



## Pig Genome Update No. 42 May 1, 2000

**USDA funding for genomics is still on!!** According to the latest word received recently, funding for the Initiative for Future Agriculture and Food Systems (and Fund for Rural America) is secure. CSREES has released a **supplemental RFP** for the IFAFS initiative. It is available at <<http://www.reeusda.gov/ifafs/>>. The Supplement contains relatively few changes, one of which is most important and is the extension of the proposal due date from May 8, 2000 to May 22, 2000. All projects relevant to this special program could have been submitted to other programs within the original RFP. This special program area just adds some more focus. If you have already downloaded the March 6 RFP, you simply need to download the Supplement to note any changes. If you have not yet downloaded the original RFP, you may download the revised version, which contains the changes. It will not be necessary to download the Supplement. Good luck.

**Dr. Yuandan Zhang joins our team as an assistant to the Coordinator of the U.S Pig Genome Project.** Dr. Zhang recently completed his Ph.D. study at the University of New England in Australia. Yuandan is assisting the Coordinator in curating of the pig genome database in cooperation with Alan Archibald and his team at Rosilin. In addition he will be maintaining and organizing the forum on animal genome research (ANGNEMAP maillist), developing the pig genome web pages and improving efficient utilization of resources among pig genome researchers. He replaced Dr. Zhiliang Hu who went to Curagen. Zhiliang continues to contribute and is helping to make the transition a smooth one. Please feel free to contact Yuandan at [ydzhang@iastate.edu](mailto:ydzhang@iastate.edu) if you need help or to welcome him to our pig genome community.

**Updating Web Pages!** Like any information we generate, it sometimes becomes old. If you find information that is out of date on our Pig Genome Web pages, please send us a note so that we can work to improve the accuracy and usefulness of the web page.

**You need to be a member.** Everyone must please subscribe to ANGENMAP prior to posting a message to the discussion group. This is because we want to eliminate junk mail that comes from non-subscribers. To join please see <http://www.genome.iastate.edu/community/angenmap-info.html>.

**They are ready for shipment!** Set IX fluorescent primers is available for distribution now. Check our web site at <http://www.genome.iastate.edu/resources/fprimerintr.html> for details. This brings the total number of fluorescent primer pairs distributed by the U.S. Pig Genome Coordinator to 468 pairs. To order Set IX fluorescent primers, please send your request, along with your detailed postal address and your daytime phone number (required), to [mfrothsc@iastate.edu](mailto:mfrothsc@iastate.edu). Please continue to make use of them and also be sure to acknowledge their source as it helps to improve cooperation and coordination activities. Please also send requests of new microsatellite primers for genome scans to M. Rothschild so that the next set can include further suggestions from the pig genome community.

**The National Animal Germplasm Program (NAGP) is making good progress.** Harvey Blackburn ([blackbu@lamar.colostate.edu](mailto:blackbu@lamar.colostate.edu)) has recently sent out a newsletter of the progress being made in the program. The swine committee will be meeting at the World Pork Expo in June. More details can be obtained at [www.ars-grin.gov/nag/temp](http://www.ars-grin.gov/nag/temp).

**ISAG 2000**, the 27th International Conference on Animal Genetics, will be held July 22-26, 2000 at the Hyatt Regency in Minneapolis, Minnesota. Schedule and registration information are available at <http://www.cvm.umn.edu/research/isag2000/home.htm>. Plans for the swine genome workshop (Sunday, July 23 from 9 AM - 4 PM) are underway. If you have comments or questions on this workshop please contact Dr. Gary Rohrer at [rohrer@email.marc.usda.gov](mailto:rohrer@email.marc.usda.gov). Limited travel funding to help US participants and US graduate students may be available. Please contact the US Pig Genome Coordinator at [mfrothsc@iastate.edu](mailto:mfrothsc@iastate.edu).

**The Plant & Animal Genome IX (PAG-IX) and the NRSP-8 meetings** are only 8 months away. Suggestions for next year's PAG speakers or other comments on the meeting can be emailed to Sue DeNise [sdenise@ag.arizona.edu](mailto:sdenise@ag.arizona.edu) or me at [mfrothsc@iastate.edu](mailto:mfrothsc@iastate.edu).

**Upcoming meetings (for more details see: <http://www.genome.iastate.edu/community/meetings.html>)**

The 14th International Congress Animal Reproduction, July 2-6, 2000, Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences, S-750 Uppsala, Sweden, Contact: Hans Gustafsson, at [hans.gustafsson@og.slu.se](mailto:hans.gustafsson@og.slu.se).

International Society of Animal Genetics: Minneapolis, MN, USA will be held July 24-27, 2000. Contact Brian Kirkpatrick at [bwkirkpat@facstaff.wisc.edu](mailto:bwkirkpat@facstaff.wisc.edu).

American Society of Animal Science National Meeting, July 24-28, Baltimore, MD. For details please contact <http://www.baltimore2k.org>.

Plant and Animal Genome IX, joint with the NAGRP annual meetings, Jan. 14-17, 2001, Town & Country Convention Center, San Diego, CA. See: <http://www.intl-pag.org/>

Other events can be found at the following web site: <http://www.agbiotechnet.com/calendar/index.asp>

**Items for *Pig Genome Update 43*** can be sent to me by no later than June 10 please.

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*Paid for by funds from the NRSP-8 USDA/CSREES sponsored Pig Genome Coordination Program.*