GENOMICS-ASSISTED ALLELE MINING AND ITS INTEGRATION TO BREEDING IN RICE

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ABSTRACT

Since whole genome sequence of rice has been decoded, it has been more than 6 years. Rice sequence information has contributed on innovation of selection strategy in rice breeding (marker assisted selection) as well as functional analysis of rice genes. Elucidation of the association between nucleotide and phenotypic changes is inevitable to this end and has been a big challenge in molecular genetics and breeding of rice. Toward this goal, we have been involved in the genetic dissection of natural phenotypic variations in rice and have identified several genes involved in complex traits, including heading date, pre-harvest sprouting, root morphology, disease resistance and eating quality. To enhance the power of genetic dissection of complex phenotypes, we are developing several mapping populations, such as recombinant inbred lines and chromosome segment substitution lines, which will allow us to extract the useful alleles from natural variants. Recently, QTL for durable resistance to rice blast has been cloned from Japanese upland rice. This finding has opened new opportunity to introduction of the unique blast resistance gene without a linkage drag of low eating quality. We have also detected a major QTL for deeper rooting on chromosome 9. Based on the MAS, near-isogenic lines of IR64 with deeper root has been developed and is now under evaluation of its potential of drought avoidance. To facilitate allele mining using novel plant materials, we have also embarked on the genome-wide discovery of single nucleotide polymorphisms (SNPs). These SNP explore new strategy of genetic and breeding study. We have already revealed genomic sequences of several cultivars to detect SNP and definition of haplotype block of Japanese rice cultivars and high-yielding cultivars for forage use. Currently association between these particular haplotypes and phenotypic performance is investigated. These progresses have gradually acted as a force to change a landscape of selection in rice breeding.

KEYWORDS

Single nucleotide polymorphism (SNP), marker assisted selection, quantitative trait locus (QTL), mapping population

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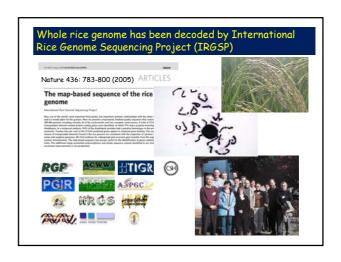
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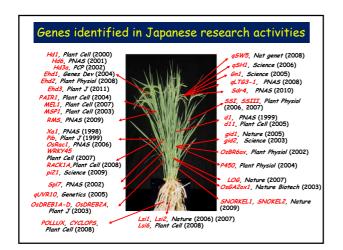
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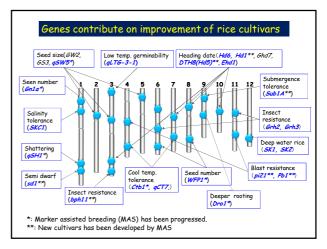
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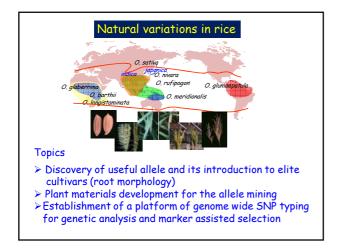
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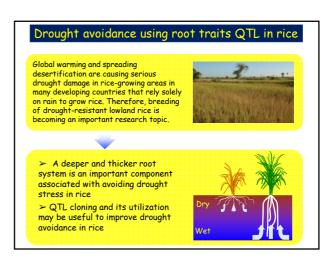
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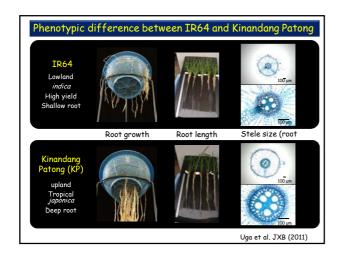


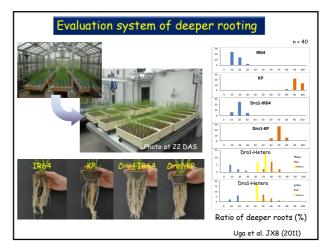


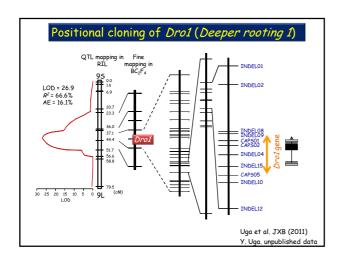


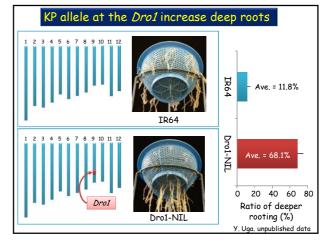




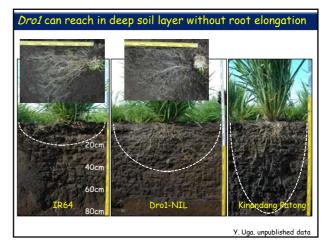


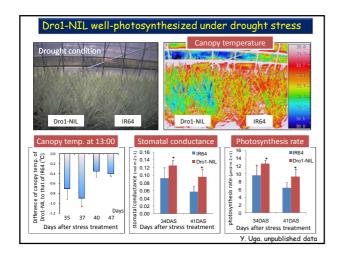


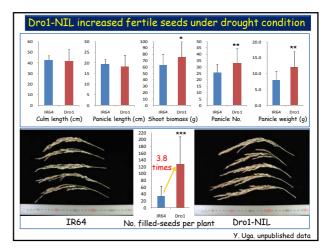












Ongoing research activities on evaluation of performance of draught avoidance by Drol

The International Center for Tropical Agriculture (CIAT) in Colombia

Drol- NIL has been tested under different level of draught stresses using experimental field with rain-out shelter.

The International Rice Research Institute (IRRI) in Phlippines

Drol- NIL will be tested under lowland condition and multiple locations in IRRI's drought breeding network. Drol will be introduced into other mega varieties to study the expression of drought tolerance in different genetic backgrounds.

