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The Value of Plant Genome Initiatives
June 2-5, 1997, Beckman Center, Irvine, CA, USA
Sponsor: U.S. National Academy of Sciences
Organizers: Michael Freeling & Ronald L. Phillips

Agenda: Population increase and environmental degradation will certainly challenge our food supply. Recent advances in genome mapping and sequencing, especially in the crop grasses (wheat, oat, barley, rice, maize, etc.), and new information on the utility of exotic species, argue that particular plant genome projects might serve the public good. This discussion meeting explores the costs and benefits of genome projects in general, and the potential need for those related to crop adaptation in particular.

Major talks: B. Alberts, M. Bennett, *J. Bennetzen, S. Briggs, R.J. Cook, D. Cox, M. Gale, E. Kellogg, A. McCalla, M. McMullen, S. O'Brien, *G. Rubin, C. Somerville, many additional distinguished participants contributing short talks or leading discussions. Discussion will be encouraged. *denotes consultant, including J. Axtell

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GENOME MAPPING & SEQUENCING
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Topics include: • Physical maps • Mapping methodologies
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Special sessions: • ELSI Panel • Interactive computer demos

CSHL particularly encourages junior scientists to present their data at the meeting. Presentations will be chosen from submitted abstracts on the basis of scientific merit.

Abstract Deadline: February 19, 1997

Online registration and abstract submission is encouraged via the Web.

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The journal places special emphasis on genetic and physical maps; analysis of gene complexes and complex traits; DNA sequencing related to genome organization; comparative gene mapping; new techniques; informatics related to genome analysis; and genetic analysis of animal models for human genetic disorders.

RECENT STUDIES PUBLISHED INCLUDE:
- L. Anderson, et al., Comparative Genome Organization of Vertebrates (October)
- M. L. Haldi, et al., A comprehensive large-insert yeast artificial chromosome library for physical mapping of the mouse genome (October)
- T.R. Famula, et al., A threshold model analysis of deafness in Dalmatians (September)
- B. York, et al., Sensitivity to dietary obesity linked to a locus on Chromosome 15 in a CAST/Ei x C57BL/6J F2 intercross (September)
- P.D. Hayes, et al., Regional assignment of human ESTs by whole-genome radiation hybrid mapping (June)
- M. A. Yui, et al., Production of congenic mouse strains carrying NOD-derived diabetogenic genetic intervals: an approach for the genetic dissection of complex traits (May)

The journal also publishes the annual *Encyclopedia of the Mouse Genome* which includes:
- extensive linking information
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- tabular summary and update of information on visible markers, diseases, and loci of major interest.

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*Based on 1995 ISI Journal Citation Reports. Impact Factor is a measure of the frequency with which the "average article" in a journal has been cited in a particular year.*
Epigenetic Mechanisms of Gene Regulation
Monograph 32

Edited by Vincenzo E.A. Russo, Max-Planck-Institut für Molekulare Genetik; Robert A. Martienssen, Cold Spring Harbor Laboratory; Arthur D. Riggs, Beckman Research Institute of the City of Hope

Many inheritable changes in gene function are not explained by changes in the DNA sequence. Such epigenetic mechanisms are known to influence gene function in most complex organisms and include effects such as transposon function, chromosome imprinting, yeast mating type switching and telomeric silencing. In recent years, epigenetic effects have become a major focus of research activity. This monograph, edited by three well-known biologists from different specialties, is the first to review and synthesise what is known about these effects across all species, particularly from a molecular perspective, and will be of interest to everyone in the fields of molecular biology and genetics.

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Studies of the cells and genes of the nematode *C. elegans* have become a cornerstone of current biology. A classic 1988 Cold Spring Harbor monograph described the basic genetics, anatomy and development of the organism. Now, in that authoritative tradition, comes *C. elegans* II—not a second edition but a book that breaks new ground and defines the current status of the field, providing a detailed molecular explanation of how development is regulated and the nervous system specifies varied aspects of behavior. This volume is a must for any investigator doing worm studies but it has been written and rigorously edited to illuminate for a wider community of investigators in cell and molecular biology who should know how new knowledge of *C. elegans* relates to their own specialty.

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