

20th July, 2009

Professor Mike Gale FRS

It is with great sorrow that we inform you that Mike Gale died suddenly on Saturday night.

Mike worked at the Plant Breeding Institute and then at JIC, where he was an Associate Research Director and subsequently Director of the JIC until 1999.

He was a highly eminent scientist whose work provided many key insights into cereal genetics and breeding. Mike has been honoured by many organizations world-wide for his outstanding contributions to cereal genetics and the genetic improvement of crops such as wheat and millets; his many awards include the Darwin Medal from the Royal Society and the Rank Prize. His tireless dedication to institutions such as the CGIAR and the Rockefeller Foundation has been instrumental in promoting international agricultural research.

The JIC has lost an esteemed and widely admired colleague who had much remaining to contribute to agricultural research. He will be mourned by many colleagues and friends around the world, who will remember him as a convivial and energetic scientist and friend. Our thoughts and love go to Sue, Hazel and Tess.

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John Snape

John V. Inape

Mike Bevan

Chris Lamb