



AgBioData SGV

# From Fragmented Data to Shared Knowledge: Adopting rsIDs in Agricultural Genomics

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AgBioData Standards for Genetic Variation Working Group

# AgBioData Standards for Genetic Variation WG



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[https://www.agbiodata.org/working\\_groups/sgv](https://www.agbiodata.org/working_groups/sgv)



European  
Variation  
Archive



SORGHUM  
BASE



Agricultural  
Research  
Service



SoyBase



EMBL-EBI



elixir



Gramene



BREEDING  
Insight



TreeGenes



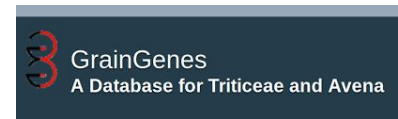
FAANG  
Functional Annotation of Animal Genomes



GENOME DATABASE FOR VACCINIUM  
Genomics, genetics, and breeding resources for blueberry,  
cranberry, bilberry, and lingonberry research



Maize Genetics and Genomics Database



GrainGenes  
A Database for Triticaceae and Avena



# A Community-Led Path Toward FAIR Variant Data

## Goals:

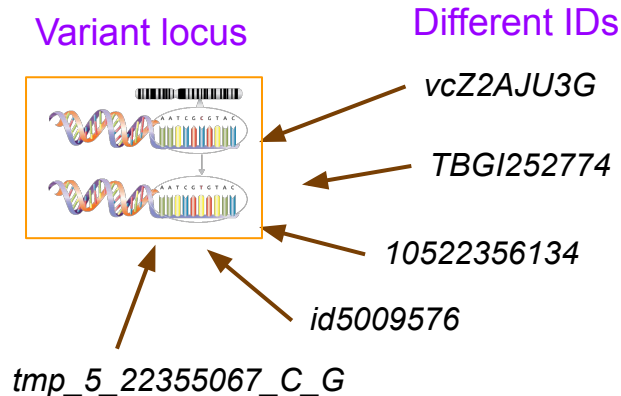
- Assess existing standards
- Identify communities at different data-maturity stages
- Focus on promoting rsID adoption via EVA
- Provide practical FAIR guidance\*



# Standardizing Genetic Variation for FAIR Agricultural Genomics

- Genetic variation data are critical for **breeding, trait discovery & adaptation**
- **Agricultural genomics** generates vast amounts of SNP data that is hard to reuse & integrate

## *Why hard to reuse?*



## SNPs often labeled with:

- Project- or array-specific identifiers
- Assembly-dependent coordinates

## Data spread across:

- Community databases
- Supplementary tables
- Commercial genotyping platforms



# Challenges with (non)FAIR variation datasets



Only raw data is shared (no standard format)



Dataset is shared as supplementary data or local DB

Dataset is shared in generalist FAIR data repository

Dataset is shared in specialized FAIR data repository using standard identifiers & formats

Not FAIR

FAIR



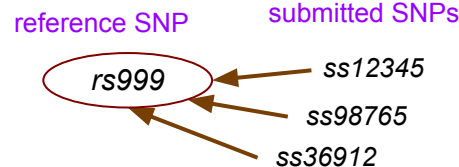
*How human genomics has tackled the  
SNP naming problem & why the problem  
is getting worse in agriculture?*

# The Power of Using rsIDs

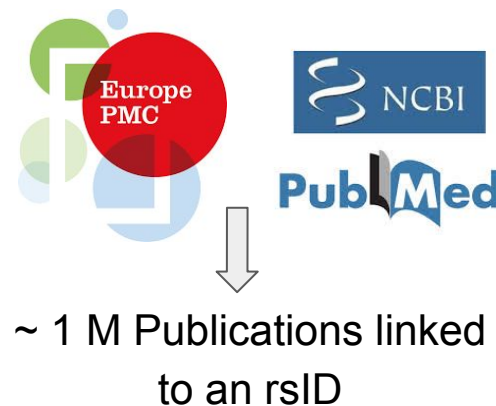
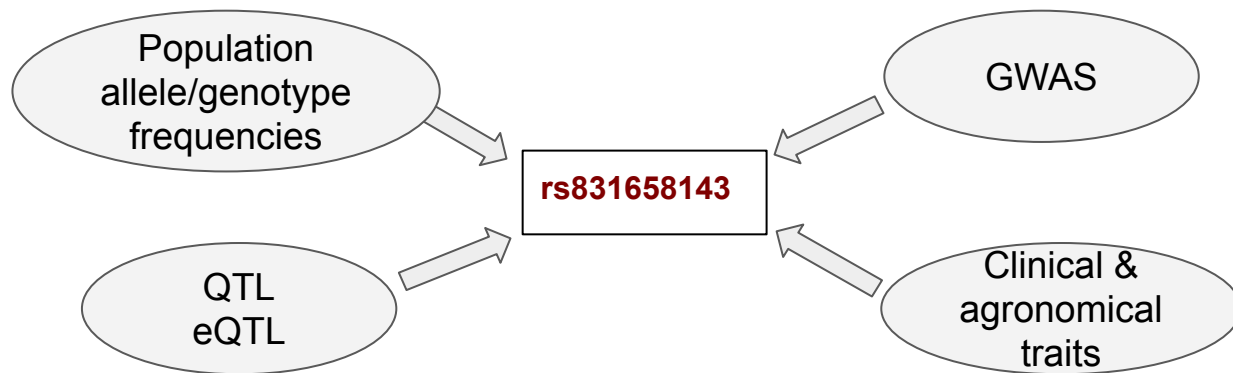


*What is an rsID?*

- Reference SNP cluster ID
- Identifies a variable genomic locus
- Globally unique, persistent accession
- Stable across genome assembly versions & crop varieties



## Several data types aggregated around a marker





# Better Genomes, Bigger Integration Challenges

- **Long-read sequencing** → high-quality reference genomes
- **Pan-genomes** reveal:
  - Previously hidden variation
  - Reference-specific biases

## Without stable identifiers:

- Variant IDs break across assemblies
- Data integration becomes harder





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# Promoting use of rsIDs – SoyBase

## Comprehensive description of genomewide nucleotide and structural variation in short-season soya bean

Davoud Torkamani<sup>1,2</sup>, Jérôme Laroche<sup>3</sup>, Aurélie Tardivel<sup>1,2,3</sup>, Louise O'Donoghue<sup>3</sup>, Elroy Cober<sup>4</sup>, Istvan Rajcan<sup>5</sup> and François Belzile<sup>1,2,4</sup>

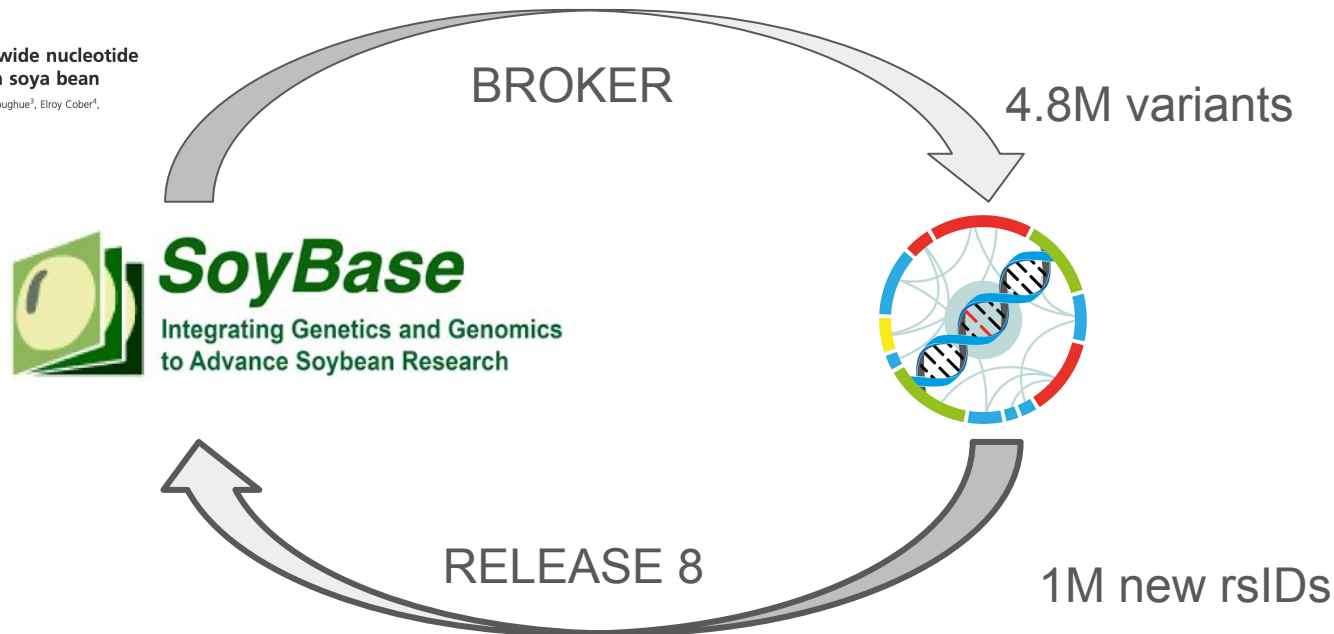
<sup>1</sup>Département de Phytologie, Université Laval, Québec City, QC, Canada

<sup>2</sup>Institut de Biologie Intégrative et des Systèmes (IBIS), Université Laval, Québec City, QC, Canada

<sup>3</sup>CERIM, Centre de Recherche Sur Les Grains Inc., Saint-Mathieu de Beloeil, QC, Canada

<sup>4</sup>Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada, Ottawa, ON, Canada

<sup>5</sup>Department of Plant Agriculture, Crop Science Bldg., University of Guelph, Guelph, ON, Canada












Rex Nelson

**~90% concordance** across studies despite *differences in technology and SNP density*



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# Promoting use of rsIDs – Gramene / SorghumBase

Gramene PanGenome	Reference Crop	# rsIDs* (M)
 <p>Genomic resources for the sorghum research community</p> 	Sorghum	46
 <p>Comparative plant genomics focused on maize varieties</p> 	Maize	79
 <p>Comparative plant genomics focused on rice varieties</p> 	Rice	68
 <p>Comparative plant genomics focused on grapevine varieties</p> 	Grape	0.3
	Arabidopsis	26



Sharon Wei



Marcela K. Tello-Ruiz



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# Promoting use of rsIDs – Community DB / Industry

Collaborative development of community marker panels with rsIDs:

- Sorghum 2.4K SNPs (AgriPlex panel)
- EVA assigned rsIDs to 26 markers without one



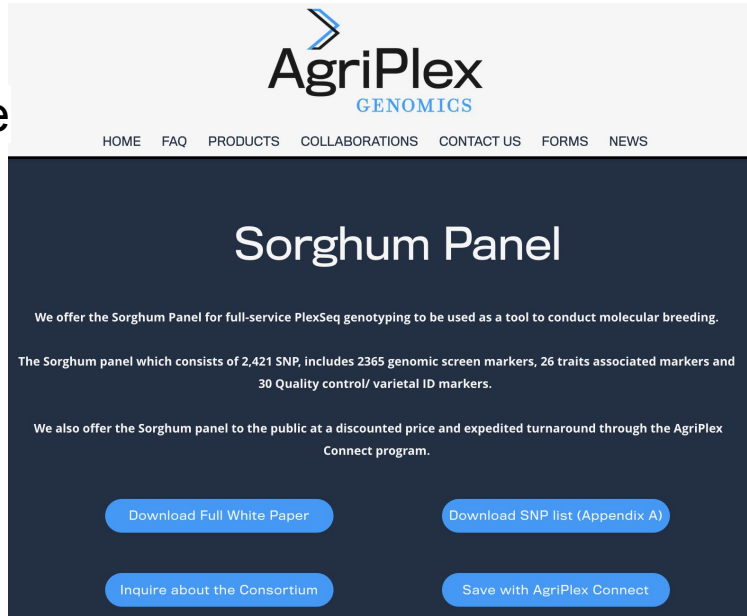
Vivek Kumar



Marcela K. Tello



Tim Cezard

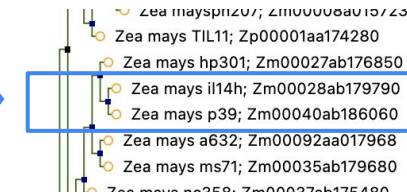


# rsIDs provide stable identifiers for transversing Pan-Genomes



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Sweet corn



**Zea mays B73 v5  
Sugary1 (Su1) gene**

rs831658143

(T/C)



Tgg (W) → Cgg (R)  
starchy sweet

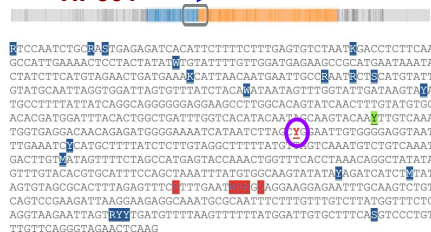
MAF <1%



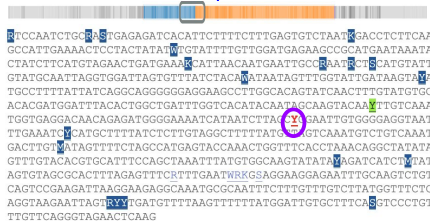
Starchy corn  
(B73, HP301)

Variant: rs831658143	
more about rs831658143	
Class	SNP
Location	4:43436836
Alleles	T/C
Ambiguity code	Y
Amino acid	W/R
Consequence	missense variant
Sources	NV, PMID39611775, MaizeGDB, EVA5, HapMap2, EVA6
Codon change	Tgg/Cgg

HP301



P39



rs831658143 (T/C)

Sweet corn  
(P39, IL14H)

Variant: rs831658143	
more about rs831658143	
Class	SNP
Location	4:43555709
Alleles	C/T
Ambiguity code	Y
Amino acid	R/W
Consequence	missense variant
Source	EVA2024rsID_flanking_B73genes
Codon change	Cgg/Tgg

IL14H



Tello-Ruiz et al,  
unpublished

\* W578R  
previously  
reported 3X



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# Data journey for GV datasets & recommended actions

Request  
assembly to be  
submitted to  
INSDC



Encourage or broker  
SNP submission to  
EVA; promote using  
standard IDs &  
formats

Adopt rsIDs,  
germplasm IDs &  
controlled  
vocabularies

Integrate with other  
standardized data  
types & link to other  
DBs & repos

Other AgBio DBs provided overview & progress  
towards FAIRifying GV data for white paper



Not FAIR

FAIR



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# A Tipping Point for Interoperable Agricultural Genomics

## Anchoring variants to rsIDs unlocks integration with:

- Functional annotation tools
- GWAS, QTLs, and multi-omics data
- Breeding databases and germplasm repositories

IMPROVES

- Traceability
- Genotype-to-phenotype discovery
- Long-term reuse of genomic resources

## What's next?

- Continue to raise community awareness of the benefits of rsIDs
- More AgBioData community databases adopting rsIDs
- More commercial SNP array providers using rsIDs
- rsID mapping to more pangenomes





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# Thanks!