



POULTRY GENOME NEWSLETTER 2007

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Poultry Genome Newsletters are distributed electronically through Angenmap, the Animal Genome Discussion Group (<http://www.animalgenome.org/community/discuss.html>). View current and previous Newsletters at <http://poultry.mph.msu.edu/newsletters/newsletters.htm>. If you wish to be emailed a .pdf copy of each Newsletter as it appears, contact me at dodgson@msu.edu.

PAG XVI & NAGRP/NC-1008 Meeting, January 2008

PAG-XVI will be held **January 12-16, 2008** at the usual spot, the **Town and Country Hotel, San Diego, CA**. The program is available at <http://www.intl-pag.org/16/16-pag.html>. The **NC-1008 Multistate Research** project committee and the **Poultry Subcommittee of the National Animal Genome Research Program, NRSP-8**, will meet concurrently, with the Poultry Workshop scheduled to start at 9 a.m. on Saturday, Jan. 12. **The abstract deadline for PAG is October 5. The deadline for reduced registration rate is Nov. 1. Coordinators again have some funds to help with travel support for NAGRP members or their lab members - contact us ASAP.** In particular, students are encouraged to apply for the **Neal Jorgensen Travel Award** for poultry (see the PAG website listed above or contact dodgson@msu.edu).

Congratulations, Hyun!

Congratulations go to **Hyun Lillihøj**, of USDA-ARS, Beltsville Agricultural Research Center, who was presented the **Embrex Fundamental Science Award** at this summer's Poultry Science Association meeting. As we learned in time for our last issue, **Sue Lamont** was awarded the **Merck Award for Achievement in Poultry Science** at that same meeting. More info on PSA Awardees can be found at <http://www.poultryscience.org/awards2007.asp>.

USDA-NRI Grant RFA for FY 2008 Now Available

The National Research Initiative FY 2008 RFA is now available at <http://www.csrees.usda.gov/> or www.grants.gov. **Program 43.0, Animal Genome, contains five elements: Translational Animal Genomics, Tools and Resources, Bioinformatics, Functional Genomics and Whole Genome Enabled Animal Selection.** The deadline for the first four elements is **June 5, 2008**. However, integrated proposals only for Translational Animal Genomics and all proposals for Functional Genomics require submission of a letter of intent by March 14, 2008. The deadline for Whole Animal Genome Enabled Selection is Feb. 14, 2008, and this element require a letter of intent by November 26, 2007 (only one award is likely to be made in this element). **Please see the RFA for deadlines for other animal-related programs.** Letters of intent are required for some programs/elements to insure that proposal aims meet the goals of the program and to minimize wasted effort in the application process. (They also will inflate the success rate which is another goal of the NRI Program.)

Follow the Blueprint: USDA Blueprint for Animal Genomics

The USDA's Blueprint for Animal Genomics, a product of several months of effort of a USDA Animal Genomics Task Force commissioned by Undersecretary **Joseph Jen** in 2006, is now available at <http://www.csrees.usda.gov/newsroom/news/2007news/blueprint.html>. The **Blueprint outlines needs and goals in the areas of "Science to Practice", "Discovery Science" and "Infrastructure"**. The goals of this Blueprint are closely aligned with the priorities of the NRSP-8 and NC-1008 renewal applications (see below).

ZEBRA FINCH GENOME NOW BEING ASSEMBLED

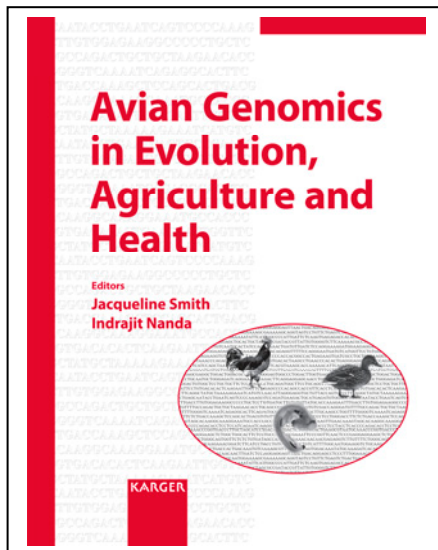
A second avian genome sequence will soon be joining that of the chicken to represent the world of birds, that of the model songbird, the zebra finch. The zebra finch sequence reads are complete and the sequence is being assembled. After that, it will take some time for the sequence to be annotated and made available on the various web browser sites (thanks to **Wes Warren** and **Art Arnold** for this update.)

Special book offer to all readers of **POULTRY GENOME NEWSLETTER**
Single Topic Volume of the journal ***Cytogenetic and Genome Research***

AVIAN GENOMICS IN EVOLUTION, AGRICULTURE AND HEALTH

45 Articles, 404 pages, 128 figures (74 in color), 86 tables, hardcover, ISBN 978-3-8055-8338-1

Editors: Jacqueline Smith (Roslin), Indrajit Nanda (Würzburg)



This themed issue highlights current research in avian genomics. Most contributions relate to the chicken as the model bird species, but advances in the genomics of turkey, duck and other birds are also presented. A mixture of review articles and novel scientific findings describe how advances in genomics have impacted on a diverse range of research disciplines such as cytogenetics, genetics, molecular biology, immunology, evolution and development. The many resources that are now available to researchers have also been described. The knowledge gained from the avian genomes is not just applicable amongst bird species but is also a useful comparative tool that helps further research across many species. This issue also emphasizes how avian genome research has an important role to play in the fields of agriculture and human health.

S. KARGER AG, the Publisher of ***Cytogenetic and Genome Research***, offers this volume at a special price of USD 137.60/ EUR 108.00/ CHF 151.20 (exclusive of postage and handling), representing a 20% discount on the original selling price to all readers of the **POULTRY GENOME NEWSLETTER**.

Please e-mail your orders to:

Michael Schmid, Chief Editor of ***Cytogenetic and Genome Research***

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Mark your calendars: Centennial PSA Meeting

The **Centennial Poultry Science Association Meeting** will be held **July 20-23, 2008** at the **Sheraton on the Falls Hotel and Convention Center, Niagara Falls, Ontario, Canada**. Be sure to sign up for the scenic trip over the Falls. You'll have a **barrel** of fun! The conference website is under development at <http://www.poultryscience.org/psa08> . The 2008 PSA Scientific Program Committee is soliciting workshop/symposia topics to be included in the 2008 program. Already confirmed workshops/symposia are the National Extension Workshop, Informal Nutrition Symposium, Landmark papers Symposium, and the Keynote Symposium. If you are interested in organizing any additional workshop/symposium, the committee will welcome such a proposal(s) containing information on the following: Topic, Justification and description, Tentative program and possible speakers, Expected number of participants, Point of Contact or the Proposed Chair, etc. The committee will appreciate receiving your **feedback on or before November 30, 2007**. Please send your proposals directly to the 2008 Scientific Program Chair (**Muquarrab Qureshi**) electronically at mqureshi@csrees.usda.gov.

ON THE ROAD AGAIN. UPCOMING MEETINGS:

NOTE: Regularly updated poultry meeting information is now available at http://www.animalgenome.org/share/mtg_chic.html. Meeting organizers can enter their own meeting information on-line at www.animalgenome.org/cgi-bin/angenmap/mtg_new .

International Symposium on Animal Genomics for Animal Health, October 23-25, 2007, OIE Headquarters, World Organization for Animal Health, Paris, France. For information see www.ars.usda.gov/meetings/AGAH2007/

2nd GSA Model Organisms & Human Biology Meeting, Jan. 5-9, 2008, Town & Country Convention Center, San Diego, CA. See <http://www.gsa-modelorganisms.org/>

8th International Long-oligonucleotide Microarray Workshop, January 6-11, 2008, University of Arizona, Tucson, Arizona. For further details and to register, please contact David Galbraith, galbraith@arizona.edu .

Plant and Animal Genome XVI, joint with NC-1008 and NAGRP annual meetings, Jan. 12-16, 2008, Town & Country Convention Center, San Diego, CA. See www.intl-pag.org/.

1st Mediterranean Summit of the World's Poultry Science Assn., May 7-10, 2008, Porto Carras, Chalkidiki, Greece. See <http://www.diasittravel.gr/english/conference.php?act=inv&con=121>

XXIII World's Poultry Congress 2008, June 29-July 4, 2008, Brisbane Convention and Exhibition Centre, Brisbane, QUEENSLAND, AUSTRALIA. See www.wpc2008.com

9th International Symposium on Avian Endocrinology, July 10-15, 2008, Universiteitshallen of the University of Leuven, Leuven, Belgium. Website not yet available.

Poultry Science Assoc. Centennial Meeting, July 20-23, 2008, Sheraton on the Falls Hotel and Convention Center, Niagara Falls, Ontario, Canada. See <http://www.poultryscience.org/psa08>

NRSP-8 and NC-1008 Renewal Applications

Both the NRSP-8 and NC-1008 projects need to submit renewal applications this year. The NRSP-8 writing team, coordinated by **Mary Delany**, includes existing coordinators or their representatives, and the NC-1008 writing team is being led by **Chris Ashwell** (objective 1), **Jim Petite** (objective 2) and **Sue Lamont** (objective 3).

THE BAC PAGE! NEW TURKEY BAC INFO NOW AVAILABLE

Chicken BAC libraries have been constructed at Texas A&M (~39,400 each in three sublibraries called TAM31, TAM32, and TAM33, respectively; Lee et al., *Animal Genetics* 34: 151) and by **Pieter de Jong** (CHORI-261: ~73,700 BACs with ~195 kb inserts). Pieter has also generated a **turkey BAC library (CHORI-260)**. If interested in either CHORI library, see <http://bacpac.chori.org>. Some free filter sets with spotted arrays of CHORI-260, CHORI-261, TAM31 and TAM33 BACs are still available, email dodgson@msu.edu.

Please note. As described previously, an extensive table is available of **Turkey BACs (from CHORI-260, see above) assigned to turkey markers and genes** at our **Resources** page at <http://poultry.mph.msu.edu/resources/Resources.htm>. This table is regularly updated and presently contains 12,733 BACs assigned to 1060 markers/genes. Another set based on about 200 more markers/genes will be added soon. Also available is a separate table describing the “overgo” hybridization probes used in making most of these assignments.

New at the <http://poultry.mph.msu.edu/resources/Resources.htm> site is another Table listing the **Genbank assignment numbers for over 20,000 Turkey BAC (CHORI-260) end sequences** and the corresponding BACs that were sequenced (this info can also be obtained by searching Genbank, of course). In addition, a multi-spreadsheet table is provided that lists the **orthologous location in the chicken genome (Build 2) for these turkey BACs**. Where an orthologous assignment is not obvious or is inconsistent, manual annotation has been done to resolve the most probably orthologous location. Further manual annotation and experimental confirmation is underway, and this table will be updated as new information is obtained.

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PLEASE PROVIDE YOUR INPUT

The Poultry Coordinators are always glad to hear from NRSP-8 members and other readers about ways that we can improve the coordination effort or provide resources that are needed and with which we may be able to help. Also, let us know if you have items of general interest to the poultry genetics community that we can include in this Newsletter. **PICTURES** and **GRAPHICS** are especially welcome for our new .pdf versions of the newsletter.

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