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in

Cereal science and technology for feeding ten billion people: genomics era and beyond

Zaragoza : CIHEAM / IRTA
Options Méditerranéennes : Série A. Séminaires Méditerranéens ; n. 81

2008
pages 103

Article available on line / Article disponible en ligne à l’adresse :

http://om.ciheam.org/article.php?IDPDF=800814

To cite this article / Pour citer cet article

Diversity Arrays Technology (DarT) in genetics and breeding of wheat and barley

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Diversity Arrays Technology (DarT) complements the molecular toolkit for whole genome-based studies. DarT has been developed for over 20 plant species representing a wide range of genome size, ploidy level and breeding systems, including a number of cereal crops. DarT is a sequence-independent, highthroughput technology, discovering and typing hundreds of markers in a single hybridisation-based assay. DarT markers are mostly based on Single Nucleotide Polymorphisms, but detect also Insertion/Deletion and methylation polymorphisms. DarT has bee effectively used in characterisation and management of genetic diversity in domesticated species and their relatives, association mapping and pedigree-based mapping, rapid creation of linkage maps for QTL analysis, marker-rail associations through Bulked Segregant Analysis, accelerated introgression from wild germplasm (e.g. AB QTL). DarT is commrcially delivered for wheat and barley through Triticarte service (www.triticarte.com.au). Since its establishment Triticarte has rapidly increased the numbers of samples in 2006/2007. Currently used arrays contain approximately 2000 markers for both barley and wheat, with 4000 markers target for wheat in early 2007. Average number of polymorphic markers reported to customers in 2005 was 472 for barley and 63 for wheat, with average price per datapoint at 7 US cents. Such Throuighput and cost enables utilisation od DarT-based whole genome profiles in breeding.