



# Pig Genome Update

## No. 68 September 1, 2004

**Pig genetics and genomics were prominent at the 2004 National FASS meetings in St Louis this July 25-29.** A diverse group of participants stayed until the last session of this year's National Federation of Animal Science Societies meetings to discuss swine genetics and genomics. Nearly half of the presentations described the identification of new quantitative trait loci (QTL) or the validation of existing QTL for reproduction, growth and meat quality traits, as well as scrotal hernia. Growth and carcass composition traits in pig lines divergently selected for testosterone production were described, while two presentations described a comprehensive evaluation of growth, carcass and eating quality traits of pigs sired by boars from two different time periods. Two new database resources were also presented. One, PACE, has been designed for the storage and combination of several types of map data, to align physical and genetic maps and to provide links to related database resources. It is available at <https://acedb.asg.wur.nl/>, however functionality will be limited until more data have been submitted. The second database, openSputnik swine, contains clustered pig EST sequences and their annotation, as well as results from a large-scale *in silico* SNP study. The database is freely available at <http://sputnik.btk.fi/project?name=swine> (kindly provided by Laura Grapes).

**Need array materials?? We still have additional materials left to obtain printed pig oligo arrays.** Despite a number of requests some materials still exist to print additional arrays. Previous individuals who have ordered arrays can again order up to 30 arrays and new orders from non-NRSP8 labs and foreign labs will now be accepted until the materials run out. Cost is \$20/slide. Slide orders would be on a first come first serve basis. **If you are interested please immediately contact Max Rothschild at [mfrothsc@iastate.edu](mailto:mfrothsc@iastate.edu).**

**The 3rd International Symposium on Genetics of Animal Health (formerly, Candidate Genes for Animal Health) will convene on July 13-15, 2005, in Ames, Iowa, USA.** The meeting will feature several invited speakers, contributed presentations and poster sessions and should be an exciting continuation of past meetings. Support for the meeting will be provided by a number of industry groups and the USDA-CSREES genome coordinators. Please note the dates on your calendar, and bookmark the GAH2005 web home page: <http://www.ans.iastate.edu/GAH2005.html>. More information will be available at this site soon!

**Genomics Needs for the Next 25 Years.** An extremely important strategic planning workshop for agricultural animal genomics will be conducted by USDA on September 22-23rd in Washington, DC. Late last year, the Interagency Working Group on Domestic Animal Genomics asked that USDA provide a more detailed long-term vision of publicly-funded agricultural animal genomics programs. As a result, 35 leading ARS and CSREES researchers working in all of the major species will be participating in an invited workshop with USDA administrators to assist in formulating this vision. The two-day event will focus on bioinformatics and functional genomics needs for the future and will help to identify priority areas that USDA should lead. The anticipated result of the workshop will be a white paper document that will lay out this vision for use in strategic planning by ARS and CSREES. For information please contact: Ronnie Green, USDA/ARS ([rdg@ars.usda.gov](mailto:rdg@ars.usda.gov)).

**The new CSREES web site is up and running.** Please send any events or topic information to Dr. Muquarrab Qureshi USDA-CSREES [MQureshi@CSREES.USDA.GOV](mailto:MQureshi@CSREES.USDA.GOV). You may want to post notices such as meetings or conferences, as long as they are related to this web page. You can access the web site following this URL: [www.csrees.usda.gov](http://www.csrees.usda.gov) and then going to the section on Animals and Animal Products, then look for the programs on Animal Breeding and Genetics and Genomics.

**Swine Genome Sequencing Consortium continues to try to reach its goal.** Efforts are progressing to advance the sequencing of the pig genome. The next meeting will be held during ISAG meeting in Tokyo, Japan in September. Interested parties are encouraged to participate in the future. **If you can help in raising these funds please contact Larry Schook at UIUC or Max Rothschild, at ISU.**

**Upcoming meetings (see: <http://www.genome.iastate.edu/community/meetings.html>)**

ISAG 2004, 29th International Conference on Animal Genetics, Sept. 11-16, 2004, Surugadai Campus, Meiji University, Tokyo, Japan. For more information see <http://www2.kobe-u.ac.jp/~isag2004/>.

Genome Informatics, sponsored by Cold Spring Harbor Laboratory and the Wellcome Trust, September 22-26 in Hinxton Hall, Hinxton, UK. For information please contact [meetings@cshl.edu](mailto:meetings@cshl.edu).

GSAC XVI, sponsored by The Institute for Genome Research, Sept. 27-30, 2004, Washington, DC. See [www.tigr.org/conf/gsac](http://www.tigr.org/conf/gsac) for more information.

GO Users Meeting will be held at Northwestern University, Chicago, October 14, 2004. For more details contact [r-chisholm@northwestern.edu](mailto:r-chisholm@northwestern.edu).

Computational Genomics sponsored by TIGR will be in Reston, VA, October 21-24. For details contact [registration@tigr.org](mailto:registration@tigr.org).

Ninth DISCOVER Conference on Food Animal Agriculture. "Protecting and Managing Animal Genetic Resources for Future Generations: The Next Steps", Nov. 2-5, 2004, Cheyenne, Wyoming. Please see [www.adsa.org/discover/](http://www.adsa.org/discover/) for further information.

Bioinformatics and its Applications in Fort Lauderdale, Florida on December 16-19, 2004. For details please contact [hem@nsu.nova.edu](mailto:hem@nsu.nova.edu)

Plant, Animal and Microbial Genome XIII, joint with the NAGRP annual meetings, Jan. 15-19, 2005, Town & Country Convention Center, San Diego, CA. Please see [www.intl-pag.org/](http://www.intl-pag.org/) for information.

3rd International Symposium on Genetics of Animal Health, July 13-15, 2005, in Ames, Iowa, USA, Please see: <http://www.ans.iastate.edu/GAH2005.html>

Additional items can be found at: <http://www.agbiotechnet.com/calendar/index.asp>.

**Items for Pig Genome Update 69** can be sent to me by no later than October 15 please.

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