

2278 Cotton DB Enhancement

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The cotton genome database, CottonDB, was developed under United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) Agricultural Research Service (ARS) projects as part of a national program to develop plant genome databases for all agricultural commodities. This is first and most extensively used database for cotton worldwide both as an archival database and a dynamic database which incorporates new data and user resources. Since 2006, the new website of CottonDB, www.cottondb.org, has been established. With migrating from CottonDB old website (<http://cottondb.tamu.edu>), the new website includes several new features that allow researchers to easily browse and retrieve data from the database. Quick Queries allows the users to search for the most frequently requested information. The cMAP viewer, which provides online map comparisons among two or more genetic or physical maps; and web BLAST server, which allows the users to blast their sequence against the available database of cotton sequences through a web interface, have been in use. Input of Germplasm and US cotton variety test results is underway. Further enhancements in progress include update data under FPC viewer for visualizing BAC contig fingerprints, Genome Browser for comparisons of the cotton and Arabidopsis genomes, and complete the migration from the database's old website (<http://cottondb.tamu.edu>) to the new website (<http://www.cottondb.org>).