

The ***maize gene review*** – a new on-line journal promotes community curation of phenotypes.

The first formal phenotype summaries for maize can be found in early editions of the Maize Genetics Cooperation Newsletter (MNL). Prior to on-line databases, the MNL served to systematize available mutant stocks, genetic maps, and addresses for maize geneticists. In fact, the first phenotypic data entered into MaizeGDB, in 1991, was from the MNL stock center report. To support renewed, community submission of similar data, the MNL has initiated a new on-line journal, called the 'maize gene review' (MGR, www.maizegenereview.org). It represents an extension of the Mutants of Maize (1997), eds MG Neuffer, EH Coe, SR Wessler, where text summaries of individual mutants were provided by experts in the field, often along with photographs. These were subsequently incorporated into text descriptions and image files at MaizeGDB, with authors credited. In the on-line journal MGR, each gene has a page, and an author(s), responsible for supplying a minimal set of information, and updating as new information becomes available. Reviewers familiar with the types of mutants described are requested to provide criticism and updates, which are forwarded to the contributing author, as suggestions on updating their page(s). Reciprocal links are provided to the MaizeGDB for genome and map information and the short summary of each mutant is added to the MaizeGDB locus record. This journal adds to the current community curation tools at MaizeGDB for community curation and has had an excellent response.

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