Dear Maize Genetics Cooperator,

We want to update you on the current plans for the 2022 Maize Genetics Meeting (MGM) to be held in St. Louis, MO USA from March 31st - April 3rd by answering some frequently asked questions.

Will the MGM be in person?

• Yes! We will host an in-person meeting for the 2022 MGM. We continue to monitor the recommendations of the CDC, federal, state, county and city health officials and plan to hold the meeting in person at this time.

What are you doing to keep me safe?

- We have established a strict COVID-19 Policy (see the full policy here).
- We **require full vaccination** of all in-person attendees and <u>strongly encourage</u> <u>attendees to also receive a booster shot</u> at least 2 weeks prior to the meeting.
- We **require attendees to wear masks** at all times and strongly encourage attendees to wear surgical, N95, or KN95 masks.
- We are strongly encouraging attendees to test themselves prior to coming to the meeting and upon arrival at the hotel.
- We are working on additional on site and schedule changes to ensure attendee safety, and will provide a detailed update closer to the meeting.

What about Omicron?

- We acknowledge and share the concerns about the Omicron variant.
- Pandemic models show that Omicron is predicted to peak and burn out well before the MGM in late March.

What if I am unable or uncomfortable attending in person?

- We will be hosting an on-demand virtual meeting after the MGM from April 6th -12th.
- This virtual event will feature recorded talks from the in-person meeting, and virtual networking events to meet and discuss with conference speakers.

When do I have to decide?

- We have an extended early registration deadline of February 11th.
- To register for the in-person or virtual event, please visit the <u>2022 MGM</u> registration page.

We will continue to closely monitor the COVID-19 situation and keep the community informed of any changes. As COVID-19 transitions from pandemic to endemic, we

believe that the policies set forth this year will protect our community for years to come.

Don't forget to become a MGC member today!

Sent on behalf of the Maize Genetics Cooperation Board of Directors and the Maize Genetics Meeting Steering Committee.