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Little weed: *Arabidopsis* genomic and related data

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Abstract

The *Arabidopsis* Information Resource (TAIR) provides a collection of tools, links and news for researchers working with *Arabidopsis thaliana*.

Content

The *Arabidopsis* Information Resource (TAIR) provides a collection of tools, links and news for researchers working with *Arabidopsis thaliana*. The *Arabidopsis* genome annotated sequence was published late last year. The recently redesigned TAIR site contains genome sequence initially annotated by AGI (The *Arabidopsis* Genome Initiative) that is currently in the process of being reannotated, with an update list appearing every few months. A plethora of tools and datasets is available for data searching and analysis in many different ways. The site provides extensive links, including those to other *Arabidopsis* databases, stock centers and plant biology resources. Sequence analysis, nomenclature and bioinformatic links are quite comprehensive, and there is also a good selection of plant microarray information. Beta versions of TAIR map viewer and TAIR database are currently in place. Judging by the pages explaining progress and what is to come, there are still many features in store for this site.

Navigation

The homepage consists of a list of categories followed by headings for the contents of each page, which makes it easy to select the page required. It is not as pretty as the old homepage, but is more functional for quick access. Navigation menus and search boxes are at the top of the main pages but do not appear on many of the results pages.

Reporter's comments

Timeliness

The last update for the website was 17 July 2001. The site is updated regularly with a 'breaking news' feature on the several categories on the home page.

Best feature

Gene Hunter searches nine different sites for relevant information about a gene. If you select your search term carefully, Gene Hunter retrieves the available information from all sites despite each of the site's idiosyncrasies regarding search-term nomenclature.

Worst feature

If you click a link to MapViewer from the Genetic Marker Object databox, or vice versa, when both frames are already open the content of the frame is updated but the window you have selected confusingly stays in the background.

Wish list

It would be useful to have the sequence map resolved and accessible down to nucleotide level with features marked.

Related websites

Other *Arabidopsis* genome resources include the [TIGR *Arabidopsis thaliana* Database](#), Department of Plant Gene Research at the Kazusa DNA Research Institute, the [MIPS *Arabidopsis thaliana* Database \(MATDB\)](#) and the [Database of *Arabidopsis thaliana* Annotation \(DAAtA\)](#).

Table of links

[The *Arabidopsis* Information Resource](#)

[TIGR *Arabidopsis thaliana* Database](#)

[Department of Plant Gene Research](#)

MIPS *Arabidopsis thaliana* Database (MATDB)

Database of *Arabidopsis thaliana* Annotation (DAAtA)

References

1. The *Arabidopsis* Information Resource.