

# WHEAT CAP

## NEWS: Spring 2007

### What is Wheat Cap?

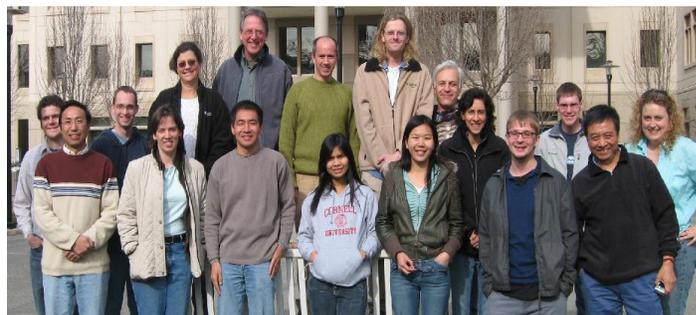


Coordinated Agricultural Project for Wheat is a multi-state, multi-institution project, funded by USDA/CSREES National Research Initiative, dedicated to the genetic improvement of US wheat through research, education, and extension.

**Wheat CAP Second Year Approved** The 2006 year end report was accepted by USDA-CSREES and 2007 funds were awarded. First year accomplishments included the establishment of marker assisted selection (MAS) in more than 25 public wheat breeding programs in cooperation with four USDA-ARS genotyping labs and the release of 39 new wheat germplasm lines and varieties. Each group started their mapping projects which will identify new marker-trait associations. During the first year we trained 21 high-school interns, 38 undergraduate students, and 31 graduate students. We informed growers and general public about the impact of biotechnology in more than 40 field days and industry meetings, MAS workshops, and a booth at Big Iron Farm Show. We also informed other scientist through a MAS symposium at the CSSA meeting, involving more the 120 people as well as eight international lectures.

**Wheat CAP Annual Meeting** Wheat CAP participants met in San Diego at the Plant and Animal Genome meeting on Jan 15, 2007. The current progress of Wheat CAP was presented and we are happy to announce that we have met or exceeded our 2006 year end goals. We discussed the education and outreach component and received advice from Elbert Dickey, USDA Extension consultant. Reports were given about the genotyping labs and web design. We discussed solutions to various problems in the program and received helpful advice from members of the advisory board.

**Mapping Workshop** As part of our educational efforts to train graduate students, Jorge Dubkovsky provided a helpful workshop on mapping at UC Davis in January. Eighteen students or postdocs working on the project attended. Those attending reported that they were now prepared to create genetic maps. Benefits of the workshop included reviewing genetic principles, improving general knowledge of mapping, becoming familiar with map maker and QTL cartographer, learning how to identify and prevent errors, and connecting to peers. Most participants agreed that another workshop would be very useful.



### Future Plans

Education and Outreach Meeting of all CAPs groups – May 18, 2007 Washington DC

A joint Western Wheat Workers - Extension crops Program-Planning meeting - June 20-21, 2007, Washington State University Pullman Campus, Emsinger Livestock Pavilion. Contact Patsy Wood (USDA-ARS-Wheat-GQPD Unit) (psperry@wsu.edu, 509-335-3632) for more information.

Graduate Students and Post-Docs to attend QTL workshop at the Summer Institute in Statistical Genetics, University of Washington Seattle WA June 20-22, 2007.

