Daffodil DNA Project 24 September 2024

Jon Hale Beaulieu Convent School & University of Dundee



Overview

- Background of the project
- Scaling-up
- Key attributes of stakeholders
- Challenges going forward
- Questions

Join at slido.com #3383789

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slido What does a daffodil look like?





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2018 2019 2020 2021 2022 2023 2024



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Why daffodils?







¹https://powo.science.kew.org/taxon/urn:lsid:ipni.org:names:66177-1

² https://www.ocr.org.uk/blog/developing-a-connected-approach-to-a-level-biology-a-through-thedaffodil-dna-project/

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Advanced Level

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2021 2022 2023 2018 2019 2020 2024





Project: PRJEB57832

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Developed from a Royal Society Partnership Grant project in 2019, led by teacher Jon Hale on the Island of Jersey, this new collaborative schoolbased research project is brought together by The University of Dundee Education and Social Work, The University of Dundee Botanic Garden, The University of Dundee School of Life Sciences, The Royal Society, The James Hutton Institute, schools across Scotland supported by Jon Hale and using living collections from the National Trust for Scotland Brodie Castle and Croft 16. The 9 schools involved in this project worked in parallel to obtain genetic data on a very understudied, yet valuable genus. The students are working with STEM professionals and academics to grow various daffodis varieties, extracting DNA from their leaves and using Oxford Nanopore Minlon DNA sequencing in the classroom before assembling the chloroplast's genome. An automated assembly and annotation process was subsequently carried out by the University of Dundee Data Analysis Group

View: XML XML (STUDY) 🛓 Download: XML XML (STUDY) ≓ Navigation: Show Read Files: Related ENA Records: Show

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Secondary Study Accession: ERP142837 Study Title: Sequencing chloroplastic DNA from heritage Daffodil cultivars in Scottish schools. Center Name: University of Dundee Data Analysis Group Study Name: The Daffodil DNA Project 2022 The Royal Society; The Friends of the University of Dundee Botanic Gardens; Wellcome Trust: Funding Agency: 218259Z/19... Show More ENA-FIRST-PUBLIC: 2022-12-11

ENA-LAST-UPDATE: 2022-12-11

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Heredity (2020) 125:431-436 https://doi.org/10.1038/s41437-020-00370-0

PERSPECTIVE

Engaging the next generation of plant geneticists through sustained research: an overview of a post-16 project

Jon Michael Hale

Received: 19 January 2020 / Revised: 8 September 2020 / Accepted: 8 September 2020 / Published online: 17 September 2020 © The Genetics Society 2020

> Received: 2 January 2024 Revised: 12 May 2024 Accepted: 17 May 2024 DOI: 10.1002/ppp3.10550

Check for updates

BRIEF REPORT

geneticssociety

Plants People Planet PPP

The Jersey Daffodil Project: Integrating nanopore sequencing into classrooms improves STEM skills, scientific identity and career development

Jon Hale¹ | Alex Harkess² Kálmán Könyves³ 💿

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School of Life Sciences University of Dundee





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stthomasSTEM @stthomasSTEM

The St Thomas @DaffDNA Team are very proud to be presenting their research alongside the UK's top scientists at #SummerScience this Wednesday and Friday! @malcolmacaulay @JoCoxSTEM @royalsociety #partnershipgrants



3:38 PM · Jul 6, 2022



17 Education in Science - February 2023

#2: Sequencing by young(er) Scientists

What's in My Sandwich by Sophie Zaajier, #DaffDNA by Jon Hale, Pet Angelfish genome by Indeever Madireddy

ry (2020) 125-401-406

in Michael Hale 👩





Engaging the next generation of plant geneticists through sustained

The James

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research: an overview of a post-16 project



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Nanopore Community Meeting 2022 | @NanoporeConf | #NanoporeConf

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• 17 new schools joining the current 10.



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Curriculum links

- Photosynthesis
- Genetic technologies
- Variation
- Selective breeding
- Cell ultrastructure
- Plant defences
- Reproduction





Bioinformatics and computational biology



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Key Attributes of Teachers

- 1. Identified a gap in their subject knowledge
- Want to provide opportunities to their students
 Wanted to do something different
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Teacher Training and Support



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STEM Partners

- Act as supporters, there to help teachers problem solve and develop skills.
- A contact for students to ask career questions to.

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Radar plot to show changes in attitudes towards STEM prior to commencing the Daffodil DNA Project (n=69) and following the project (n=23)

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Overview of all responses (attitudes)

■ Strongly Disagree ■ Disagree ■ Agree ■ Strongly Agree

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60%

80%

100%

Series1 Series2 Series3 Series4

DAFFODIL DNA PROJECT The James Hutton Institute

What "soft skills" would you like to see your students develop?

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Impact on student aspirations

"I didn't know what I wanted to do at the start of my A levels and I was leaning towards becoming a History teacher, now I want to be a Biochemist."

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Challenges

- Costs of hardware
- Recruitment of STEM partners
- Personnel changes at the University of Dundee

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Follow the project

Websites: <u>https://dag.compbio.dundee.ac.uk/daffodils/</u> <u>https://sites.dundee.ac.uk/dundee-daffodil/</u>

Twitter/X: @DaffDNA

Email:

eaulieu

Convent School Jerse

2466338@dundee.ac.uk

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- https://www.rsb.org.uk/biologist-features/decoding-the-diversity-ofdaffs
- <u>https://www.minipcr.com/meet-a-scientist-jon-hale/</u>
- <u>https://www.ocr.org.uk/blog/developing-a-connected-approach-to-a-level-biology-a-through-the-daffodil-dna-project/</u>
- https://www.nature.com/articles/s41437-020-00370-0

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Schools

Number 5C011808

GRAMPIAN

Growers Limited

STEM partners

The James Hutton Institute

Additional support

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Methods

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School of Life Sciences University of Dundee

The James Hutton Institute

Origin Story

BC5CIC 4904032000 404030 5403 8866 56 4040100 50 2020 1041356 (D) 8354 (C) 82356

Royal Society Partnership Grants

- Up to £3 000 to fund equipment (and some travel where necessary).
- Consists of 2 stages:
 - 1 eligibility and suitability checks
 - 2 the details which are then judged by a panel.

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