

A Letter to the International Colleagues

-- Crop Science Society of China

Dear international peers:

Since the outbreak of COVID-19, the Chinese government has taken the most comprehensive, strict and thorough prevention and control measures to fight against this epidemic. WHO officials and many other government and healthcare officials across the globe are applauding China's unprecedented and aggressive responses, which shows that China is highly responsible, not only for the Chinese people's health but also for the sake of global public safety.

At this critical moment, Chinese government are making all efforts in medical treatment of the patients for reducing severe and fatal cases. A national expert group has been assigned to speed up the research and development of vaccines. In tackling the outbreak, the State Council of China has established a centralized dispatch system for the distribution of medical personnel, medical supplies and citizen's daily necessities. Under the leadership of President Xi Jinping and Chinese government, the prevention and control work has achieved positive results and the epidemic situation has shown positive changes due to concerted hard work. We have full confidence in our ability to prevail over the epidemic at an early date.

The fearless and selfless Chinese scientists, doctors and nurses are the mainstay in this battle, making strenuous efforts to counter the epidemic. CSSC is working closely with its members and government agencies by mobilizing scientists and professionals with expertise on spring-cultivation skill training, policy-making and science communication under this crucial period. Since the outbreak of the epidemic, the members of CSSC have coordinated all resources available to fight against the disease through disseminating scientific knowledge and advices to the public on measures to protect health, to prevent and to control the spread of the virus. Meanwhile, the members of CSSC are producing media resources for crop producers, scientific workers and students on skill training, lectures, and FAQ answers.

Virus knows of no national boundaries, but the worst time reveals the best in people. Stronger international cooperation is needed to jointly tackle this challenge. In

defeating the epidemic, we would like to remain in close communication and coordination with Crop Science Society of Japan and Japanese colleagues, and will be open to any suggestions from you. We would also like to strengthen cooperation in epidemic control to jointly protect lives and health of our peoples and uphold global public health security.

Sincerely yours,

Jianmin Wan

President of Crop Science Society of China

Chairman of International Crop Science Society

February 19, 2020