

Bylaws of Division C08

Plant Genetic Resources

Crop Science Society of America

ARTICLE I: Name

The name of this Division shall be the Plant Genetic Resources Division of the Crop Science Society of America; hereinafter referred to as C-8 and CSSA, respectively.

ARTICLE II: Objectives

The objectives of Division C-8 shall be the same as those of the parent organization (CSSA) and shall further encompass the following:

- To provide a common forum for the exchange of plant genetic resources research and educational information among members of the Crop Science Society of America (CSSA), the Soil Science Society of America (SSSA), and the American Society of Agronomy (ASA) as well as others within the plant genetic resources scientific community.
- To advance scientific research and promote practices that will improve the acquisition, maintenance, evaluation, conservation, and enhancement of plant genetic resources.
- To further the professional development of its members and to promote and recognize quality research and education.
- To maintain liaison and to cooperate with other scientific and educational organizations, national or international, whose programs are allied to plant genetic resources.

ARTICLE III: Division Membership

Section 1. Membership is open to CSSA members in good standing who have an active interest in plant genetic resources. An active membership list shall be maintained for the primary purpose of making mailings concerning C-8 activities. The membership list shall be composed of all members who satisfy one of the following requirements:

- Have attended the C-8 Division annual membership business meeting at least once during the previous three years.
- Have submitted a written request to the C-8 Division Chair to be placed on the mailing list.
- Have designated Division C-8 as their primary division of interest.

ARTICLE IV: Division Officers

Section 1. The officers of Division C-8 shall consist of a Chair, a Chair-Elect, the Immediate Past-Chair, and the Representative to the Boards of Directors of CSSA and ASA. The division shall also have a Secretary and a Historian.

Section 2. The C-8 Chair, Chair-Elect, Immediate Past-Chair, and Divisional Representative to the CSSA and ASA Boards of Directors shall be active members in good standing of CSSA. The C-8 office of Secretary may be filled by any active member in good standing of Division C-8.

ARTICLE V: Selection of Division Officers

Section 1. Chair-Elect. A Chair-Elect of Division C-8 shall be elected annually by mail ballot during elections conducted by CSSA. Two nominees for Chair-Elect shall be selected by the C-8 Nominating Committee and submitted to the CSSA Nominating Committee, through the CSSA Immediate Past President.

Section 2. Divisional Representative to the CSSA and ASA Boards of Directors. The C-8 Divisional Representative on the Boards of Directors of CSSA and ASA shall be elected to a 3-year term by mail ballot during an election conducted by CSSA. Following the close of the second year of a term, two nominees from among the C-8 membership shall be selected by the C-8 Nominating Committee and submitted to the CSSA Nominating Committee, through the CSSA Immediate Past President.

Section 3. Secretary. The C-8 Secretary shall be appointed for a 3-year term by the C-8 Chair after consultation with the C-8 Executive Committee. An individual cannot be appointed to serve consecutive terms as C-8 Secretary.

Section 4. Historian. The Immediate Past-Chair shall serve as the C-8 Historian.

Section 5. Proposals for Nominees. Any C-8 member may submit, in writing, at least 30 days prior to the C-8 annual membership business meeting, the name of an eligible individual along with an indication of the individual's consent to serve in the office concerned. Suggestions for the elective offices shall be submitted to a member of the C-8 Nominating Committee. Suggestions for Secretary shall be submitted to either the C-8 Chair or a C-8 Executive Committee member.

ARTICLE VI: Term of Office

Section 1. Elected Officers. Terms of elected officers shall begin at the close of the next annual membership business meeting following their election. The C-8 Chair-Elect shall progress automatically to C-8 Chair and to C-8 Immediate Past-Chair, respectively at the close of consecutive annual membership business meetings following assumption of duties as C-8 Chair-Elect. The term of C-8 Immediate Past-Chair will expire at the close of the next annual membership business meeting following assumption of the duties of that office. The term of the C-8 Divisional Representative to the Boards of Directors of CSSA and ASA will expire at the close of the first session of the Boards during the third annual membership business meeting following the assumption of duties for that office (Article VII of the CSSA Bylaws).

Section 2. Appointed Offices. Term of the C-8 Secretary shall begin upon acceptance of the appointment to the office by the C-8 Chair after consultation with the C-8 Executive Committee. The term will expire at the close of the third annual membership business meeting following the assumption of duties for that office. Term of the C-8 Historian shall be concurrent with the term of the Immediate Past-Chair.

Section 3. Vacancies. In the event an office holder resigns or is unable or unavailable to serve, the individual shall be replaced according to the following procedure (Article VII of the CSSA Bylaws):

- Should the C-8 Chair resign or become unable to serve, the C-8 Chair-Elect shall succeed automatically.
- Should the C-8 Chair-Elect resign or become unable to serve, the candidate who received the next highest number of votes for C-8 Chair-Elect at the time of the election shall automatically succeed to the office to complete the term.
- Should the C-8 Immediate Past-Chair resign or become unable to serve, the person shall be replaced by the most recent Past-Chair available to serve.
- Should the C-8 Divisional Representative to the Boards of Directors of CSSA and ASA resign or become unable to serve, the candidate who received the next highest number of votes shall automatically succeed to the office to complete the term.
- Should an appointed C-8 officer resign or become unable to serve, a successor shall be appointed by the C-8 Chair to serve the balance of the vacated term after consultation with the C-8 Executive Committee.

ARTICLE VII: Duties of Officers

Section 1. Chair. The C-8 Chair shall:

- Arrange and preside at all C-8 annual membership business meetings and at all Executive Committee meetings.
- Develop the C-8 program for the annual ASA-CSSA meetings, including any symposia and field tours.
- Secure the presiding Chair for each C-8 session on the ASA-CSSA program.
- Submit the program for the annual meeting sessions to the CSSA Program Chair.
- Appoint the C-8 Secretary as vacancies occur.
- Appoint and charge the Division C-8 committees after consultation with the C-8 Executive Committee.
- Represent the C-8 Division at all CSSA Board of Directors meetings.
- Serve as an ex-officio member of the C453 Frank N. Meyer Medal for Plant Genetic Resources committee.
- Provide the Chair-Elect with information necessary for program continuity.
- Maintain communications with national and international plant genetic resources organizations as appropriate.
- Perform such other duties as are required by this position.

Section 2. Chair-Elect. The C-8 Chair-Elect shall:

- Represent the C-8 Division at all CSSA Board of Directors meetings.
- Assist the C-8 Chair as requested.
- Perform the duties of the C-8 Chair in the absence of the Chair.
- Perform such other duties as delegated by the C-8 Chair.

Section 3. Past-Chair. The most recent C-8 Past-Chair shall:

- Advise the C-8 Chair on matters pertaining to C-8 Divisional program development.
- Organize and serve as Chair of the C-8 Nominating Committee.
- Serve as the C-8 Historian.

Section 4. Divisional Representative to the Boards of Directors of CSSA and ASA. The C-8 Divisional representative on the Boards of Directors of CSSA and ASA shall:

- Represent the C-8 Division at all CSSA and ASA Boards of Directors meetings.
- Report pertinent information from the CSSA and ASA Boards of Directors to the C-8 Executive Committee and to the C-8 membership at the annual membership business meeting.

Section 5. Secretary. The C-8 Secretary shall:

- Record all business transacted by the C-8 Division at the annual membership business meeting and at special meetings.

- Make this information available to C-8 members at the annual membership business meeting or on other occasions as appropriate.
- Maintain a record of all officers, standing committees, and ad hoc committees including membership, tenure of office, and committee reports.
- Maintain a current membership list.
- Submit a copy of all records to the C-8 and CSSA Historian, annually.

Section 6. Historian. The C-8 Historian shall maintain the historical record of all C-8 Divisional activities and shall present a written progress report at the Division C-8 annual membership business meeting.

ARTICLE VIII: Committees

Section 1. Executive Committee. The C-8 Executive Committee shall consist of the Chair, Chair-Elect, Immediate Past-Chair, and Divisional Representative to the CSSA and ASA Boards of Directors, with the C-8 Chair serving as Chair of the Executive Committee. The Secretary shall be an ex-officio member of the Executive Committee. The Executive Committee shall have the power to act for the C-8 Division in matters of urgency or when action must be taken before the next annual C-8 membership business meeting. The Executive Committee shall be responsible for the policies of the Division, subject to the approval of the CSSA Board of Directors, and any formal actions of the Division C-8 membership.

Section 2. Nominating Committee. The C-8 Nominating Committee shall consist of the three most recent Past-Chairs with the Immediate Past-Chair serving as the Chair. The Nominating Committee shall provide an opportunity for C-8 members to submit the names of prospective nominees to an elected office providing consent of the nominee to serve in the specified office has been obtained, and that such suggestions are made in writing at least 30 days prior to the annual membership business meeting.

Section 3. Standing Committees.

Symposium Committee. The C-8 Division shall maintain a Symposium Committee which shall study the opportunities and needs for symposia, field tours, or joint programs developed in cooperation with other Divisions of CSSA, ASA, or SSSA. When a symposium or other special program is deemed advisable, the committee shall work with the C-8 Chair-Elect to develop the program.

Professional Advancement Committee. The C-8 Division shall maintain a Professional Advancement Committee whose duties shall be to:

- Explore ways and means by which C-8 members may gain additional knowledge and proficiency in Plant Genetic Resources.

- Assure recognition of members who have made outstanding contributions and who deserve special recognition. Specifically, it shall be the responsibility of this committee to assist in preparation and submittal of nominations of C-8 members, as appropriate, for CSSA Fellow, ASA Fellow, and other intra-society and tri-society recognition awards.

Section 4. Other Committees. The C-8 Chair may appoint ad hoc committees as deemed necessary or as directed by the C-8 membership at the annual membership business meeting.

ARTICLE IX: Meetings

Section 1. Regular Meeting. Division C-8 shall present one or more programs at each annual meeting of CSSA. The annual business meeting of the C-8 membership shall be conducted during one of these meetings.

Section 2. Special Meetings. Joint programs arranged and presented cooperatively with other divisions of CSSA, SSSA, and ASA shall be encouraged, as appropriate, by the C-8 Executive Committee.

ARTICLE X: Conduct of Meetings

Robert's Rules of Order, current edition, will be used as a guide for conducting meetings of C-8, the Executive Committee, and other standing and ad hoc committees where C-8 business is transacted.

ARTICLE XI: Amendments

Section 1. Proposal of Amendments. Amendments may be proposed in writing by:

- The C-8 Executive Committee.
- Any C-8 member, provided the proposed amendment is submitted in writing and is accompanied by the written endorsement of ten or more other active C-8 members.

Section 2. Adoption of Amendments. Adoption of a proposed amendment, provided that the amendment does not violate the Bylaws of CSSA, shall require either:

- An affirmative 2/3 majority of those active C-8 members in attendance at any annual membership business meeting, provided the proposed amendment has been mailed to the C-8 active membership at least 60 days prior to an announced annual C-8 membership business meeting.
- An affirmative 2/3 majority of those active C-8 members returning valid ballots to CSSA Headquarters within 60 days after the date of the original mailing of ballots to the active C-8 members.