Community News

The 10th Solanaceae Conference — Genome versus Phenome
Beijing Friendship Hotel, Beijing, China
October 13 - 17, 2013

Dear Colleagues,

You are cordially invited to the 10th Solanaceae Conference (SOL 2013) to be held at the Beijing Friendship Hotel in Beijing, China, from October 13 - 17, 2013. As in past years, SOL 2013 would bring together a spectrum of scientists working on different aspects of Solanaceae ranging from biodiversity, genetics, development and genomics. With the availability of the high-quality genome sequences of tomato and potato, studies of the SOL community have extended from structural genomics into virtually every aspect of functional genomics. SOL 2013 would be a forum to discuss the impact of the reference genome on different aspects of Solanaceae studies. Meanwhile, a battery of high throughput technologies, including transcriptomics, proteomics and metabolomics, are leading the way in providing new insights into the inner workings of plant cells. Importantly, the cell biology toolbox, which is previously mainly restricted to animal and yeast cells, has finally been built up in the Solanaceae allowing researchers to establish the fundamental linkage between genotypes versus phenotypes. The conference would also provide a forum to sit together and create a roadmap for the future of the Solanaceae Community.

The proposed program lists 37 confirmed invited speakers who will be distributed through 12 sessions. Each session will include these invited speakers and 15-minute shorter talks, which will be chosen from the submitted abstracts. Each chair will introduce the subject of the session and will encourage discussion.

Online abstract submission and online registration are open now! For more information, please refer to the conference website: http://www.sol2013.org/

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The State Key Laboratory of Plant Genomics

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Scientific Sessions

Session I. Hormone Signaling and Development  
Session II. Fruit Biology  
Session III. Biotic Interactions  
Session IV. Abiotic Interactions  
Session V. Systems Biology  
Session VI. Metabolomics and Proteomics  
Session VII. Translational Genomics and Breeding  
Session VIII. Biodiversity and Evolution  
Parallel Session IX. SOL Genomics and Beyond: Tomato  
Parallel Session IX. SOL Genomics and Beyond: Medicinal Plants & Pepper  
Parallel Session X. SOL Genomics and Beyond: Potato & Eggplant  
Parallel Session X. SOL Genomics and Beyond: Tobacco & Coffee
Keynote Speakers

Jiayang Li (Institute of Genetics and Developmental Biology, CAS)
*Topic:* TBA

Dani Zamir (Hebrew University of Jerusalem, Israel)
*Topic:* Yield Canalization in Crop Plants

Harry Klee (University of Florida, USA)
*Topic:* The Chemistry and Genetics of Good Tomato Flavor

Jim Giovannoni (Cornell University, USA)
*Topic:* Genetic and Epigenetic Regulation of Tomato Fruit Ripening

Yongbiao Xue (Institute of Genetics and Developmental Biology, CAS)
*Topic:* TBA

Klaus Palme (Freiburg University, Germany)
*Topic:* Plant Growth and Yield Control by Hormones

Confirmed Speakers

Alan Andrade (Embrapa Recursos Genéticos e Biotecnologia, Brazil)

Yuling Bai (Wageningen University, The Netherlands)

Christian Bachem (Wageningen University, The Netherlands)

Ian T. Baldwin (Max Planck Institute for Chemical Ecology, Germany)

Gerard Bishop (East Malling Research, UK)

Mondher Bouzayen (Institut National de la Recherche Agronomique, INRA, France)

Glenn Bryan (James Hutton Institute, Invergowrie, UK)

Mathilde Caussé (Institut National de la Recherche Agronomique, INRA, France)

Doil Choi (Seoul National University, Republic of Korea)

Yuval Eshed (Weizmann Institute of Science, Israel)

Aaron Fait (Ben-Gurion University of the Negev, Israel)

Zhangjun Fei (Boyce Thompson Institute for Plant Research, USA)

Jiayang Li (Institute of Genetics and Developmental Biology, CAS, China)

Mary Beth Mudgett (Stanford University, USA)

Esther van der Knaap (Ohio State University, USA)

Yunbi Xu (Institute of Crop Sciences/International Maize and Wheat Improvement Center, CAAS, China)

Zhibiao Ye (Huazhong Agricultural University, China)

Dani Zamir (Hebrew University of Jerusalem, Israel)
Highlight Article

Improving Potato Production for Increased Food Security of Indigenous Communities in Colombia

Teresa Mosquera¹, Ajjamada Kushalappa², Merideth Bonierbale³, David Cuéllar¹, Sara Del Castillo¹, David DeKoeyer¹, Cecilia Delgado¹, Diana Duarte¹, Alejandro Guateque¹, Patricia Heredia¹, Deissy Juyó¹, Stan Kubow², Sonia Navia³, Philip Oxhorn³, Leonor Perilla¹, Clara Piñeros¹, Patricia Restrepo¹, Clara Bianeth¹, Ernesto Rodríguez¹, Felipe Sarmiento¹, Helen Tai³, Sonia Tinjaca¹, Diana Vargas¹, Alejandra Guateque¹, Patricia Heredia¹, Deissy Juyó¹, Stan Kubow², Sonia Navia³, Philip Oxhorn³, Leonor Perilla¹, Clara Piñeros¹, Patricia Restrepo¹, Clara Bianeth¹, Ernesto Rodríguez¹, Felipe Sarmiento¹, Helen Tai³, Sonia Tinjaca¹, Diana Vargas¹, Thomas Zum Felde³

¹Universidad Nacional de Colombia Carrera. 30 40-05. Bogotá, Colombia; ²McGill University, Montreal, Canada; ³University of New Brunswick, Fredericton, Canada; ⁴International Potato Center, CIP, Lima-Perú; ⁵Fundelsurco, San Juan de Pasto, Colombia

McGill University and Universidad Nacional de Colombia are leading a comprehensive project involving seven components: potato breeding, genomics and metabolomics, nutritional potato quality, food security and nutrition, family roles and gender studies, agricultural education through participative research in Field Farmers’ Schools (ECAs) and involving policy makers. The project seeks to impact on food security and nutrition (FSN) by selecting potato cultivars with high yield and better nutritional qualities. The indigenous population of Nariño province in Colombia is the second highest undernourished people in Colombia. The indigenous communities’ food security status will be assessed and the communities will be educated on improved potato production practices and daily diet.

In the short term, we are characterizing the daily diet of the population to determine nutritional deficiencies, analyzing the nutritional qualities of potato cultivars and selecting the best cultivars through participative research. Along with these processes we are studying and empowering women as nutritional decision makers within the family to facilitate recovering of good ancestral nutritional habits (Fig. 1) and for women to become valid interlocutors with governmental agencies. We are also developing participatory research on Good Agricultural Practices (GAP) to enhance sustainability of potato crops.

In the long term, we are getting basic nutritional information to incorporate criteria for breeding potato genotypes with higher nutritional quality and high late blight resistance to mitigate potential risks of climate change. We are also increasing the autonomy of communities to face change.

An in-depth study is being conducted on dietary intake and household consumption pattern, adapting to local conditions the 24-hour Dietary Recall method (Fig. 2). Formative modules have been designed and implemented. We have advanced in the design of the methodological guide for the development of dialogue encounters for the recovery of the nourishing memory, habits of the population and recommendations of good nourishing practices.

We have obtained the following plant material: phureja genotypes from the Colombian Core Collection, commercial phureja genotypes and advanced breeding clones. Potato genotypes sown in two localities have been harvested, cooked and being analyzed for nutritional composition based on UHPLC (Dionex 3600). The methodology to identify and quantify various nutritional components has been standardized (Fig. 3). We also have validated methodologies for the determination of moisture, ash, fat, protein, dietary fiber, starch, sugars and phenolic compounds.

The trials to register new cultivars are being carried out. Eight advanced clones and two commercial controls in eight localities in the department of Nariño are being evaluated under the supervision of Colombian Agrarian Institute (ICA). Selection with community participation takes into account: yield, color and tuber shape (Fig. 4). These results contribute to the selection of the optimal clones for cultivation and consumption in indigenous communities in the department of Nariño.
Along with potato trials, nine ECAs were established to support the indigenous participation in breeding research and to adopt GAP. Smallholders registered in the ECAs answered a baseline survey.

An advanced training program was agreed with ECAs’ participants. Technological needs were identified for designing training programs through the baseline survey. The educational program includes: training workshops; workshops following breeding trials; organized purchase of inputs; practical training for GAP with participatory approach; knowledge exchange tours and field days.

To build bases for strengthening the breeding program with nutritional criteria and to anticipate climate change a collection of native materials has been executed, acquiring more than 170 native potato genotypes (Fig. 5) and we are identifying potato genotypes with broad genetic resistance to late blight based on metabolomic and genomic technologies.
In order to identify potato clones with broad genetic resistance based on metabolomic and genomic technologies pilot tests were made for metabolomics analysis. The methodology for the inoculation of diploid genotypes under controlled conditions was standardized (Fig. 6). Putative late blight resistance genes have been identified based on metabolomics. This is a breakthrough technology that shows promising results towards improving late blight resistance of potato genotypes through cisgenics technology. Association mapping is in progress and we have determined population structure for S. phureja and characterized the population for late blight resistance. Thirty-six novel candidate genes were validated for S. phureja in collaboration with Christiane Gebhardt in the Max Planck Institute for plant breeding.

All activities are being carried out following wide advocacy strategies for the incorporation of the results of the project to public policies in Colombia.

This project is undertaken with the financial support of the International Development Research Centre (IDRC: http://www.idrc.ca), and the Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA: http://www.acdi-cida.gc.ca). This project has genetic resources access from the Colombian government under contract No. RGE0069 of Ministerio de Ambiente y Desarrollo Sostenible.

Resources

Save Time and Increase Quality of Data by using RFID

By Evert Keuken

Separating between plots in potato field trials can be a nuisance. Many breeders work with sticks that hold a label, with plot information and possibly a barcode. Problem is, these labels are not durable and information needs to be transferred from the crate to the field. This process is time consuming and prone to errors.

One of our customers of the E-Brida breeding software (more info: e-brida.com) came up with an innovative solution. They have injected RFID tags1 in golf balls. Every golf ball has its own unique RFID tag which corresponds with a number. Now, they place a golf ball in every crate. Each crate corresponds with one plot (usually one genotype) in the field trial. A PDA with RFID scanner is used to connect the golf ball to the right crate.

Once this is done, the golf ball is planted in the field as the first “tuber” of the plot. When observations need to be taken, a reading stick (also used in livestock breeding) is used to read the RFID tags. The PDA then navigates to the corresponding plot in the observation form and you can enter observations. The observation data is automatically synchronized with the breeding software E-Brida.

The last step in this process is harvesting the trial. A RFID reader is installed on the harvester. This reader recognizes the RFID in the golf ball which is harvested together with the potatoes. Whenever a new golf ball is recognized, the PDA navigates to the corresponding record. The workers can then enter the yield and other observations for that plot. The golf ball will travel along with the harvested potatoes to be planted again next year. When a plot is discarded the golf ball can be reassigned to a new plot.

Do you want to join the next generation of breeders? Contact us for more information or a demonstration: e.keuken@agripartner.nl or +31 6450 38124.

Agri Information Partners provides IT solutions for plant breeding and research companies.

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1 Radio Frequency Identification. These are actually small antennas that, when approached with the proper device, send out a unique code that identifies the tag. RFID tags are most commonly known as the tags used in stores to prevent customers from stealing products.
Research Updates

Update from Steve Stack’s Lab at Colorado State University

Lindsay Shearer

Since the last edition of the SOL Newsletter, 119 new BACs have been added to the tomato FISH map by the Stack lab at Colorado State University, bringing the total to 618 BACs. A majority of the new BACs are on the borders of sequenced scaffolds on chromosomes 6, 9 and 12. The gap distance between scaffolds has been estimated for each of these chromosomes. In addition, many of the new BACs are Chromosome 0 BACs, which are BACs that cannot be associated with the sequence on any existing scaffolds. By FISH, we have observed that these Chromosome 0 BACs are usually in gaps between scaffolds. The 618 localized BACs are distributed at 630 loci among the chromosomes as follows: 1 - 116; 2 - 64; 3 – 63; 4 - 40; 5 - 28; 6 – 50; 7 – 51; 8 – 32; 9 – 45; 10 – 55, 11 – 36, 12 – 50. The total number of loci reflects the fact that there are now twelve BACs that have each been localized to two positions.

The figure illustrates a small duplication on the long arm of chromosome 6 on a reverse phase contrast image of the synaptonemal complex (SC). The large white spot is the centromere. Three scaffolds are represented above the SC: SL2.40sc04279 (white), SL2.40sc05188 (green), and SL2.40sc05732 (red). The two BAC probes are SL_MboI0034N10 (red) at the end of scaffold SL2.40sc05732 and LE_HBa0031J01 (green) at the end of scaffold SL2.40sc05188. Each BAC shows a second signal in the heterochromatic interior of scaffold SL2.40sc04279, indicating an area of duplication.

Publications


Chambonnet D (2012) In situ induction of haploid gynogenesis in tomato. Report of the Tomato Genetics Cooperative 62:5-22. Note: within the coming year, online access to this paper is possible only for people subscribing to TGC. In one year time, TGC 62 will be of free access (as for all issues of TGC).


**Conferences**

**European Association for Potato Research and Eucarpia**

**Potato Congress**

June 30 – July 4, 2013

Hévíz, Hungary

http://www.hutton.ac.uk/eapr-eucarpia2013

**The Potato Association of America**

July 21 – August 8, 2013

Quebec City, Quebec, Canada

http://www.paa2013.com/

**9th Annual Canadian Plant Genomics Workshop**

August 12 - 15, 2013

Halifax, Nova Scotia

http://cpgw2013.org/

**EUCARPIA: Capsicum and Eggplant Working Group Meeting**

September 2 - 4, 2013

Turin, Italy

http://e20.unito.it/XVth_EUCARPIA/

**Current Opinion Conference: Plant Genome Evolution**

September 8 - 10, 2013

Amsterdam, The Netherlands

http://www.plantgenomeevolution.com/

**SOL 2013**

October 13 - 17, 2013

Beijing, China

http://www.sol2013.org/
Solanaceae Recipes

**JUANESCA**

*Provided by Theresa Mosquera*

Juanesca is an ancestral soup from native communities in Southern Colombia (Nariño). Juanesca is a special dish to be served in Holy Week and shared with a large family.

This recipe is a part of the study for recovering the ancestral culinary memory in the framework of the project, *Improving Potato Production for Increased Food Security of Indigenous Communities in Colombia*, led by the Universidad Nacional de Colombia and McGill University and funded by IDRC and CIDA from Canada.

25 servings
Time of preparation: 2 hours

**Ingredients**
- Toasted peanut ½ pound
- Lima beans (*Vicia faba*) ½ pound
- Corn cob (*choclo*) 5 pounds
- Green pea (shelled) ½ pound
- Green beans (shelled) ½ pound
- Yellow potato (*S. phureja*) 3 pounds
- Common potato (*S. tuberosum* subsp. *andigena*) 5 pounds
- Pumpkin (bare, without seeds) 5 pounds
- Onion 4 stems ¼ pound
- Cabbage ½ pound
- *Ollocos* (*Ollucus tuberosus*) ½ pound
- Vegetable oil 2 spoonfuls
- Coriander
- Salt

**Directions**

- Wash all the ingredients.
- Peel and shell lima beans and corn cobs.
- Peel and cut in small cubes yellow potatoes, common potatoes, pumpkin and onion stems.
- Chop the *ollocos* in small pieces or in strips.
- Wash and break off by hand the cabbage leaves.
- Mill the toasted peanut until it becomes a smooth mass.
- Boil water in a pot. Fill the pot with capacity for 25 servings, up to the half.
- When the water boils for the first time add the green beans, the corn cob, half of the onion stems, vegetable oil, the *ollocos* and salt.
- After the water boils for the second time, add the peas and the yellow potato.
- After the second boiling add the pumpkin, the cabbage, the lima beans and the common potato.
- Remove from the fire and add the peanut milled and toasted.
- Let cool and add a mixture of onion stems and fresh coriander.

Nutrition per serving: 356 calories; 6.1 g fat; 63.4 g carbohydrates; 11.8 g protein.