

Growing The Plant Genome in 2013

THIS LAST 2012 ISSUE of *The Plant Genome* completes our fifth volume. As I described in my previous editorial that was supplemented with an update from Elizabeth (Liz) Gebhardt, Managing Editor, the evolution of *The Plant Genome* over these five years and efforts on several fronts to build and grow our journal are driven by the hard work and support of many including Liz and the CSSA headquarters staff, the CSSA board, Editor-in-Chiefs Craig Roberts and Charlie Brummer, and our excellent world-class Editors. We thank all involved for their above and beyond efforts and are excited to report that specific initiatives are showing promise.

First and foremost, we recently received the great news that *The Plant Genome* was selected for indexing this year in several Thomson Reuters products, including the Journal Citation Reports (JCR). The next step will be the determination of an impact factor, which is expected sometime in 2013. Based on internal tracking, we believe the impact factor will be quite competitive with similar journals because the quality of our articles is high. The acquisition of an impact factor for *The Plant Genome* should encourage a broader range of authors to submit their articles, thus increasing article count and fueling journal growth. The Editorial Board acknowledges that achieving citation indexing and an impact factor are required to sustain and increase journal growth and are excited by the prospect of having moved *The Plant Genome* into this next phase of its development.

The Plant Genome is currently listed in ISSN, the USDA National Agricultural Library, Google Scholar, Chemical Abstracts Service, and CAB Abstracts. Applications are

pending for Cambridge Scientific Abstracts, SCOPUS, EBSCO, and Web of Science. Based on feedback from the National Library of Medicine (NLM), it was decided to withdraw the MEDLINE application for *The Plant Genome* with the plan to resubmit once CSSA improves researcher/author ethical statements and policies to conform to NLM standards. Nevertheless, we feel that good progress was achieved in indexing *The Plant Genome* over the past year and we'll continue to keep you posted on the remaining pending applications.

Looking ahead to our sixth volume in 2013, we can expect two feature issues. Scott Jackson and Todd Michael are putting together an issue entitled Next Gen Sequencing: Advances and Applications to Crop Improvement. The papers received to date are fantastic. We hope to publish this issue early next year. The second feature issue on legume genomics, which is planned for mid-year, will be edited by Rajeev Varshney, Henry Nguyen, and others to be identified. Both of these issues will draw major attention to *The Plant Genome* and garner great interest and citations.

While great progress has been achieved for *The Plant Genome* in 2012 that bodes well for the future of the journal, we still need your help:

We will be sending out frequent communications to increase awareness of *The Plant Genome* and to seek submissions. Share these with colleagues. We will be setting up Table of Contents Alerts--sign up and share them with colleagues. We are receptive to all ideas for increasing the scope and content of the journal and we'd appreciate hearing your ideas. Please consider submitting an article to *The Plant Genome* to help us further our journal growth.

2013 promises to be a great year for *The Plant Genome*. Of course, we look forward to receiving an impact factor for the journal, but I am also confident that the introduction of feature issues with leading-edge research will not only serve our readership, but generate more buzz around *The Plant Genome* and increase its impact.

Sincerely,

Dave Somers, Editor

Published in *The Plant Genome* 5:iii.
doi: 10.3835/plantgenome2012.06.0002ed
© Crop Science Society of America
5585 Guilford Rd., Madison, WI 53711 USA
An open-access publication

All rights reserved. No part of this periodical may be reproduced or transmitted in any form or by any means, electronic or mechanical, including photocopying, recording, or any information storage and retrieval system, without permission in writing from the publisher. Permission for printing and for reprinting the material contained herein has been obtained by the publisher.