



Newsletter N° 2/2016

IWGSC Newsletter – May to August 2016

Dear IWGSC Members and Friends,

Published three times a year, the IWGSC newsletter keeps you abreast of the latest news and activities of the IWGSC.

The IWGSC

- As of end August 2016, the IWGSC had 1400 members, working in 434 institutes/companies in 59 countries. Check out the [map](#).
- Currently, the IWGSC has [20 sponsors](#). Sponsor support is essential to ensuring the delivery of the reference sequence. Please inform us if you know of any potential sponsors (research institutes, universities, governmental agencies, or companies).
- In May 2016, the IWGSC conducted an anonymous survey among its members to get their views about the future role the IWGSC could play after reaching its goal of delivering a high quality reference genome sequence for the bread wheat. A [summary of the results](#) is available online.
- The [IWGSC online store](#) is now up and running. You can order polos, shirts, sweaters, T-shirts and blouses with the IWGSC logo embroidered.

Projects

- The IWGSC has established a strategy and is on target with the production of a reference sequence for bread wheat that integrates the [IWGSC whole genome assembly](#) (IWGSC WGA) of *Chinese Spring* based on Illumina short sequence reads assembled with NRGene's DeNovoMAGIC™ software and chromosome-based sequences and resources. The goal is to publish an analysis of the IWGSC reference sequence v1.0 early in 2017 and to proceed with further data integration, correction and annotation to be incorporated in the wheat reference sequence v2.0 in early 2018.
- Chromosome-based resources that are being integrated with the IWGSC WGA include physical maps, BAC minimal tile path tag sequences generated through projects sponsored by Bayer CropScience, the IWGSC chromosome survey sequence and BAC-based chromosome sequences, where available. Information about these resources can be found on the [projects section of the website](#).
- The data of the whole genome assembly of the bread wheat variety *Chinese Spring* (IWGSC WGA v0.4) were made available pre-publication in June 2016 to facilitate wheat research and breeding programs. The data can be searched with BLAST or downloaded from the [IWGSC wheat data repository at URGI](#). Pre-publication access is provided in accordance with the Toronto Agreement under which the IWGSC reserves the right to publish the first global analyses of the data. Access does require registration and agreeing to respect the right of the IWGSC to publish first. For specific access terms, see the [IWGSC General Data Access agreement](#).

People

- [Leader Spotlight: Frédéric Choulet](#) - Bioinformatics Group Leader at INRA-University Blaise Pascal joint institute GDEC.

Meetings/Workshops

- 14-18 January 2017 – [PAG XXV](#) – The IWGSC will hold two workshops:
 - Main workshop, organized by Rudi Appels and Kellye Eversole



- Standards and Protocols workshop, organized by Jane Rogers and Catherine Feuillet
- 7 June 2016 – [PAG Asia 2016](#) – The IWGSC held a [workshop](#) organized by Rudi Appels and Kellye Eversole.

Presentations

- 07/06 – [Appels \(IWGSC\) presentation](#), Wheat Initiative workshop, Cambridge, UK
- 04/22 – [Stein \(IPK Gatersleben\) presentation](#), Genomics Research Centre of Fiorenzuola d'Arda, Italy
- 04/13 – [Mascher \(IPK Gatersleben\) presentation](#), Wheat Wild Relatives Conference, Rehovot, Israel
- 03/30 – [Choulet \(INRA\) presentation](#), TGAC, Norwich, United Kingdom

IWGSC Publications

- 06/13/2016 – The IWGSC makes the assembly announced in January available to the scientific community:
 - Press release: [Wheat Sequencing Consortium Releases Key Resource to the Scientific Community](#)
 - Web announcement: [IWGSC Whole Genome Assembly now available at URGI](#)
- Infographic: [The Origin of Wheat](#)
- [IWGSC Poster](#) – Updated June 2016

Resources for members:

- [Set of slides for members](#) to use in their presentations: general presentation of the IWGSC (membership, structure, vision, roadmap), major achievements, progress, sponsors. Updated Sept 2016

And don't forget to follow us on [Twitter](#) and [Facebook](#)