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Maize Diseases and Breeding for Biotic Stress Resistance in Asia

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Resistant sources to several diseases including head smut, SCMV, the MRCV fijivirus, and *Aspergillus* ear rot have been identified in advanced CIMMYT germplasm under field and screenhouse evaluations. Present activities include the combination of multiple biotic and abiotic stress traits in synthetics and line recycling

activities, for improving yield stability. A major emphasis in the future for the region will need to include the collaborative evaluation of this special trait germplasm by national breeding programs, and incorporation of the most promising sources in their improvement activities.

