



# Data reuse working group

First  
steps and  
goals

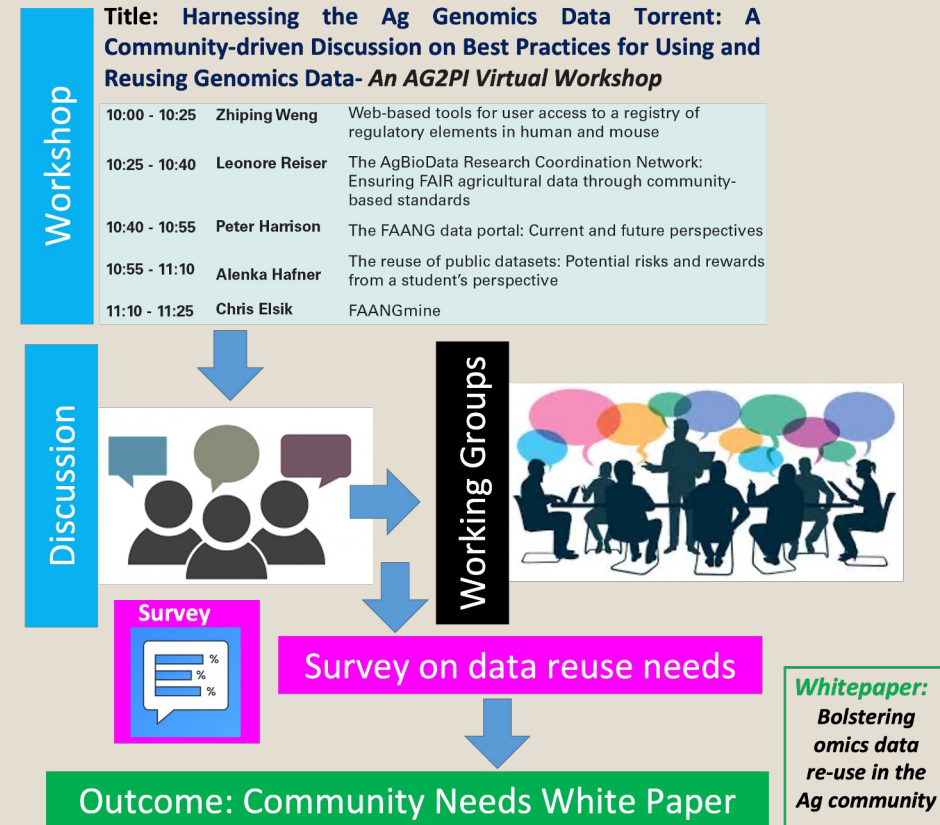
Chair: James Koltes

Members: Alenka Hafner (co-chair), Chris Elsik, Boas Pucker, Cecilia Deng, Peter Harrison, Ted Kalbfleisch, Elsa Herminia Quezada Rodríguez, Victoria DeLeo, Bruna Petry, Anne Thessen

# Motivation and beginnings:

- AG2PI seed grant in 2021
- Exponential growth of publicly available genomics and epigenetics data
- Data are often underutilized due to insufficient metadata and other challenges related to the FAIR data standards
- Intermediate details from supplemental files and initial data are frequently not captured
- **Objective of WG: to identify bottlenecks in data reuse and critical needs to propose solutions**

**Figure 1: Overview of Project Activities**



Credit: James Koltes

# AgBioData Data Reuse WG

- Met at PAG, first meeting on Feb 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2023
- **This working group will:**
  - Identify **bottlenecks** in data reuse in livestock and plant communities based on discussions and community surveys.
  - Identify **critical needs** that will help improve data reuse and promote more FAIR data.
  - Identify **missed opportunities** to improve data sharing
  - Publish a **white paper** describing these bottlenecks and needs.



# Working group members

James Koltes (chair)	Iowa State	Assistant Professor
Alenka Hafner (co-chair)	Penn State	PhD candidate in Plant Biology
Boas Pucker	TU Braunschweig	Assistant Professor
Cecilia Deng	The New Zealand Institute for Plant and Food Research Limited	Senior scientist
Peter Harrison	EMBL-European Bioinformatics Institute	Genome Analysis Team Leader
Chris Elsik	University of Missouri	Professor
Ted Kalbfleisch	University of Kentucky	Associate Professor
Elsa Herminia Quezada Rodríguez	Universidad Autónoma Metropolitana - México	Postdoc
Victoria DeLeo	Bowery Farming	Plant Scientist
Bruna Petry	Iowa State University	Postdoc Research Associate
Anne Thessen	University of Colorado Anschutz	Assoc Prof

# White paper draft sections

## **1. Introduction**

## **2. Barriers/risks/limitations of reuse**

- a. Data standards
  - i. Data quality
  - ii. Experimental standards
- b. Metadata and ontologies
- c. Data interoperability
- d. Data ownership propriety
- e. User skill level
- f. Resource availability

## **3. Data availability**

## **4. Other/emerging data types**

## **5. Genotype to phenotype**

## **6. Equity and inclusion in data reuse**

## **7. Future of data reuse**





# COMMUNITY SURVEY



\*What geographic area do you work in?

- U.S.
- North America (Other)
- South and Central America
- Europe
- Asia
- Africa
- Australia and New Zealand

\*What taxonomic group do you work with most?

- Animal
- Plant
- Microbial or viral
- Human
- Other (please specify)

\*Which of the following best describes most of the research you conduct?

- Lab research
- Field research
- Computational biology/bioinformatics
- Other (please specify)

\*Are you employed in:

- Academia
- Industry
- Non-profit
- Government
- Other

\*Which of the following best describes your position?

- Leader of a research group
- Faculty (other than leader of research group)
- Staff researcher
- Postdoctoral researcher
- Graduate student
- Data curator or bioinformatician
- Other

The following questions are on your experience and opinion of data reuse in the biological sciences.

Data reuse defined here as the **use of data produced by researchers outside your research group (excluding publicly available reference genomes).**

\* Have you ever reused or tried to reuse data produced by other researchers?

Yes

No





### Why not?

- I do not trust data produced by other research groups
- I view reuse as research parasitism
- My research has no need for data reuse
- I do not have the resources to store or process the data
- I do not have the technical knowledge to process the data
- I have not had the opportunity to do so, but would like to
- Other (please specify)



How often do you conduct research where you reuse data produced by other researchers?

- Frequently
- Occasionally
- Once

What data re-use objectives would you be interested in?

- Integrating data for multi-omic based prediction and modeling
- Comparing your research results with published results
- Checking specific genomic regions for presence of functional elements (e.g. using a genome browser)
- Reanalyzing published data using new or other methods
- Meta-analyses
- Developing and testing new computational methods
- Developing gold standard datasets
- Developing educational materials
- Curating data for databases
- Other (please specify)



Which types of biological data would you be interested in reusing or have reused in the past?

- Sequence and annotation data (genome, transcriptome, epigenome)
- Genotype data
- Phenotype data (including image and sensing data)
- Proteomics
- Metabolomics
- Biological pathways
- Environmental and climate data
- Microbiome and metagenomics
- Other (please specify)



Which types of data files would you be interested in reusing or have reused in the past?

- Raw sequence (e.g., fasta, fastq)
- Alignment and visualization (e.g., bam, sam, wig)
- Feature annotation and visualization (e.g., bed, gtf, gff)
- Sequence variation (e.g., vcf)
- GWAS (e.g., gwas, linear)
- Phenotype (e.g., images, spreadsheets)
- Other (please specify)

What would increase your confidence in reusing data produced by other researchers?

- Metadata standards used are explicitly stated with the data
- Data are accompanied by explicit information about quality and sample collection
- Data are accompanied by explicit information about the experimental protocol
- A recorded bioinformatics workflow is available with the data
- Detailed information about the provenance of samples and data is available with the dataset
- Nothing would increase my confidence (I do not trust the data)
- Other (please specify)

What are challenges/obstacles in making your published datasets available for reuse?

- Submitting data and metadata takes too much time
- Technical difficulty in preparing metadata
- Technical difficulty in submitting files
- The risk of being scooped
- Want to hold on to the data after initial publication for a future analysis
- The data is proprietary and cannot be made public
- Unsure of how to licence my data
- Lack of suitable data repository
- Cost of submitting to a data repository
- Other (please specify)



\* Have you ever tried to reproduce data or results obtained by another research group?

Yes

No



Were you successful in reproducing data/results obtained by another research group?

Yes

No

Other



Is there anything else you would like the AgBioData working group on data reuse to know and/or address?

# Future directions

- Phenomics
- Emerging data types and methods
- Machine learning - assisted metadata curation
- Other ideas?



*Interested in joining? Have questions or ideas?*

*Contact me ([ahafner@psu.edu](mailto:ahafner@psu.edu)) or James ([jekoltes@iastate.edu](mailto:jekoltes@iastate.edu))!*

