



March 5-7, 2014

2014  SUMMIT  
**SEEDS & BREEDS**  
FOR 21<sup>ST</sup> CENTURY AGRICULTURE 

Meeting the Challenges of Food Security

The Dupont Circle Hotel  
1500 New Hampshire Ave, NW  
Washington, DC

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## SUMMIT OBJECTIVES

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Through pre-summit paper development and workshop roundtable discussions, this national convening will build a clear policy pathway for ensuring that our public research investments are meeting the needs of a regionally appropriate, diverse, and resilient system of agricultural production. A white paper outlining a national strategy will be the outcome of this critical and timely summit.

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## CONTACT INFO

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For media inquiries, please contact Victoria Bouloubasis, Communications and Development Manager at RAFI-USA, [victoria@rafiusa.org](mailto:victoria@rafiusa.org).

For registration and participant inquiries, please contact Daryn Lane, Seeds & Breeds Summit Coordinator at RAFI-USA, [dlane@rafiusa.org](mailto:dlane@rafiusa.org).

For all sponsorship and donation inquiries, please contact Edna Rodriguez, Development Director at RAFI-USA, [edna@rafiusa.org](mailto:edna@rafiusa.org).

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## SUPPORT THE SEEDS & BREEDS SUMMIT

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Your sponsorship or tax-deductible donation offsets scholarships we have provided allowing plant breeders, farmers and students with financial constraints to attend the Summit.

To donate online by credit card visit <http://goo.gl/hR2nAa>

To donate by check, please make checks out to RAFI-USAwth memo line "Seeds & Breeds Summit" and mail to: RAFI-USA, ATTN: Daryn Lane, Seeds & Breeds Summit Coordinator, PO Box 640, Pittsboro, NC 27312.

The Rural Advancement Foundation International-USA is a tax exempt nonprofit organization with a 501(c)(3) designation from the IRS. Your gift is tax-deductible to the extent allowed by law.

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## SUPPORTERS

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WALLACE GENETIC FOUNDATION

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## WEDNESDAY, MARCH 5<sup>TH</sup> - DAY ONE

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*Check-in, all sessions, and meals, will take place in the Glover Park A room, except for the Evening Reception that will be held in The Heights room on level 9.*

- 2:00 - 2:50 pm     **Summit Check-In – Glover Park A**  
\*Please note, room check-in for The Dupont Circle Hotel is 3pm-midnight. Check with the front desk upon arrival in case your room is ready early. Attendees staying at The Dupont Circle Hotel may store luggage with the front desk at no charge until they are able to check-in following the day's closing session.
- 3:00 - 3:30 pm     **Welcome, Summit Goals and Ground-rules**  
*\*Michael Sligh – Just Foods Program Director, Rural Advancement Foundation International-USA (RAFI) - [NC]*
- 3:30 - 5:15 pm     **Participant introductions and meeting expectations**  
\*It is important for all participants to be present for this session.
- 5:15 - 5:30 pm     **Break**
- 5:30 - 6:00 pm     **OPENING KEYNOTE: “Food Security and the Role of Public Cultivar Development”**  
*\*William F. Tracy – Friday Chair of Vegetable Research, Dept. of Agronomy, University of Wisconsin-Madison - [WI]*  
We read every day about the growing challenges concerning our global food security. What roles have and should public cultivars and breeds play and what are some of the best examples and needs from around the world?
- 6:00 - 6:15 pm     **Participant Question and Answer**
- 6:15 - 7:30 pm     **Reception - The Heights room on level 9**  
Hors D'oeuvres and open bar provided.
- 7:30 pm            **Dinner on your own**  
Please refer to your participant packet for dining suggestions

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## THURSDAY, MARCH 6<sup>TH</sup> - DAY TWO

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| 7:00 - 8:00 am   | <b>Continental Breakfast Provided</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |
| 8:00 - 8:30 am   | <b>Welcome Address</b><br><i>*Michael Sligh – Just Foods Program Director, (RAFI) - [NC]</i>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
| 8:30 - 8:50 am   | <b>KEYNOTE 1: “The State of Public Cultivar Development”</b><br><i>Tommy Carter – Research Geneticist &amp; Professor of Crop Science, North Carolina State University, USDA/ARS - [NC]</i><br>Are we losing public breeders who can develop appropriate finished public cultivars and breeds? And, if so, why is this a concern and how best should it be remedied?                                                                                                              |
| 8:50 - 9:00 am   | <b>Participant Question and Answer</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |
| 9:00 - 9:30 am   | <b>PANEL 1: Comments and Responses</b><br><i>*Margaret E. Smith – Professor, College of Agriculture &amp; Life Science’s Dept. of Plant Breeding &amp; Genetics, Cornell University - [NY]</i><br><i>Charlie Brown – President, Brownseed Genetics, Inc. - [WI]</i><br><i>Steve Diercks – Owner, Coloma Farms Inc. - [WI]</i>                                                                                                                                                     |
| 9:30 - 10:00 am  | <b>Participant Group Discussion</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |
| 10:00 - 10:30 am | <b>Snacks and Coffee Break</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |
| 10:30 - 10:50 am | <b>KEYNOTE 2: “What would 21st Century breeding programs look like if they were geared toward more sustainable agricultural objectives and goals?”</b><br><i>Kathleen Merrigan – Former Deputy Secretary, USDA – [Washington, DC]</i><br>Our cropping systems are too uniform with too short rotations and lack the resilience and local adaptation to respond to climate change or the calls for a more local and healthy food supply. What policies are needed to address this? |
| 10:50 - 11:00 am | <b>Participant Question and Answer</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |

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| 11:00 - 11:30 am | <b>PANEL 2: Comments and Responses</b><br><i>Adrienne Shelton</i> – Graduate Student, Agronomy Dept., University of Wisconsin-Madison - [WI]<br><i>Margaret Mellon</i> – Science Policy Consultant; Former Senior Scientist, Food & Environment Program, Union of Concerned Scientists (UCS) – [Washington, DC]<br><sup>1</sup> <i>Fred Kirschenmann</i> – Distinguished Fellow, Leopold Center for Sustainable Agriculture, Iowa State University – [IA] |
| 11:30 - 12:00 pm | <b>Participant Group Discussion</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |
| 12:00 - 12:50 pm | <b>LUNCHEON KEYNOTE: “Taking the Long View – Changes over time and what is a Future Course?”</b><br><i>Major Goodman</i> – William Neal Reynolds Distinguished University Professor of Crop Science, North Carolina State University - [NC]                                                                                                                                                                                                               |
| 12:50 - 1:00 pm  | <b>Participant Question and Answer</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |
| 1:00 - 1:30 pm   | <b>CONGRESSIONAL PERSPECTIVE, HILL CHALLENGES AND OPPORTUNITIES</b><br><i>The Honorable Jon Tester</i> – U.S. Senator from Montana [D-MT]<br><i>Brad Gentile</i> , Legislative Director, office of The Honorable Chris Gibson – U.S. Representative for New York's 19th congressional district [R-NY19]                                                                                                                                                   |
| 1:30 - 2:00 pm   | <b>FARMER AND PUBLIC INTEREST PERSPECTIVES:</b><br><i>Ferd Hoefner</i> – Policy Director, National Sustainable Agriculture Coalition (NSAC) – [Washington, DC]<br><i>Steve Etka</i> – Legislative Director, National Organic Coalition (NOC) – [Washington, DC]<br><i>Jan Ahlen</i> – Government Relations Representative, National Farmers Union (NFU), [Washington, DC]<br><i>Ben Burkett</i> – President, National Family Farm Coalition (NFFC) – [MS] |
| 2:00 - 3:00 pm   | <b>Participant Group Discussion</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |
| 3:00 - 3:30 pm   | <b>Snack and Coffee Break</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |

<sup>1</sup>Submitted paper but unable to attend.

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| 3:30 - 3:50 pm | <p><b>KEYNOTE 3: “What is the state of our germplasm collections and how best can we utilize and democratize these collections?”</b></p> <p><i>David Ellis – Head of Genrbank Unit, International Potato Center (CIP) - [Peru]</i></p> <p>We know that collectively our public germplasm collections house a vast array of very valuable traits much needed for addressing our changing agricultural systems. What is the state of these collections, what is needed to strengthen them, and what are some of the best examples of public utilization and access?</p> |
| 3:50 - 4:00 pm | <b>Participant Question and Answer</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |
| 4:00 - 4:30 pm | <p><b>PANEL 3: Comments and Responses</b></p> <p><i>Jane Dever – Associate Professor, Cotton Breeder and Geneticist, Texas A&amp;M AgriLife Research - [TX]</i></p> <p><i>Theresa Podoll – FBC Management Team, NPSAS Farm Breeding Club - [ND]</i></p> <p><i>Joy Hought – Director of Education &amp; Outreach, Native Seeds/SEARCH - [AZ]</i></p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |
| 4:30 - 5:30 pm | <b>Participant Group Discussion for Keynote 3 and Panel 3 + remaining questions from today’s sessions</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |
| 5:30 pm        | <p><b>Dinner on your own</b></p> <p>Please refer to your participant packet for dining suggestions</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |

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## FRIDAY, MARCH 7<sup>TH</sup> - DAY THREE

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| 7:00 - 8:00 am | <b>Continental Breakfast Provided</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |
| 8:00 - 8:20 am | <p><b>KEYNOTE 4: “What are the key challenges in ownership of seeds and how best to resolve?”</b></p> <p><i><sup>2</sup>Kathy Jo Wetter – Research Director; Action Group on Erosion, Technology &amp; Concentration (ETC Group) - [NC]</i></p> <p>In this session we will explore the impact of intellectual property rights and growing number of restrictive license-agreements on innovation and farmer/breeder access to improved cultivars and identify policy and practice strategies moving forward.</p> |

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| 8:20 - 8:30 am   | <b>Participant Question and Answer</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |
| 8:30 - 9:00 am   | <b>PANEL 4: Comments and Responses</b><br><i>Jack Kloppenburg – Professor, Dept. of Community and Environmental Sociology, University of Wisconsin-Madison – [WI]</i><br><i>*Kristina Hubbard – Director of Advocacy &amp; Communications, Organic Seed Alliance – [MT]</i>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| 9:00 - 10:00 am  | <b>Participant Group Discussion</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |
| 10:00 - 10:30 am | <b>Snack and Coffee Break</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |
| 10:30 - 10:50 am | <b>KEYNOTE 5: “What kind of partnerships/ models are working and how best do we accelerate their adoption?”</b><br><i>Michael Mazourek – Assistant Professor, Dept. of Plant Breeding &amp; Genetics, Cornell University - [NY]</i><br>How could we redesign breeding programs to connect with farmers (participatory programs), consumers, seed industries, etc.? How can we accomplish cooperative problem solving? Can private seed companies and/or public Land Grant Universities (LGUs) meet our current and future needs? If not, do we need new models? |
| 10:50 - 11:00 am | <b>Participant Question and Answer</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |
| 11:00 - 11:30 am | <b>PANEL 5: Comments and Responses</b><br><i>Walter Goldstein – Executive Director, Mandaamin Institute, Inc. - [WI]</i><br><i>*Jim Myers – Professor, Vegetable Breeding and Genetics, Dept. of Horticulture, Oregon State University - [OR]</i><br><i>Jared Zystro – California Research and Education Specialist, Organic Seed Alliance - [OR]</i>                                                                                                                                                                                                           |
| 11:30 - 12:00 pm | <b>Participant Group Discussion</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |

*\*Please note, room check-out time at The Dupont Circle Hotel is **12:00 pm**. See the hotel front desk about where to store your luggage.*

12:00 - 12:50 pm     **LUNCHEON KEYNOTE: “Public Cultivar Development’s Role in Responding to Climate Change”**  
*E. Charles Brummer – Senior Vice President Director, Forage Improvement Division, The Samuel Roberts Noble Foundation - [OK]*

12:50 - 1:00 pm     **Participant Question and Answer**

**The Blueprint Moving Forward - What Have We Heard, What is Missing, and Where Do We Go From Here?**

In this session we will explore what we have heard about the kinds of research, cooperation, education and policy support needed to respond to challenges of food security.

1:00 - 1:30 pm     **PANEL DISCUSSION: What Have We Heard?**  
*\*Julie Dawson – Assistant Professor, Dept. of Horticulture, University of Wisconsin-Madison - [WI]*  
*Juli Obudzinski – Senior Policy Analyst, National Sustainable Agriculture Coalition (NSAC) – Washington, DC*  
*Ron Rosmann – Owner, Rosmann Family Farms - [IA]*

1:30 - 2:00 pm     **Participant Group Discussion**

2:00 - 3:00 pm     **Participant Group Discussion of Next Steps - What is Missing and Where Do We Go From Here?**  
*Facilitated by \*Michael Sligh – Just Foods Program Director, RAFI - [NC]*

3:00 - 4:00 pm     **Concluding remarks**

4:00 pm     **Adjourn**

*\*2014 Summit on Seeds & Breeds for 21st Century Agriculture Planning Committee members*

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## KEYNOTE BIOGRAPHIES

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**CHARLES BRUMMER** is the Director of the Forage Improvement Division at the Samuel Roberts Noble Foundation and conducts research on alfalfa and tall fescue breeding and genetics. He received his B.S. degree from Pennsylvania State University and his M.S. and Ph.D. degrees from the University of Georgia. Previously, he was on the faculty at both Iowa State University and the University of Georgia as the forage and bioenergy crop breeder. His program focuses on practical cultivar development, germplasm evaluation and incorporation, breeding methodology improvement, and application of genetic markers into forage breeding. Brummer currently serves as the Editor-in-Chief of the Crop Science Society of America and is an associate editor of Bioenergy Research. He is currently President of the North American Alfalfa Improvement Conference and past-president of the Grass Breeders Conference.

**TOMMY CARTER** grew up in rural north Georgia, the son of a county extension agent. His love of plants and agriculture led him to study plant breeding at the University of Georgia and at North Carolina State University, and then pursue a career in soybean breeding with USDA as part of the ARS Soybean Unit located at NCSU. His thirty-two-year career has focused on increasing the impact of the world's genetic resources on agriculture and society. His journal paper describing the narrow genetic base of soybean is the 10th most highly cited article to be published in the journal *Crop Science*, since its inception in 1960 (Crop Sci. 34:1143, 1994). Carter has developed 9 soybean cultivars, and 15 germplasm releases. He has served as major advisor to 11 graduate students and committee member to more than 20. Carter has also led a national program of 7 scientists for 10 years to develop drought-tolerant soybean cultivars using germplasm from Asia as parental stock. The original and subsequent drought-tolerant germplasm discoveries by Carter and project members have been the basis for most drought-tolerance advances in U.S. soybean. He identified the first drought-tolerant soybean types and reported the first QTLs for aluminum, salt, and drought tolerance in soybean. He transferred more than 200 breeding lines to industry via MTAs.

**DAVID ELLIS** is committed to the preservation of plant genetic resources with decades of experience in academia, private industry and the public sector. He leads the genebank at the International Potato Center (CIP) in Lima, Peru, maintaining the global in-trust collections of potato, sweet potato and Andean root and tuber crop. CIP is among 15 centers of the Consultative Group on International Agricultural Research (CGIAR), dedicated to reducing rural poverty, increasing food security, improving human health and nutrition, and ensuring sustainable management of natural resources. His research interests span plant development, medicinal compounds in plants (taxol), plant molecular biology, plant and insect ecology, cryobiology and conservation of plant genetic resources and diversity. Ellis has collected Mexican teosinte (the immediate ancestor to maize), worked with native American tribes to preserve plant genetic resources and is currently working with indigenous communities in the Andes. He previously served on the advisory board for the Desert Legume Program, as past associate editor of *In Vitro Cellular & Developmental Biology-Plant*, board member for the Society for In Vitro Biology and as a fellow for the Society for In Vitro Biology.

**MAJOR GOODMAN** directs the Department of Crop Science at North Carolina State University. The program focuses on the improvement of maize through the application of quantitative genetics theory and the incorporation of exotic germplasm in traditional maize breeding. Goodman received a B.S. in Mathematics from Iowa State University, with a minor in Chemistry, and an M.S. and a Ph.D. in Genetics with a minor in Statistics at NCSU. Among his many accolades, he served as a member of the Rockefeller Maize Germplasm Committee in 1972-75, he served as three-fourths chair of the USDA Maize Crop Advisory Committee in 1981-86 and three-fourths chair on the advisory panel for Maize Genetics Stock Center in 1985-86.

**MICHAEL MAZOUREK** is the Calvin Noyes Keeney Professor of Plant Breeding in the Department of Plant Breeding and Genetics at Cornell University. His work focuses on the improvement of peppers, peas and cucurbits (squash, melon, pumpkin, watermelon and cucumber) for growers by increasing yield and production traits, consumers through enhancing flavor and convenience characteristics and the environment through pest and disease resistance that allow reduced pesticide usage. In addition to developing new cultivars with these traits, he trains students in plant genetics and plant

breeding and shares these techniques with farmers interested in on-farm participatory breeding. These new seeds are created through traditional cross-pollination techniques and aided by new approaches in genomics that allow insight into the underlying science while still being compatible with certified organic seed. Mazourek received his Ph.D. from Cornell University in 2008.

**KATHLEEN MERRIGAN** served as the U.S. Deputy Secretary of Agriculture from April 2009 to March 2013. Merrigan helped develop USDA's organic labeling rules while head of the Agricultural Marketing Service from 1999-2001. She has also worked at Tufts University as Director of the Agriculture, Food and Environment Program. In 2010, Merrigan was featured as one of TIME Magazine's "100 Most Influential People of the Year." She holds a Ph.D. in environmental planning from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology.

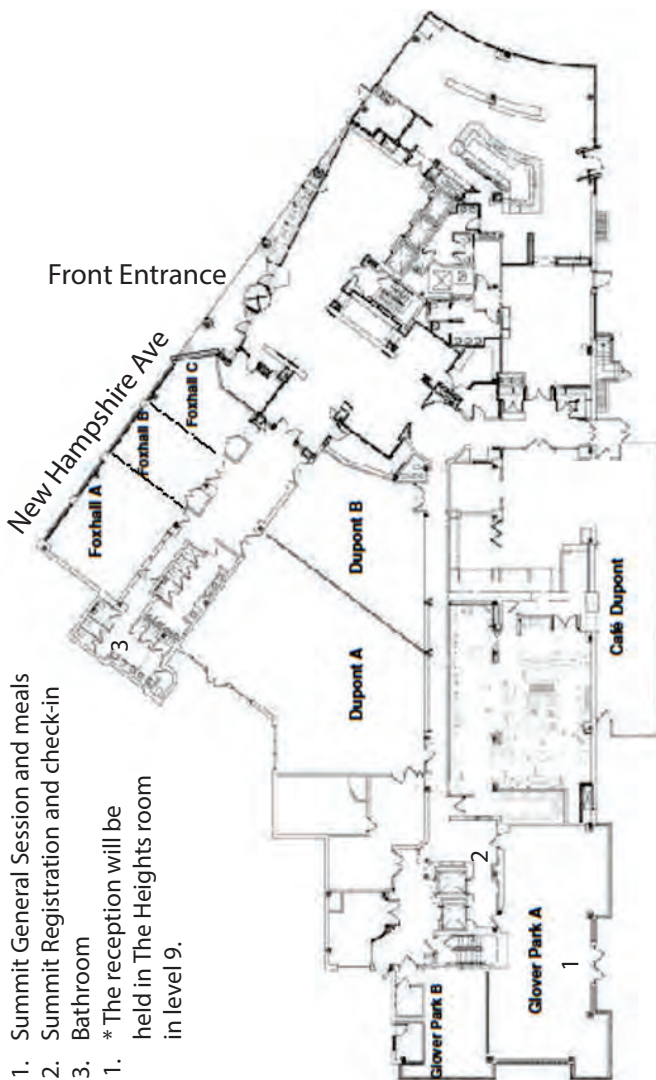
**WILLIAM F. TRACY** is professor and chairman of the Department of Agronomy, University of Wisconsin-Madison. He served as interim dean of the College of Agricultural and Life Sciences in 2012 and 2013. Tracy received his B.S. and M.S. in Plant Science from the University of Massachusetts-Amherst and a Ph.D. in Plant Breeding from Cornell University in 1982. Following graduation he worked as a corn breeder for the International Plant Research Institute and Cargill, Inc. In 1984, Tracy joined the department of agronomy as an assistant professor and sweet corn breeder. Tracy leads one of the few remaining public sector sweet corn breeding programs in the U.S. Varieties developed by his program are grown around the world, for both conventional and organic cropping systems. Tracy is current chair of the Maize Crop Germplasm Committee, and president of the board of directors of the International Sweet Corn Development Association.

**KATHY JO WETTER** is the Research Director at ETC Group, an international research and advocacy organization. ETC Group monitors corporate concentration in the ever-expanding sector once known as "life sciences" and tracks emerging technologies and their impacts, or potential impacts, on marginalized communities. For more than 13 years, Wetter has contributed to ETC Group's research and analysis on the ownership, control, social and environmental impacts of technologies, including nanotechnology, agricultural biotechnologies (e.g., seed sterilization and so-called climate ready crops), synthetic biology and geoengineering. She holds a Ph.D. from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill.

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## THE DUPONT CIRCLE HOTEL GROUND FLOOR

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RAFI-USA cultivates markets, policies and communities that support thriving, socially-just, and environmentally-sound family farms. For more info, please visit: [www.rafiusa.org](http://www.rafiusa.org)

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