 hours depending on traffic situation especially on a Friday.

# **REGISTRATION INFORMATION**

Here's your chance to participate in the world's largest and most influential rice research symposium. Take advantage of the attractive delegate rates and be on your way to rub shoulders with rice researchers, experts and representatives from both public and private sectors.

Category	Regular Fee*	Onsite Fee+
	1 Jun – 20 Oct	21 Oct – 8 Nov
International Delegates	USD 600	USD 650
Local Delegates and NARES Partners	USD 400	USD 450
IRRI Scholars	USD 200	USD 250
Field Tour	USD 30	USD 80
Accompanying Persons (Fee includes a half-day tour and Symposium Dinner on 5 November.)	USD 180	USD 230

\* Regular fee includes all Symposium materials, lunches, tea breaks, as well as entry to exhibition and Symposium dinner.

+Delegates who register between 21 October and 8 November **may not receive all Symposium materials** but will be entitled to lunches, tea breaks, as well as entrance to exhibition and Symposium dinner.

### **Cancellation Policy**

- 1. All cancellation must be made in writing to the Symposium Secretariat at <u>registration@rice-genetics.com</u>.
- 2. Notification received in writing before 22 September 2013 Refund with 30% deduction for administrative fees.
- 3. Notification received in writing after 22 September 2013 Refund with 50% deduction for administrative fees.
- 4. No refund on cancellations received after 13 October 2013.

# ACCOMMODATIONS

#### **Official Hotel**

Special hotel rates have been negotiated with the Symposium venue – Dusit Thani Manila – for delegates attending the Symposium.

Room Type	Single Rate per night	Twin Rate per night
Deluxe Room	PHP 5,500	PHP 6,000
Club Deluxe Room	PHP 7,000	PHP 7,000
Junior Suite	PHP 6,800	PHP 6,800
Executive Suite	PHP 8,800	PHP 8,800
Club Executive Suite	PHP 9,500	PHP 9,500

*Note:* Room rates are subject to the 10% service charge and 6% Makati City tax. Government taxes are subject to change.

To enjoy the special rates, please follow the below instructions:

- 1. Log on to http://www.dusit.com/dusit-thani/dusit-thani-manila.html
- 2. Under "Quick Reservation" (top right hand corner of the webpage), indicate the dates and number of nights you intend to stay at the hotel.
- 3. Click on the yellow arrow (just below Dusit Best Rate)
- 4. Under "Special Rate", select "Group Code"
- 5. Enter booking code "1311KENESA"
- 6. Click "Check"

For payment via wire transfer, please submit Dusit Thani Hotel Reservation Form instead. The form is available for download at <u>http://rice-genetics.com/registration-accommodation/</u> <u>accommodation/</u>.

# ACCOMMODATIONS

# **Supporting Hotels**

Hotel	Single Rate per night	Twin Rate per night
Crown Regency		
01 Dela Rosa Street, Legaspi Village	US \$83	US \$88
Makati City 1229		
Prince Plaza II		
1026 A. Arnaiz Avenue, San Lorenzo	US \$75	US \$80
Village, Makati City 1229		

Note: Room rates are inclusive of daily breakfast

For room reservations at Supporting Hotels, please fill out Hotel Reservation Form, available for download at <u>http://rice-genetics.com/registration-accommodation/accommodation/</u>.

Please send the form to our official travel agent:

Fritzie G. Dela Cruz Telephone: +632 894 0886 Fax: +632 817 7903 Email: <u>domesticmkt@rajahtravel.com</u> / <u>fgdelacruz@rajahtravel.com</u>



# SIDE TRIPS FOR ACCOMPANYING PERSONS

Registered accompanying persons may choose to join one of the below city tours before joining their partners at the Symposium Dinner on 5 November. Please inform the Symposium Secretariat of your choice of tour at <u>info@rice-genetics.com</u>.



#### Old Manila

Rediscover the Old City of Manila through the Walled City of Intramuros, built by the Spaniards in the 16th century and has been the capital of the Philippines. Intra Muros, which is Latin for "within the walls", is the oldest district and historic core of Manila surrounded by thick structures of high wall and moats. Visit Fort Santiago, served as fortress against marauding Chinese Pirates; a prison for Spanish-era political prisoners and a Japanese torture chamber during World War II. Proceed to Casa Manila

passing Manila Cathedral, the ecclesiastical seat of the Archidocese of Manila. In Casa Manila, one can find a reconstructed Spanish colonial home of the 19th century decorated in with antique furniture, fixtures and art. Visit San Agustin Church, the first European stone church designed along Spanish lines in Manila. Finally, take a leisurely stroll through the ruins of Baluarte de San Diego and its charming garden grounds.

Tour departure date and time: 5 November, 8.00am



#### Modern Manila

Experience the multiple facets of modern-day Metro Manila. See the Cultural Center of the Philippines, where artists from all over the archipelago and the rest of the world have graced its theaters and brought its galleries to life, enthralling Filipinos and our foreign guests for over forty years. Visit Makati City, one of Asia's premier business districts, and make your way to the Ayala Museum where classic and modern Filipino artistry converge. The museum's Leandro Locsin is a testament to Filipino creativity. Get a taste of urban bliss at the Fort Bonifacio Global City. This sprawling development is envisioned to contain all the facilities and amenities needed for a sustainable community. Take a breather and pay tribute

to heroes from the past, our gallant soldiers who fought during World War II, in the Manila American Cemetery & Memorial Park.

Tour departure date and time: 5 November, 8.00am

# WHO SHOULD ATTEND

- Scientists/Researchers
- Professors/Instructors
- Students
- Traders
- Policy Makers

# WHY SHOULD YOU ATTEND

- · Hear from renowned speakers on the latest research developments
- · Get updates on the latest trends and technology on rice genetics
- Participate in case-based learning
- · Network and interact with key opinion leaders

# SPONSORSHIP AND EXHIBITION OPPORTUNITIES

The RG7 Organizing Committee is pleased to offer exciting sponsorship and exhibiting opportunities for companies related to the rice sector. Companies will benefit from a list of outstanding advantages to maximize exposure and drive businesses during the event. For enquiries, please contact the Symposium Secretariat at info@rice-genetics.com.

#### Venue

Dusit Thani Manila Ayala Centre, 1223 Makati City Metro Manila, Philippines Telephone: +63 (2) 238 8888 Fax: +63 (2) 238 8800

#### **About Manila**

The Symposium will be being held in the heart and soul of the Philippines, Manila. The capital city is at the very core of the over 7,000 islands that comprise the country. By day, Manila hums with the bustle of commerce. By night, the city throbs with the excitement of varied, high-class entertainment.

#### Language

The official language of RG7 is English.

#### Voltage

220 volts a/c is the common standard. 110 volts a/c is also used, especially in major hotels.

#### **Obtaining Your Visa**

Nationals from a large majority of countries who are travelling to the Philippines for business and tourism purposes are allowed to enter the Philippines without visas for a stay not exceeding twenty-one (21) days, provided they hold valid tickets for their return journey to port of origin or next port of destination and their passports valid for a period of at least six (6) months beyond the contemplated period of stay. For more information on VISA applications and list of exempted countries, please visit the Department of Foreign Affairs, Philippines website at <a href="https://www.dfa.gov.ph">https://www.dfa.gov.ph</a>. You may also contact your local Philippine embassy or consulate more VISA requirements.

#### Letter of Invitation to RG7

Participants requiring a formal letter of invitation to enable them to make their arrangements to participate in the Symposium may contact <u>info@rice-genetics.com</u> to request for one. Please note that this letter cannot be regarded as a commitment regarding scheduling or financial support from the organizer.

#### **Liability and Insurance**

The Symposium Secretariat and Organizers cannot accept liability for personal accidents or loss of or damage to private property of participants and accompanying persons. Participants are advised to take out their own personal travel and health insurance for their trip.

For more information on RG7, please contact the Symposium Secretariat:



20 Kallang Avenue Level 2 PICO Creative Centre Singapore 339411 Tel: +65 6393 0243 Fax: +65 6292 7577 Email: <u>info@rice-genetics.com</u>