

Subject: RE: [ges] Martha Crouch visit
From: Royden Saah <royden.saah@islandconservation.org>
Date: 3/31/2017 1:19 PM
To: Fred Gould <fgould@ncsu.edu>

Hi Fred,

I would like to attend dinner on Monday. I will block time on both of our calendars (starting at 5:30). Let me know when and where.

With Appreciation,
Royden

From: ges-owner@lists.ncsu.edu [mailto:ges-owner@lists.ncsu.edu] **On Behalf Of** Fred Gould
Sent: Friday, March 31, 2017 9:29 AM
To: GES@lists.ncsu.edu
Subject: [ges] Martha Crouch visit

Dear GES Participants,

Martha Crouch will be visiting NCSU on Monday April 3rd and Tuesday the 4th. I am setting up meetings for her and am especially looking for people who could meet with her:

- 1) Monday morning or afternoon
- 2) Early dinner before her Monday evening seminar (see below) or Tuesday dinner (6PM).

If you attended Elizabeth Pitt's colloquium at the end of February you might remember that there was one very important person who was described —that was Martha Crouch. [Elizabeth Pitts - Productive Conflict in the Governance of Genetic Pest Management - 2.28.17](#)

She will be giving a public seminar on April 3rd seminar (see flier) is open to the public. The April 4th noon colloquium "Genetic engineering and constraint: Lessons from herbicide resistant crops for coexistence with wild nature" will be in our normal room (129) in the 1911 building (see below).

Colloquium: Tuesday April 4th

Genetic engineering and constraint: Lessons from herbicide resistant crops for coexistence with wild nature

Short description:

To the extent that genetic engineering removes constraints that keep many farmers from realizing their desire for "clean fields" with zero weeds, the technology will make it harder for non-crop species (wild plants and the animals that depend on them) to exist

in our intensely farmed areas. What happens when genetic engineering for resistance to herbicides makes it dramatically easier to get rid of all weeds without harming the crop? With the constraint of crop injury removed, will there be less coexistence of wild and cultivated organisms? Will regulations substitute for the loss of biological constraint? Will increased efficiency of agricultural production free up enough land for effective conservation? Given the central role of land sparing arguments in promoting genetic engineering, and the dire biodiversity crisis, let's discuss.

Marti was a graduate student at Yale University studying the development of seeds and flowers when genes were first cloned in the 1970's. By the time she headed her own plant molecular biology lab at Indiana University in the 1980's, plant genes were being patented in anticipation of commercial use. Prof. Crouch became concerned about potential impacts of genetic engineering in agriculture and her own contributions, and as a result shut down her research lab in the 1990's and taught courses on the intersections of technology, food and agriculture, with an emphasis on environmental impacts and a focus on forests. In 2001, Marti left Indiana University and now pursues independent consulting. Her background thus spans the whole history of genetic engineering in agriculture, as both a participant and a critic, giving Marti a unique perspective. Marti is also the official wild mushroom inspector at the Bloomington Community Farmers' Market.