



August 2018

Fully annotated wheat genome: A breakthrough in wheat research



For the first time, scientists have produced the most comprehensive map of a wheat genome, opening up new possibilities for this important staple crop.

"The release of the fully annotated wheat genome provides a great opportunity for wheat scientists to accelerate the identification of candidate genes, fully characterize their 'favorite' disease resistance and speed-up the development of 'perfect' genetic markers that will allow for the fast identification and selection of plants carrying a trait of interest," said Maricelis Acevedo, associate director for science for the Delivering Genetic Gain in Wheat project at Cornell University.

[READ MORE: Maricelis Acevedo's commentary on this milestone for the international wheat community.](#)

[FULL PAPER: "Shifting the limits in wheat research and breeding using a fully annotated reference genome"](#)

USDA researcher recognized by the World Food Prize for outstanding research on Ug99

The World Food Prize Foundation announced the recipient of the 2018 Norman Borlaug

Award for Field Research and Application at the Sustainable Development Goals Conference at Wageningen University in the Netherlands this August.

Dr. Matthew Rouse is a Research Plant Pathologist at the United States Department of Agriculture Agricultural Research Service (USDA-ARS) Cereal Disease Lab in St. Paul, MN and an adjunct associate professor at the University of Minnesota. His leadership has been essential in efforts to contain and reduce the impact of Ug99, a stem rust pathogen that poses a serious threat to the world's global food security. He has supported over 20 breeding programs around the world and more than 15 international wheat programs working on characterizing stem rust resistance genes, leading to the release of several new rust-resistant varieties of wheat.

[Read more about Matthew Rouse and the award at the World Food Prize.](#)



Matthew Rouse, recipient of the 2018 Norman Borlaug Award for Field Research and Application.
Photo provided.

Multimedia Spotlight: Wheat Breeding Technology Workshop



WHEAT BREEDING TECHNOLOGY WORKSHOP

13-14th April 2018, Marrakesh, Morocco

Les Jardins de l'Agdal Hotel & Spa
Koutobia room

Lee Hickey, Kai Voss-Fels, and Ben Hayes of the Queensland Alliance for Agriculture and Food Innovation (QAAFI) at the University of Queensland co-hosted a wheat breeding technology workshop at the 2018 BGRI Technical Workshop in Marrakech. The two-day workshop brought together more than 50 participants and 9 speakers covering a variety of topics including genomic selection, phenotyping, and transitioning to working in industry.

[WATCH NOW: 2018 Wheat Breeding Technology Workshop Playlist](#)

- Ben Hayes: [An Introduction to Genomic Selection](#)
- Lee Hickey: [Speed Breeding for Wheat Improvement](#)
- Kai Voss-Fels: [Identifying and Tracking Haplotypes in Wheat Breeding Material](#)

- Susanne Dreisigacker: [Bridging the Gap Between Research and Breeding](#)
- Trevor Rife: [Utilizing Mobile Devices for Plant Breeding and Genetics](#)
- Philomin Juliana: [Genomic Selection Case Studies in Wheat](#)
- Matthew Reynolds: [High Throughput Phenotyping in Wheat](#)
- Ravi Singh: [Integrating Wheat Breeding Technologies at CIMMYT](#)
- Hannah Robinson: [A Career Path to Industry in Plant Breeding](#)

Call for Nominations: 2019 Women in Triticum and Gene Stewardship Awards

Every year, the BGRI recognizes the achievements of individuals and teams working in wheat research. Nominations are now open for the following awards:

2019 Women in Triticum Early Career Award

Deadline 30 October 2018

Recognizes an early-career woman working in wheat (scientists ranging from advanced undergraduates to recent PhD graduates and post-doctoral fellows). Recipients will be supported to participate in various professional development opportunities, including mentorships and workshops. To apply, please fill out the online application:

<http://www.globalrust.org/awards/award-wit>

2019 Women in Triticum Mentor Award

Deadline 30 October 2018

Recognizes an outstanding mentor (male or female) of women working in triticum and its nearest relatives. To nominate an awardee, please fill out the online application:

<http://www.globalrust.org/awards/award-wit-mentor>

Events and Opportunities

From Seed to Pasta III: A Sustainable Durum Wheat Chain for Food Security and Healthy Lives

19-21 September 2018 (*Bologna, Italy*)

<https://www.fromseedtopasta.com/>

Grains for Well-Being

5-8 November 2018 (*Taipei, Taiwan*)

<http://www.grainsforwellbeing.org/en/>

Professor in Plant Pathology -- Aarhus University, Denmark

A position as Professor in Plant Pathology is available at Department of Agroecology, Section of Plant Pathology and Entomology, aiming to strengthen AU's research competence in epidemiology of plant pathogens.

[\[APPLY ONLINE \]](#)

Research Plant Pathologist -- USDA-ARS, USA

Researcher will be expected to use virus-induced gene silencing and other functional genomics approaches to analyze the mechanisms of host resistance to the major fungal diseases of wheat.

[\[APPLY ONLINE \]](#)

Contribute to the BGRI Newsletter and Social Media

If you have any news of interest to the BGRI community, please send us a message and we will try to include it in subsequent BGRI newsletters! We also publish and share stories on our [Twitter](#) and [Facebook](#) accounts. Use [@globalrust](#) to tag any contributions.

Events, career and educational opportunities, photos, and new publications are especially welcome.

Contact BGRI newsletter editor [Samantha Hautea](#) or [the BGRI](#).

[VISIT OUR WEBSITE](#)

Borlaug Global Rust Initiative

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