

## ISAG Conference 2006, Porto Seguro, Brazil

**Cattle, Sheep & Goat Gene Mapping Workshop**

The cattle/sheep/goat gene mapping workshop was held on Friday, August 25<sup>th</sup>, 2006, during the 30<sup>th</sup> Conference on Animal Genetics, at Porto Seguro, Brazil. The workshop was divided in two sessions. The first session was from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 m. and the second session was from 13:30 p.m. to 15:30 p.m. The first session was attended by more than 250 people. The second session was attended by more than 150 people.

The workshop program was as follows:

- Welcome and introduction - *Eduardo Casas*.
- Development of an ovine 20K SNP chip and its use to construct an ovine HapMap - *James Kijas, CSIRO, Australia*.
- Differential gene expression in the muscle of callipyge sheep - *Chris Bidwell, Purdue University, USA*.
- A bovine whole genome long *oligonucleotide* expression array - *Chris Elsik, Texas A&M University, USA*.
- Linkage disequilibrium: Why do we care and now what? - *Stephanie McKay, University of Alberta, Canada*.
- Discovery and profiling of bovine microRNAs from immune-related and embryonic tissues – *Luiz Coutinho, University of Sao Paulo, Brazil*.
- Characterization and validation of in silico developed SNP mapping to three different bovine genomic regions on 15 different cattle breeds - *Mathieu Gautier, INRA, France*.
- Business meeting – *Eduardo Casas*.
- Validation of molecular markers: the industry's perspective – *Brent Woodward, Merial Limited*.
- An overview of the bovine HapMap project - *Curt Van Tassell, ARS-USDA, USA*.
- The bovine gene atlas - *Tad Sonstegard, ARS-USDA, USA*.
- Genomics approaches to genetic disorders in France : Identification of a doublet mutation responsible for Syndactyly in Holstein cattle and primary localization of an Hypoplasia syndrome in Montbeliard cattle - *André Eggen, INRA, France*.
- Allelic variation in gene expression is correlated with phenotypic variation - *Hasan Khatib, University of Wisconsin, USA*.

During the business meeting the Chair of the workshop informed the audience there would be no election of committee members. According to workshop regulations, elections will be held every four years. Given that elections were held in Tokyo, Japan, in 2004, new members of the committee will be balloted during the meeting in 2008 in The Netherlands. The Chair asked the audience to think on possible candidates to be balloted on in 2008. It is scheduled that two committee members will be replaced. The current Cattle/Sheep/Goat Gene Mapping Workshop Committee is composed of:

Dr. Eduardo Casas (Chair, USA),

Dr. Noelle Cockett (USA),

Dr. Andre Eggen (France),  
Dr. Christa Kühn (Germany),  
Dr. Harris Lewin (USA),  
Dr. Jill Maddox (Australia),  
Dr. Sheila Schmutz (Canada),  
Dr. Toshio Watanabe (Japan).

During the business meeting the Chair asked the audience to think about the possibility of changing the name of the workshop. There were several comments to this topic. One was to leave the workshop's name as such. The topic was tabled until 2008.

The Chair informed the audience that it will be his responsibility to request the local organizing committee of future Conferences on Animal Genetics that the workshop is scheduled before the ISAG business meeting. The reason is that if there is any topic from the workshop that needs to be balloted at the ISAG general business meeting, it would be possible to do it in the same meeting. In this occasion, the workshop was held after the ISAG business meeting. However, there were no topics that needed to be taken to the General ISAG business meeting.