

**Working Group on Biochemical and Molecular Techniques  
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**USE OF GBS FOR LUCERNE VARIETY DISTINCTNESS***Document prepared by experts from France**Disclaimer: this document does not represent UPOV policies or guidance*

The Annex to this document contains a copy of a presentation “Use of GBS for lucerne variety distinction” to be made at its sixteenth session of the Working Group on Biochemical and Molecular Techniques and DNA-Profiling in particular (BMT).

[Annex follows]



## Use of GBS for lucerne variety distinction

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### Context of variety registration

2 tests:

- VCU testing
- DUS testing



Lucerne:

- important genetic progress
- high proportion of refusal



Difficulty:

- Huge within-variety variation in lucerne (outbreeder, tetraploid)
- Large reference collection (230 varieties) + 30 candidate varieties

Question:

- Could we separate lucerne varieties by using a high number of molecular markers?

Technology : Genotyping by Sequencing (GBS)

## Context of variety registration

- Reference collection ~600 varieties,  
with seeds ~230 varieties
- Registered varieties
  - Europe: 555
  - USA: 167
  - Canada: 280
  - China: 77
  - Argentina: 715
  - ...

## Use of molecular markers to structure the collections

- Not so efficient in previous studies on  
lucerne (RAPD, AFLP, SSR)
- New technologies to obtain a high number of  
markers

An emerging technology :

Genotyping by Sequencing (GBS)



Elshire et al. 2011

Used on bulks of heterozygous individuals  
(= lucerne variety)



Raineri et al. 2012

Encouraging results on perennial ryegrass  
Reasonable costs



Byrne et al. 2013

## Questions

- Method: is the evaluation of allele frequency on bulks of individuals accurate ?
  - On 3 varieties, comparison of allelic frequencies on 4 bulks of 100 individuals each and on 40 individuals that were separately genotyped
- Structure of genetic diversity
  - Is it possible to differentiate among 20 varieties?
  - Is the genetic distance correlated to the phenotypic distance?

## List of 20 varieties

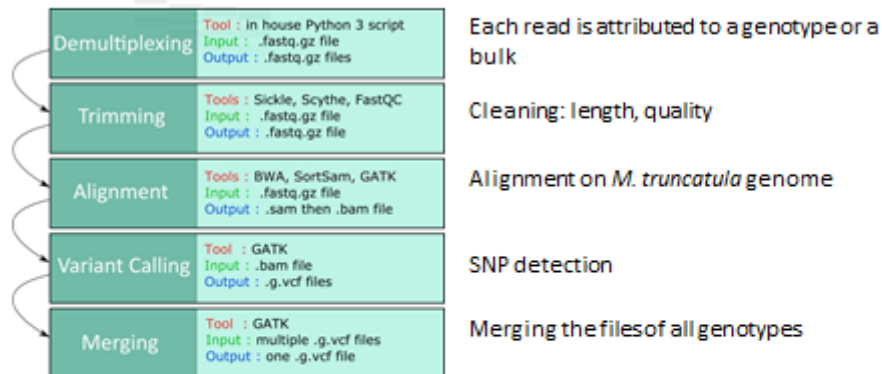
Name	Flower Colour				Dormancy	Verticillium	Ditylenchus	Colletotrichum	Type	Breeder	Registration year
	C1	C2	C3	C4							
Arpège	1	8	2	1	4	7	7	4	N	Florimond Desprez	2004
Artémis	1	8	2	1	4	6	8	9	N	Barenbrug	2010
Barmed *	1	8	2	2	7	5	5	8	S	Barenbrug	2002
Capri	1	7	2	1	4	7	7	4	N	Florimond Desprez	1995
Daphné	1	7	2	2	4	5	7	4	N	Florimond Desprez	1996
Dorine	1	7	3	1	6	3	5	3	S	Barenbrug	2001
Europe	1	8	2	1	4	5	3	RT	N	Florimond Desprez	1961
Fedo	1	8	2	1	4	6	8	6	N	Florimond Desprez	2012
Félicia *	1	7	2	2	4	7	8	7	N	GIE Grass	2009
Franken Neu	1	5	1	6	4	3	4	RT	N	Schmitz Ernst	1980
Galaxie *	1	7	2	2	4	5	7	7	N	Semunion	2007
Greenmed	1	7	2	2	1	4	7	RT	N	AgriDotentions	2011
Juurlu	5	1	1	4	no	no	no	RT	N	Estonian Crop Research Institute	1993
Luzelle	1	6	2	3	3	3	6	RT	N	INRA	1993
Meldor	1	6	2	2	6	4	5	4	S	INRA	1995
Midi	1	6	2	2	5	4	5	RT	S	Tourneur	2002
Milky Max	1	7	2	2	4	7	8	6	N	GIE Grass	2015
Orca	1	1	8	1	4	2	4	RT	N	Carneau	1966
Verdor	1	7	2	2	6	5	5	3	S	Barenbrug	2011
Vernal	1	4	4	4	2	no	no	RT	N	Wisconsin and Utah Exp. Stn.	1959

\* 3 varieties studied at the individual level  
2 very close: Félicia et Galaxie, 1 different: Barmed

## GBS sequencing

- Sowing, leaflet sampling
- DNA extraction on individual plants and bulks
- Building of libraries at INRA Lusignan  
8 lanes, single-end, 100 pb, 10 bulks + 15 individuals/lane
- Sequencing at INRA Genopole Toulouse

## Bioinformatics

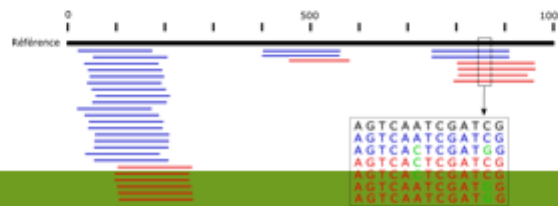


- Protocole GNU/Linux
- Scripts : BASH, Python 3.4, AWK
  - Programmes :
    - GATK, BWA, Sickle/Scythe,...
    - Instructions within script BASH

## Bioinformatics

- Between 3.7 and 4.6 millions reads after trimming et mapping
- For the individuals, the dosage of each SNP is estimated (from 0 to 4 for each allele).
- For the bulks, the SNP are coded depending on their frequency in the bulk :

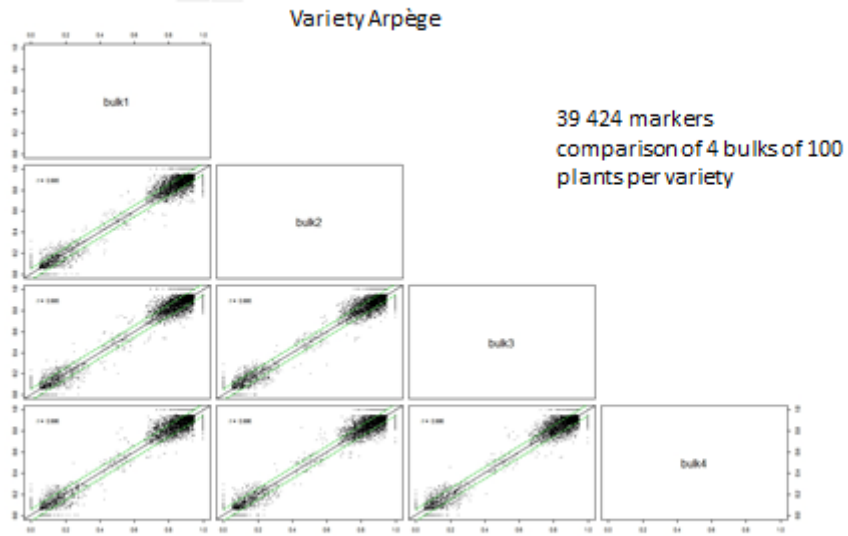
$$\frac{\text{number of reads carrying the allele}}{\text{total number of reads at this SNP}}$$



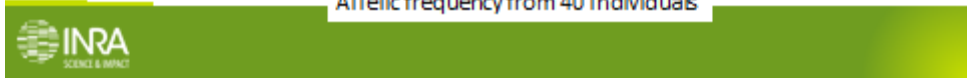
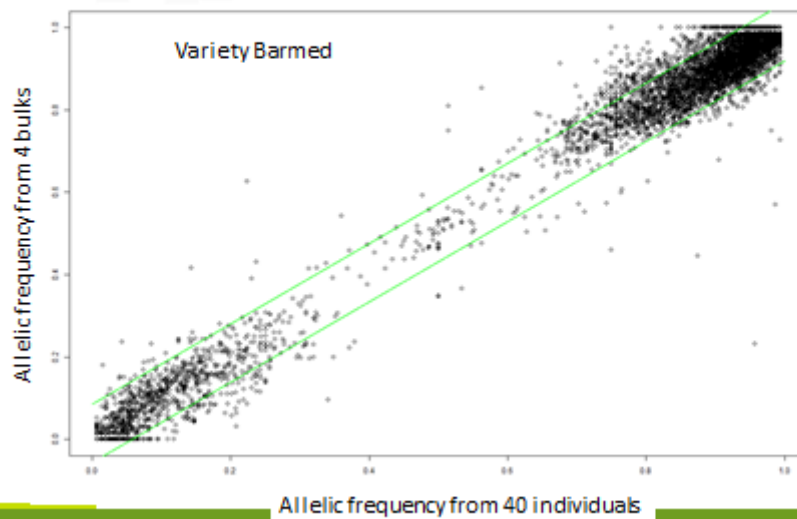
## Data analysis

- Repeatability of allelic frequency determined on the 4 bulks
- Comparison of allelic frequency calculated on the average of 40 individual genotypes and on bulks
- Differentiation with GBS markers:
  - Principal component analysis (PCA) on allelic frequencies,
  - $F_{ST}$  and Nei distances among varieties
- Correlation with phenotypic distances
  - Calculation of a GAIA distance between 2 varieties: sum on all traits of a weighted difference
  - Correlation and Mantel test of GAIA distance with  $F_{ST}$  and Nei distances

## Repeatability of allelic frequency determined on the 4 bulks

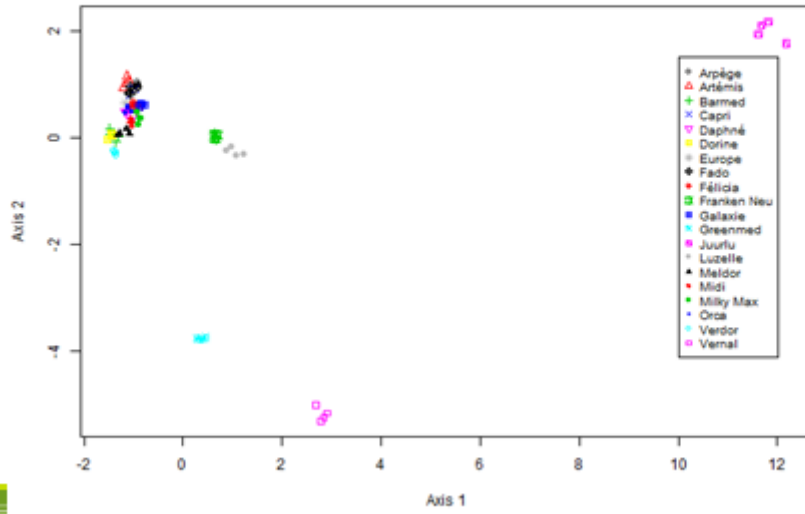


## Comparison of allelic frequency calculated on the average of 40 individual genotypes and on bulks



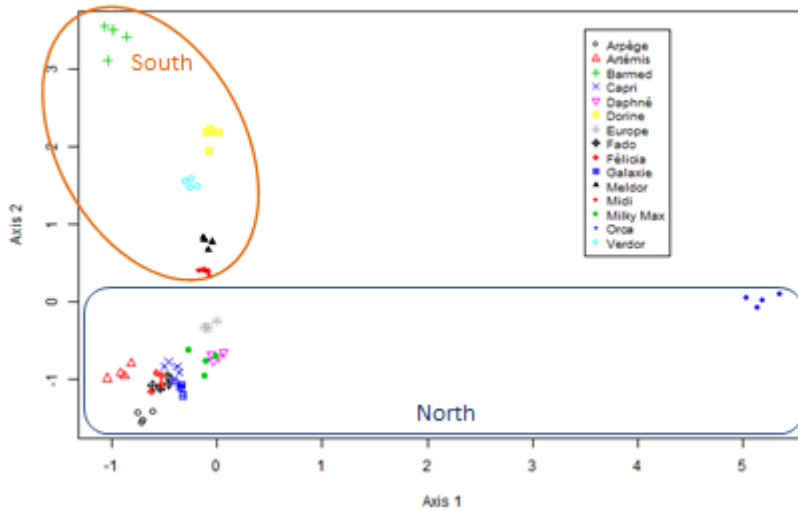
## Distinctness of 20 varieties for which 4 bulks have been genotyped

PCA on 20 varieties



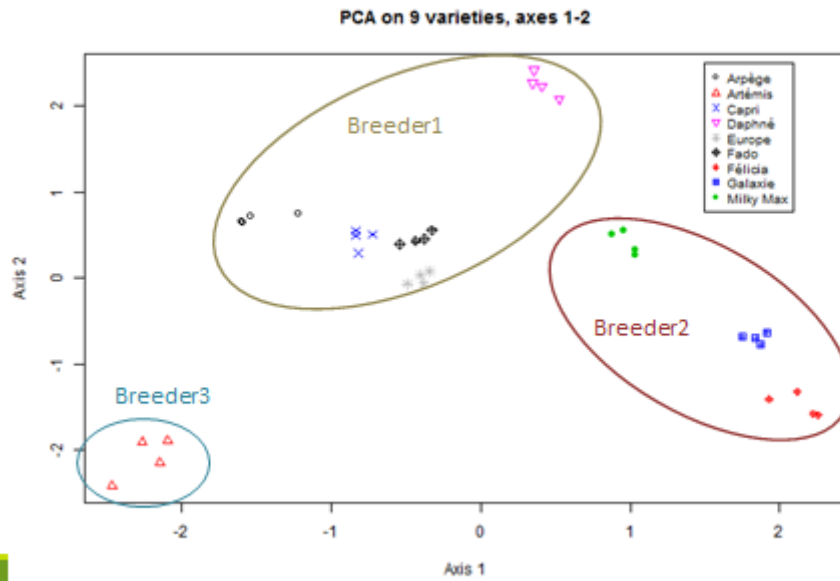
## Zoom on the 15 French varieties

PCA on 15 varieties axes 1-2





## Zoom on the 9 North varieties



## Test of significance

- $F_{ST}$  between populations (significant at  $P < 0.05$ )

	Aspège	Artemis	Barnard	Capri	Daphné	Dorine	Europe	Fado	Félicia	Franklin Neo	Galaxie	Greenmad	Jasbi	Lucelle	Meldor	Mil	Milky Max	Orca	Vendur	
Artemis	0.079																			
Barnard	0.092	0.092																		
Capri	0.079	0.079	0.090																	
Daphné	0.081	0.084	0.094	0.090																
Dorine	0.090	0.089	0.094	0.095	0.087															
Europe	0.079	0.079	0.088	0.075	0.079	0.084														
Fado	0.076	0.080	0.092	0.078	0.090	0.089	0.077													
Félicia	0.084	0.084	0.095	0.081	0.084	0.090	0.079	0.082												
Franklin Neo	0.090	0.091	0.100	0.087	0.090	0.096	0.085	0.090	0.091											
Galaxie	0.082	0.084	0.094	0.081	0.082	0.089	0.090	0.081	0.081	0.090										
Greenmad	0.116	0.116	0.120	0.114	0.114	0.116	0.113	0.115	0.117	0.115	0.116									
Jasbi	0.188	0.192	0.203	0.189	0.192	0.199	0.190	0.189	0.190	0.171	0.188	0.192								
Lucelle	0.107	0.105	0.115	0.103	0.108	0.111	0.102	0.105	0.107	0.106	0.108	0.125	0.175							
Meldor	0.088	0.089	0.094	0.085	0.087	0.092	0.084	0.087	0.089	0.094	0.088	0.117	0.197	0.110						
Mil	0.081	0.081	0.088	0.077	0.081	0.082	0.075	0.080	0.081	0.085	0.081	0.111	0.190	0.102	0.084					
Milky Max	0.079	0.081	0.092	0.079	0.078	0.085	0.077	0.079	0.080	0.087	0.079	0.111	0.188	0.104	0.085	0.078				
Orca	0.095	0.095	0.104	0.092	0.092	0.097	0.089	0.094	0.095	0.099	0.094	0.123	0.197	0.114	0.098	0.090	0.091			
Vendur	0.088	0.087	0.091	0.085	0.085	0.085	0.082	0.087	0.087	0.096	0.087	0.114	0.200	0.109	0.089	0.081	0.082	0.097		
Vernal	0.118	0.120	0.127	0.117	0.119	0.123	0.117	0.118	0.119	0.111	0.118	0.190	0.165	0.125	0.122	0.115	0.114	0.126	0.121	

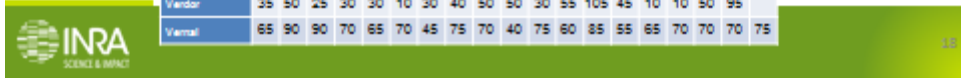
## Correlation with phenotypic distances

- 2 methods to test difference among varieties:
  - CoyD: calculated for each quantitative trait (+  $\chi^2$  for qualitative traits)
  - GAIA: distance between a pair of varieties resulting from the addition of the weightings of all traits
- CoyD and  $\chi^2$  presently used in DUS testing; GAIA will be used from 2018 onwards on lucerne

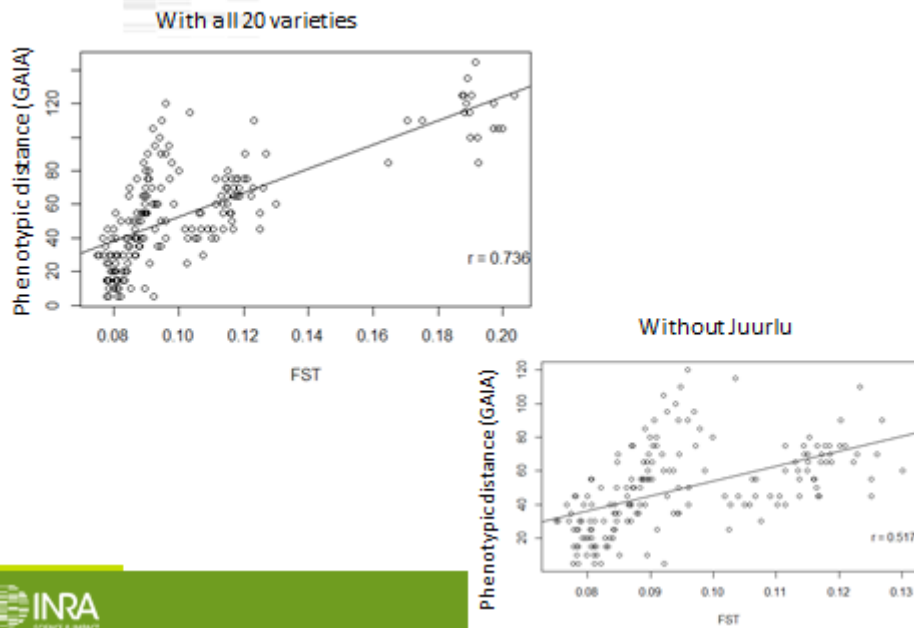


## GAIA distances

	Alpage	Antimé	Barned	Capit	Expres	Donna	Europe	Fado	Félicia	Franck Neu	Gabola	Greenmed	Arabi	Lucelle	Médor	Midi	Milky Max	Orca	Vendur	Vernal	
Antimé	30																				
Barned	60	45																			
Capit	5	25	55																		
Expres	15	35	60	20																	
Donna	55	65	35	50	40																
Europe	25	45	55	30	30	40															
Fado	15	20	60	10	25	55	30														
Félicia	20	25	70	15	35	60	40	5													
Franck Neu	80	80	80	75	55	40	50	70	75												
Gabola	15	25	50	10	20	40	30	5	15	65											
Greenmed	55	75	75	60	45	50	65	65	65	80	55										
Jouris	115	145	25	120	100	105	115	135	125	110	125	85									
Lucelle	45	55	60	40	30	45	45	40	55	40	30	45	110								
Médor	50	65	35	45	40	5	40	55	55	35	40	45	105	40							
Midi	40	55	35	35	20	15	30	45	55	35	30	60	100	25	20						
Milky Max	20	25	70	15	25	70	40	5	10	75	15	75	125	45	65	45					
Orca	110	120	115	105	95	75	85	100	90	60	90	110	120	75	85	75	90				
Vendur	35	50	25	30	30	10	30	40	50	50	30	55	105	45	10	10	50	95			
Vernal	65	90	90	70	65	70	45	75	70	40	75	60	85	55	65	70	70	75			



## Correlation of GAIA distance with phenotypic distances



## Conclusion

- Efficiency of GBS to genotype individuals or bulks on a heterozygous tetraploid species
- Accuracy of the estimation of allelic frequencies on bulks
- Significant difference between each pair of varieties
- Structure of the diversity is consistent to our knowledge of the varieties
- Good correlation between genetic distance and phenotypic distances

## Conclusion

- Use of GBS markers to help DUS testing?
  - To structure the collection of varieties
    - A candidate variety is tested phenotypically with the varieties with small genetic distance
    - Less field plots / experiments
    - More precise trials
  - Use of molecular markers only
    - Good correlation with phenotypic traits
    - No effect of environment

## Conclusion

- More studies needed
  - To optimize GBS protocols  
number of markers / cost
  - To estimate genetic distances
    - between candidate varieties that were not distinct in DUS tests,
    - between seed lots of the same variety, etc
  - More varieties to be considered: reference collection

