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Brassica-Arabidopsis Genome Browser: Overview of Brassica Genome based on Comparative Genome Analysis with Arabidopsis

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The complete genome sequence provides unlimited information in the sequenced organism as well as in the related taxa. Korea Brassica Genome Project (KBGP) have shotgun sequenced 70 BAC clones of which 50% are for chromosome #1 sequencing and the others are for the study of genome evolution and flowering related genes. Comparative genome analyses of the sequenced BAC clones revealed overall collinearity with 82% sequence similarity with their homeologous partner regions on Arabidopsis genome. Comparsion of all the Brassica BAC clones corresponding to an Arabidopsis chromosome segment represents that Brassica genome is undertaken triplication and subsequent gene losses after divergence of Arabidopsis and Brassica. We have obtained 91,179 BAC end sequences (BES) from 46848 BAC clones originated three BAC libraries (HindIII, BamHI, and Sau3AI). All BES were used for comparative genome analysis with the Arabidopsis. A total of 45232 (45%) BES hits significantly (E-6) on a spot of Arabidopsis pseudo chromosomes. And a total of 4317 BAC clones (9.5%) landed on Arabidopsis chromosomes by directional matches of both ends (8634 BES), within 30-500 kb interval on Arabidopsis chromosome. These 4317 clones are grouped into 54 pseudo contigs (13, 7, 12, 12, and 10 for Arabidopsis chromosome 1, 2, 3, 4, and 5, respectively, the biggest contig is 7.3 Mb on chromosome 5) based on overlapping of the hit sites on Arabidopsis chromosomes. The 54 pseudo contigs span a total of 72 Mb of Arabidopsis euchrmatin sequence without internal gaps. Each contig may represent the counterpart chromosomes of the triplicated Brassica genome. About 35 Mb of Arabidopsis sequences remained gaps uncovered. More than 95% of the gaps are from heterochromatin blocks (70% is from pericentromeric, 5% is from telomeric, and 20% is from heterochromatin knob). The remaining 5% uncovered region which is from about 3 Mb euchromatin regions is composed of 40 small gaps (less than 200 kb). The 40 small gaps may represent the chromosomal rearrangements between Arabidopsis and Brassica. Single Brassica BAC clone spans an average of 147 kb (± 74 kb) Arabidopsis sequence (Fig. 3). We have selected a total of 629 BACs that are on the minimum tiling path of 86 Mb Arabidopsis genome. The sequence and chromosomal locations of the 629 minimum tiled Brassica BACs will show the comparative overview of Arabidopsis and Brassica genome and will be provided for the Brassica genome sequencing. All the comparative genome analysis of the BAC and BES are available from our Arabidopsis-Brassica Genome Browser (www.brassica-rapa.org) showing the positions of Brassica BAC clones on the counterpart Arabidopsis chromosomes. The genome browser will give great opportunity to the enlargement of understanding on evolution of polyploidized Brassica genome.