

Public release of the first chromosomal-scale draft sequences of peanut (*Arachis*) species

April 2, 2014

Today, the Peanut Genome Consortium (PGC) representing a coalition of international scientists and stakeholders engaged in the International Peanut Genome Initiative (IPGI) announced the public release of chromosomal assemblies for two peanut species (*Arachis duranensis* and *Arachis ipaensis*) that are believed to be the ancestral progenitors of cultivated peanut (*Arachis hypogaea*).

Public access to this information is available at: www.PeanutBase.org/

These assemblies and associated data are deliverables from the Peanut Genome Project (PGP), which was initiated in December 2010 to sequence the peanut genome under the auspices of The Peanut Foundation (Alexandria, VA). Both of these ancestral specie genomes have been duplicated within the genome of cultivated peanut. Thus, the known structure of those genomes provides a platform and guidance for reconstructing the *A. hypogaea* genome, which is similar in size to the human genome.

The IPGI represents approximately 135 participating scientists affiliated with over 80 institutions in 20 countries. The PGC represents a core group of IPGI scientists who provide leadership for the PGP. Current PGC members include: Howard Valentine, The Peanut Foundation (Administrator); Howard Shapiro & Victor Nwosu, MARS, Inc; Richard Michelmore, University California-Davis (Co-Chairperson); Lutz Froenicke, University California-Davis; Scott Jackson, University Georgia (Chairperson); Peggy Ozias-Akins, University Georgia (Co-Chairperson); Baozhu Guo (liaison to China), Corley Holbrook & Brian Scheffler, USDA ARS; Andrew Farmer, National Center Genome Resources; Boshou Liao, Chinese Academy Agricultural Sciences; David Bertioli, University Brasilia (liaison to South America); Soraya Bertioli, EMBRAPA; Rajeev Varshney, ICRISAT (liaison to India); Xingyou Zhang, Henan Academy of Agricultural Sciences; Xun Xu, The Beijing Genome Institute; Xingjun Wang, Shandong Academy of Agricultural Sciences; Mark Burow, Texas A&M University; Farid Waliyar, ICRISAT (liaison to W. Africa); Graeme Wright, Peanut Corporation of Australia (liaison to Australia); Sachiko Isobe, Kazusa DNA Research Institute (liaison to Japan); Ran Hovav, Agricultural Research Organization of the Volcani Center (liaison to Israel); Tom Stalker, North Carolina State University; and Richard Wilson, Oilseeds & Biosciences Consulting. Ex Officio members are: Roy Scott, USDA, ARS, ONP; Mauricio Lopes, President, EMBRAPA; Jean-Marcel Ribaut, Director, The GENERATION Challenge Grant Program; Chairman Luo Fuhe, Vice-Chairman CPPCC and Executive Vice-Chairman CAPD Central Committee, Beijing; Swapan Kumar Datta, Deputy Director General (Crop Science), Indian Council Agricultural Research (ICAR), and David Hoisington, Director, Global Programs, University of Georgia.

Many of those scientists have made substantial intellectual and technical contributions to the PGP and the present achievement. However, none of this work would have been possible without the financial support of the international collaborators, U.S. peanut producer organizations, U.S. peanut sheller companies, allied sector companies, and manufactures of peanut food products listed below:

International Collaborators

BGI-Americas

[Henan Academy of Agricultural Sciences](#)

[Chinese Academy of Agricultural Sciences](#)

[Shandong Academy of Agricultural Sciences](#)

US Peanut Producer Organizations:

- National Peanut Board
- Florida Peanut Producers Association
- Texas Peanut Producers Association
- Georgia Peanut Commission

U.S. Peanut Sheller Companies:

- American Peanut Shellers Association
 - Birdsong Peanuts
 - Damascus Peanut Company
 - Golden Peanut Company
 - McCleskey Mills
 - Snyder's/Lance
 - Tifton Peanut Company
 - Williston Peanuts
- Southwestern Peanut Shellers
 - Birdsong Peanuts
 - Clint Williams Company
 - Golden Peanut Company
 - Wilco Peanut Company
- Virginia Carolina Shellers Association
 - Birdsong Peanuts
 - Golden Peanut Company
 - Peanut Processors
 - Severn Peanut Company
- American Peanut Growers Group
- Brooks Peanut Company
- Sessions Company
- Tifton Quality Growers

Food Manufacturing Companies:

- Algood Food Company
- American Blanching
- Arway Confections, Inc.
- Diamond Foods, Inc.
- E.J. Cox
- Hampton Farms
- The Hershey Company
- J.B. Sanfilippo
- Jimbo's Jumbo's
- J.M. Smucker
- Kraft – Planters
- Mars Chocolate
- Old Home Foods
- Pardoe's Perky Peanuts
- Peanut Butter & Company
- The Peanut Shop of Williamsburg

- Producers Peanut Company

Allied Sector Companies:

- B.A.G.
- Bayer CropScience
- Chips Group
- Concordia, LLC
- Dothan Warehouse
- Early Trucking
- Georgia Federal-State Inspection Service
- Hofler Brokerage
- International Service Group
- JLA USA
- Jack Wynn & Company
- J.R. James Brokerage
- Lewis M. Carter
- Kelly Manufacturing Company
- Lovatt & Rushing
- Mazur & Hockman
- M.C. McNeill & Co. LLC
- National Peanut Brokers Assn.
- National Peanut Buying Points Assn.
- Nolin Steel
- O'Connor & Company
- Olam International Limited
- RCB Nuts
- Reed Marketing, LLC
- Satake USA, Inc.
- SGL International, LLC
- Southern Ag Carriers

Affiliated Research Institutions

Auburn University

BGI-Americas

Catholic University-Brasilia

Chinese Academy of Agricultural Sciences

EMBRAPA

Generation Challenge-Gates Foundation

Henan Academy of Agricultural Sciences

ICRISAT (India, West & Central Africa)

Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR)

Kazusa DNA Research Institute (Japan)

National Center Genome Resources

Peanut Corporation of Australia

Shandong Academy of Agricultural Sciences

North Carolina State University

Texas A & M University

University of California-Davis

University of Florida

University of Georgia

USDA-Agricultural Research Service

Volcani Center (Israel)