



**a structuring node in the  
French plant genetic resource  
conservation system**

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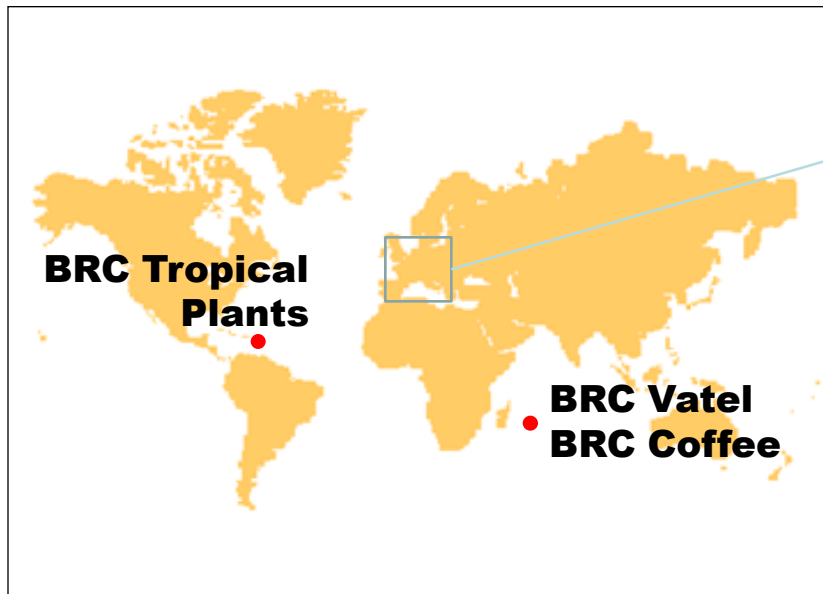
# ARCAD

- A node within a decentralized system
- Building on historical assets
- Facilities, research, training
- Scientific focus
- Some ongoing activities

# The French plant genetic resource conservation system

- No national genebank = Decentralized system
- Temperate and Mediterranean species:
  - A specific conservation network for each of the main species (maize, wheat, grapevine, etc) which associates public and private partners
- Tropical species
  - Collections mainly built in the 80's
  - Maintained in Montpellier, Indian Ocean and French West Indies
  - Labelled Biological Resource Centers ensure high conservation standards
- Labelled Biological Resource Centers ensure high conservation standards





# Plus and Minus of a decentralized system

- **Plus**

- Resilience
- Various stakeholders involved
- Scientists involved in conservation : links w/ research

- **Minus**

- Lack of coordination (no national information system)
- Lack of visibility in the international environment in front of « big players »
- Not a strong voice in international debates
- New tools



# Agropolis, Montpellier: historical assets

- PGR collections  
grapevine, rice, maize, pearl millet, sorghum, Medicago,  
etc): >100 000 accessions



BRC name	Institute	Collections	Number of accessions	IBISA certified
<b>Coffee Tree</b> (Reunion Island & Montpellier)	IRD	Coffee tree	840	Yes
<b>Tropical Plants</b> (Guadeloupe & Martinique)	Cirad-INRA	Pineapple	500	Yes
		Banana	400	
		Sugarcane	1 200	
		Herbarium	10 000	
		Yam	500	
		Mango	100	
<b>Tropical</b> (Montpellier)	Cirad	Rice	50 000	Yes
		Sorghum	30 000	
<b>VATEL</b> (Reunion Island)	Cirad	Vanilla	700	Yes
		Tropical garlic	40	
		Underutilized vegetables	120	
<b>INRA Network of Crops BRCs</b> (distributed on 10 locations)	INRA	<i>Arabidopsis sp</i>	70 000	Yes
		<i>Medicago truncatula</i>	14 500	
		Corn	5 200	
		Sunflower	5 480	
		Vine	8 250	
		Cereals	31 200	
		Vegetables	14 200	
		Grain legumes	15 900	
		<i>Brassica sp</i> & rape	1 830	
		Potato	10 500	
		<i>Malus</i> & <i>Pyrus</i>	7 800	
		<i>Prunus</i>	5 300	
	Forages	3 500		
INRA & CIRAD	<i>Citrus</i>	1 020		



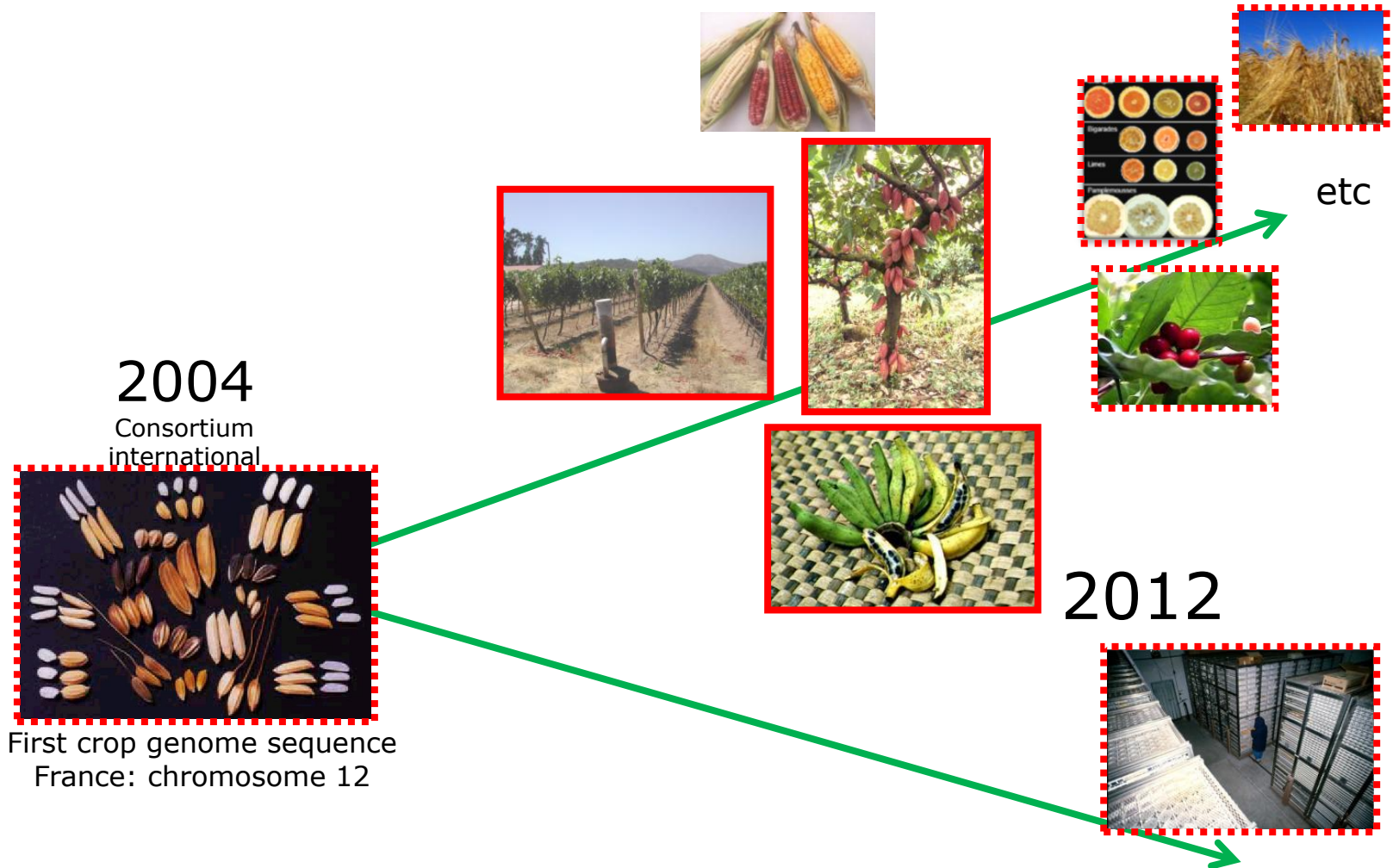
# Agropolis: historical assets

- PGR collections  
(grapevine, rice, maize, pearl millet, sorghum, Medicago, etc)  
>100 000 accessions
- Expertise in genetics, genomics and evolutionary biology





# Agropolis, Montpellier: historical assets



Genome analysis  
key to access to genetic diversity





agropolis fondation

***Facilities***

***Scientific programme***

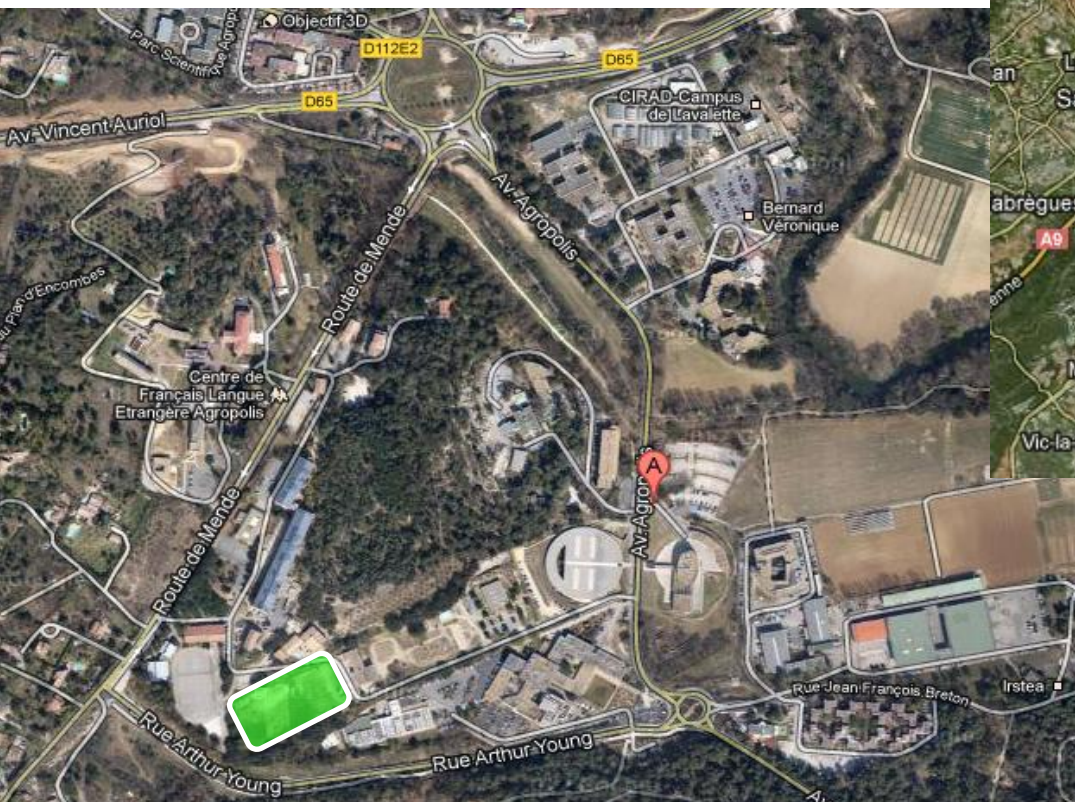
**ARCAD : a multi institutional initiative  
on agrobiodiversity**



# Objective

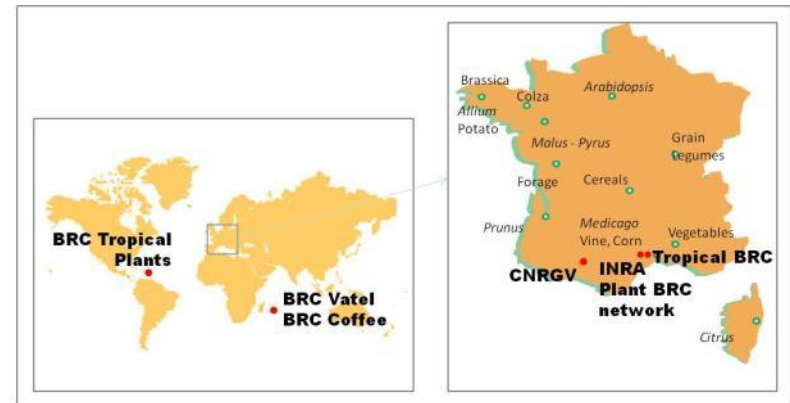
2100m<sup>2</sup> 50 scientists M€ 10

Conservation + DNA Technologies  
Research + Training



# Bring Together

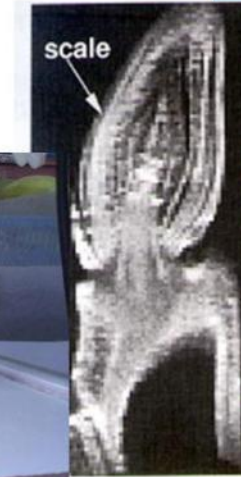
- Germplasm collections
- Technologies
  - Genomics
  - Bioinformatics
- Information systems
- Scientists and disciplines
  - Biological sciences
  - Social sciences



# Innovate

- Optimising conservation

- Grain seeds
- Cryopreservation
- DNA
- Duplications (France, South)



- Automation

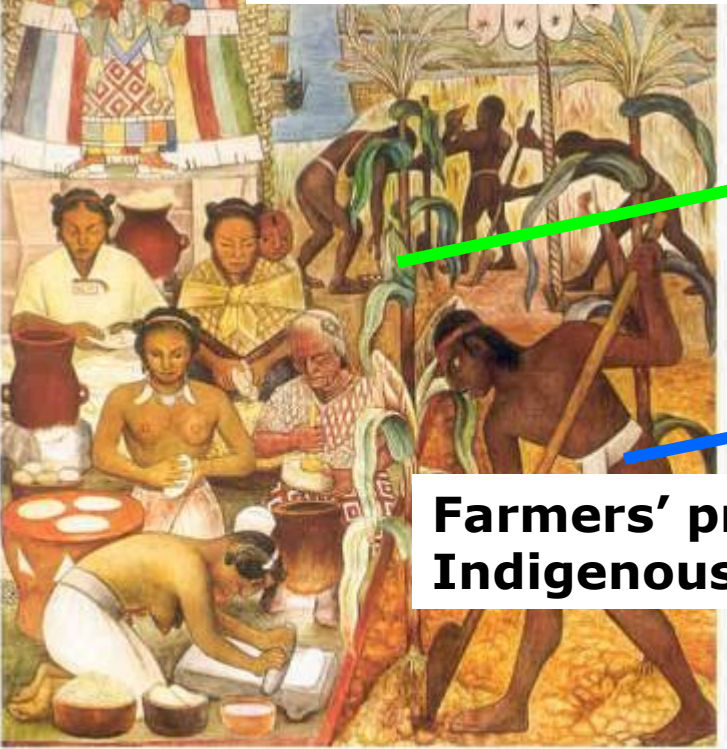
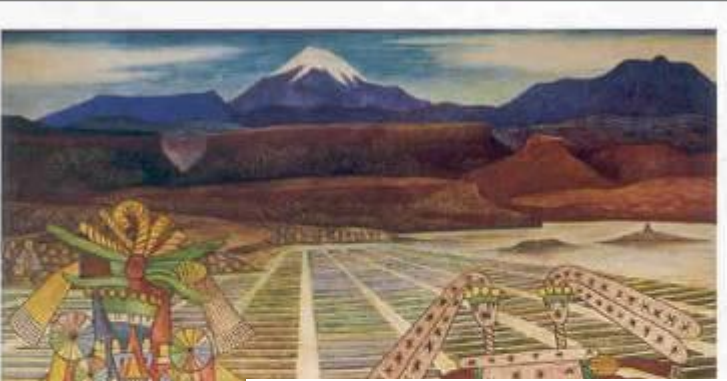
- Methods for diversity analysis

- HTTP genomics, fine scale diversity analysis

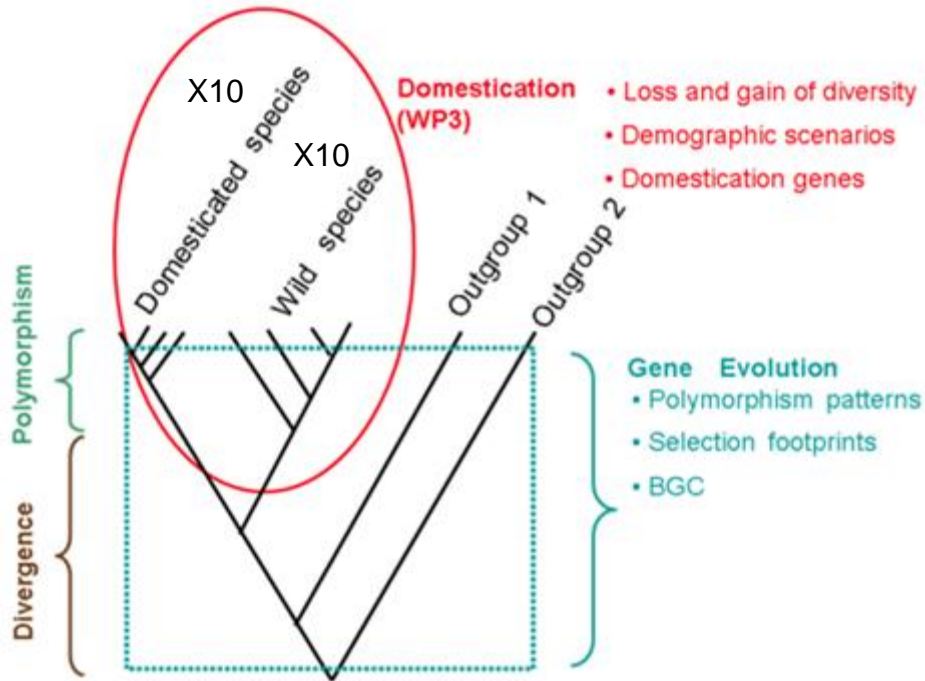
- **Crop domestication : the start of a never-ending story**

**Genetic content and structure of crop species**

**Farmers' practices  
Indigenous and non-indigenous knowledge**



# Comparative population genomics of crops and their wild relatives



→ Transcriptome sequencing

- Evolution of genetic diversity
  - Loss and recovery
  - Domestication scenarios
- Selection during domestication
  - Domestication genes
  - Cost of domestication
- Comparative approaches
  - Effects of life history traits
  - Convergent evolution
- Comparative evolution of gene families



# Species and data acquisition

Banana	Monocot	Perennial	Outcrossing
Palm tree	Monocot	Perennial	Outcrossing
Yam*	Monocot	Annual	Out/clonal
Einkorn	Monocot	Annual	Selfing
Pearl millet	Monocot	Annual	Outcrossing
African rice	Monocot	Annual	Selfing
Sorghum	Monocot	Annual	Selfing
Fonio millet*	Monocot	Annual	Selfing
Cocoa	Dicot	Perennial	Outcrossing
Coffee	Dicot	Perennial	Outcrossing
Coton*	Dicot	Perennial	Selfing
Olive tree*	Dicot	Perennial	Outcrossing
Alfalfa	Dicot	Perennial	Outcrossing
Grappe vine	Dicot	Perennial	Outcrossing
Tomato	Dicot	Annual	Selfing

\* Additional species  
Sequencing running





# African rice domestication

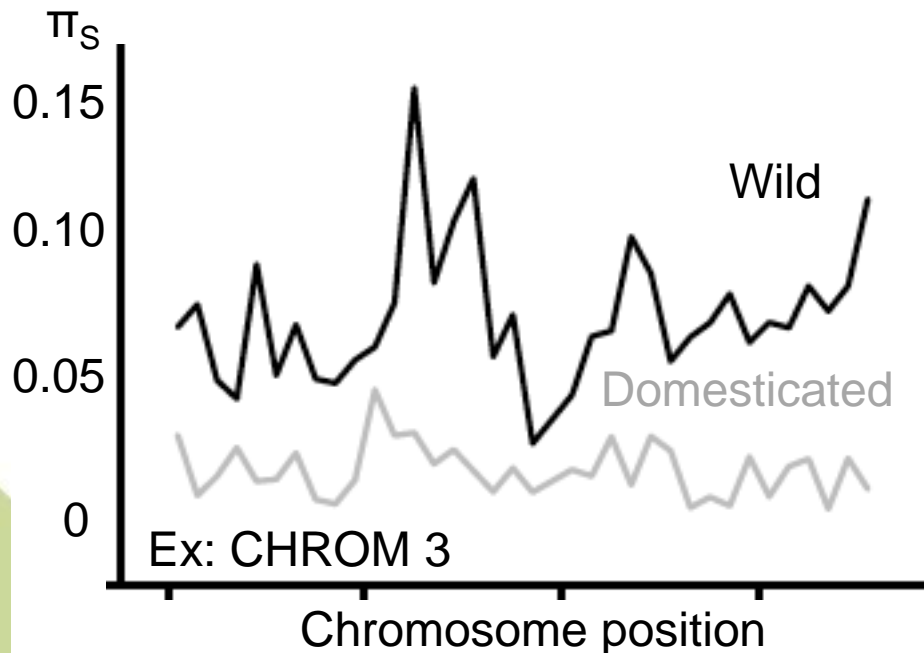
> 12000 genes

> 12Mb

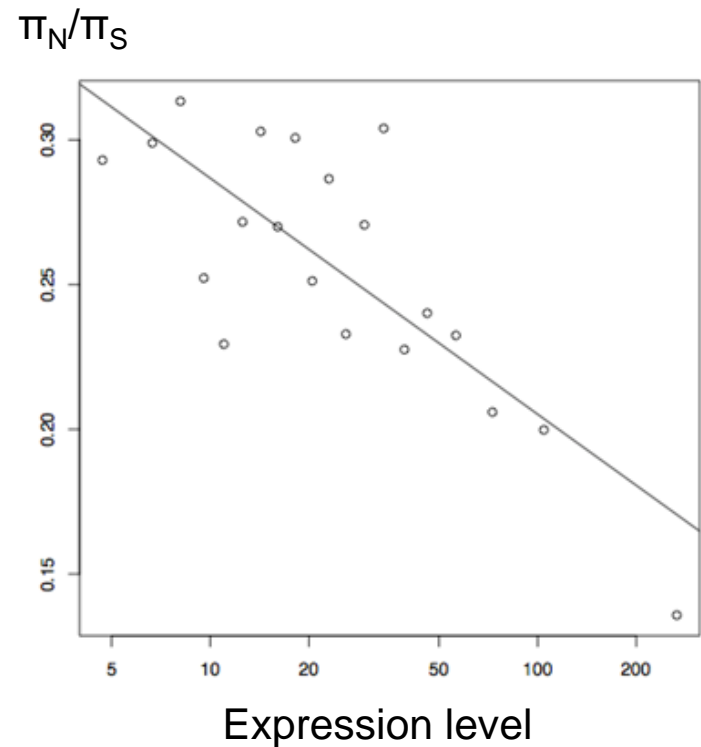
> 24000 SNPs

## Global polymorphism patterns

→ Massive loss of diversity



→ Highly expressed genes are more constrained

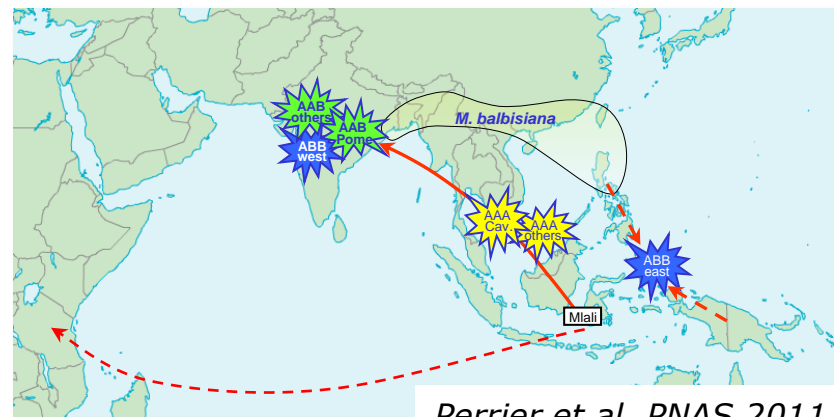
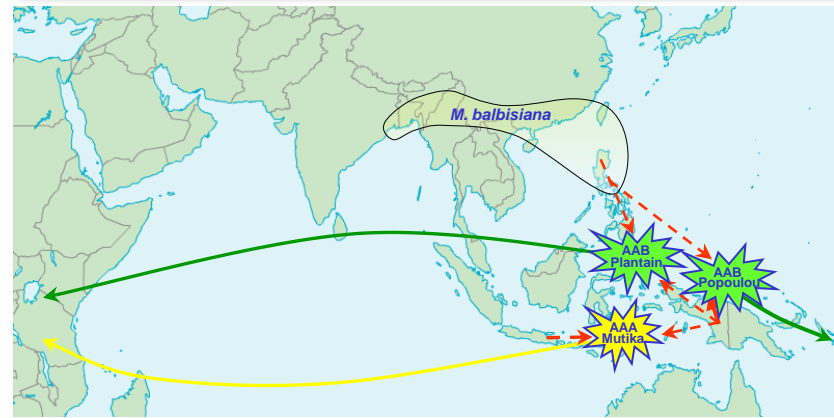
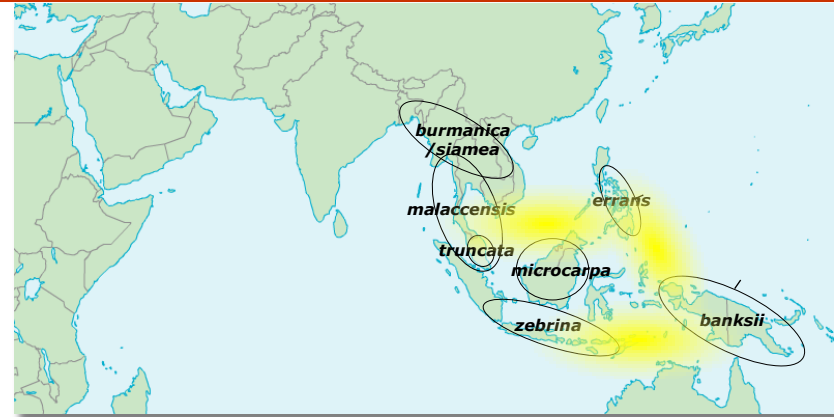


# Radiation of wild Musa/Domestication

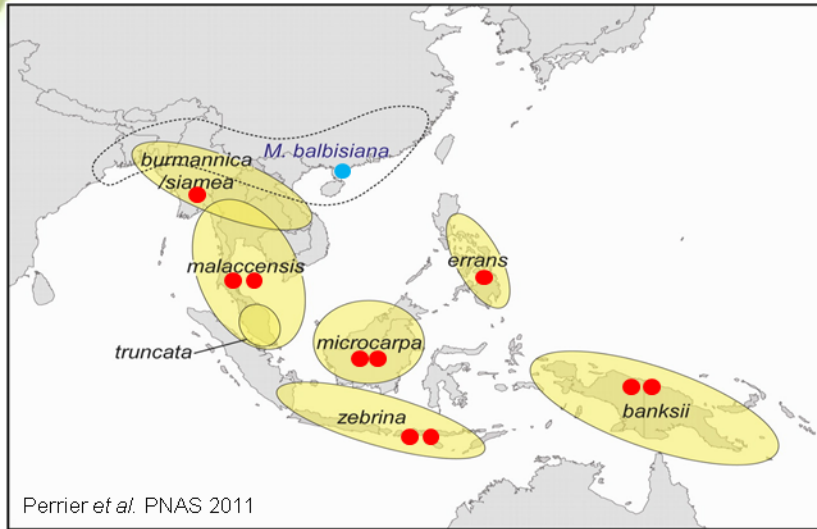


## Domestication involved:

- **hybridization** between species and subspecies made possible by **human migration**
- selection of **diploid and triploid, seedless, parthenocarpic hybrids** by early farmers



# Musa diversity and evolution



## ✓ Transcriptome sequencing (RNASeq)

- 10 wild *Musa acuminata* diploids
- 10 cultivated *Musa acuminata* diploids
- *Musa balbisiana*, *Musa beccarii* (outgroups)



Collection Guadeloupe and CARBAP Cameroun

✓ SNPs from coding sequences

>15 000 genes



- Level of gene sequence diversity within and between wild and cultivated *Musa* diploids?
- Origin and architecture of the genome of cultivated hybrids



# Crop adaptation to climate change

***Studying genetic and evolutionary processes of adaptation  
→ a focus on phenological responses***



## Spatial gradients:

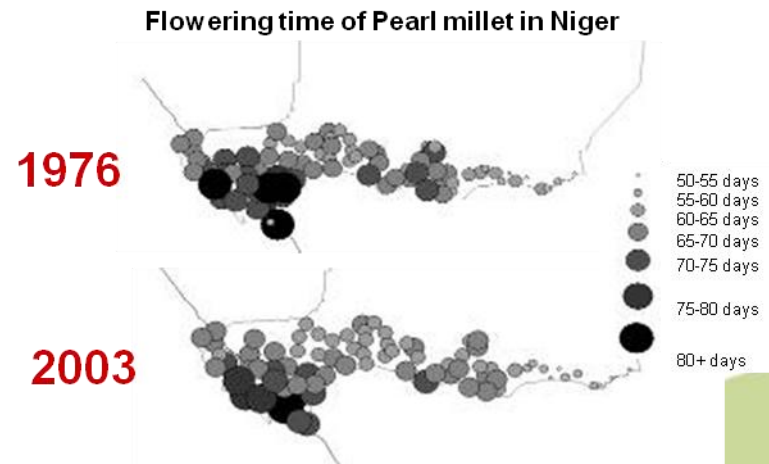
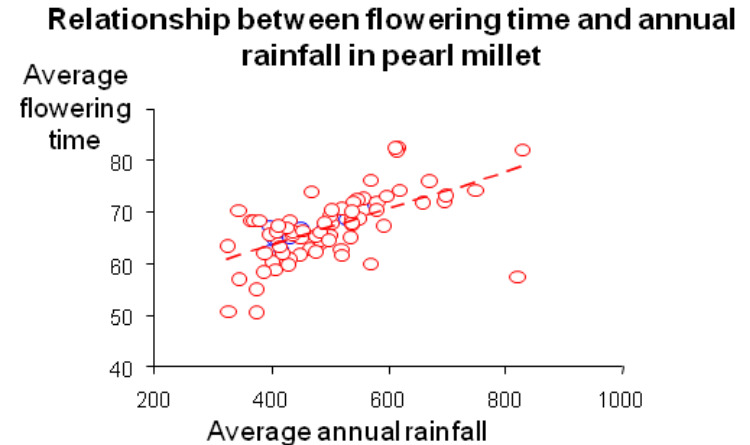
populations/varieties collected along climatic gradients.

- ***M. truncatula*** : Latitudinal variation around the Mediterranean basin
- **rice** : altitudinal variation (Madagascar)
- **pearl millet and sorghum** : latitudinal gradient in West Africa.

## Temporal gradients :

comparing current populations/varieties and populations collected 20-30 years ago on the same site/village

- ***M. truncatula***
- **pearl millet**
- **rice**



# Searching for selective sweeps throughout spatial gradients

## Searching for selective sweeps

- comparison of patterns of diversity for the whole genome
- differentiation between demographic factors affecting polymorphism at the genome scale and effect of selection on candidates

Riz (*Oryza sp*)



Autogamous

Traditionnall cultivation

*Medicago truncatula*

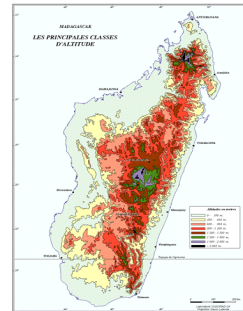
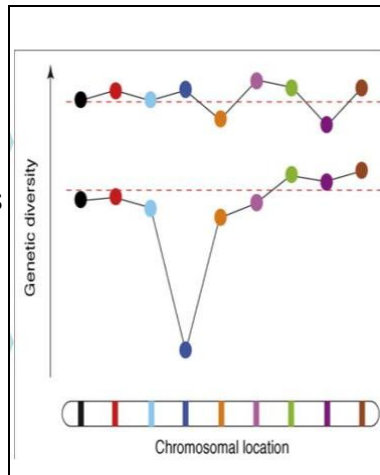


Autogamous

Natural populations

Whole genome

Candidates



Madagascar  
Altitudinal variation



Mediterranean region  
Latitudinal variation  
(1000 genomes)



# « ecological genomics »: establishing relationships between environmental and genetic variations

*... due to their sensitivity, up-to-date studies might be more sensitive to undocumented demographic effects such as the pattern of migration and the reproduction regime.*

*In this study, we provide guidelines for the use of popular or recently developed statistical methods to detect footprints of selection.*

*We simulated 100 populations along a selective gradient and explored different migration models, sampling schemes and rates of self-fertilization. ...*

*De Mitta et al, Mol Ecol 2013*

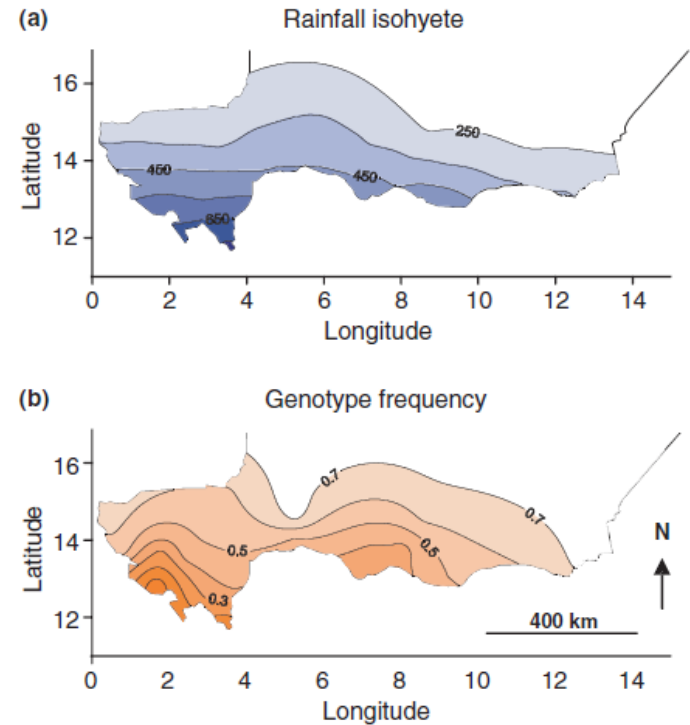


Fig. 5 Rainfall and *PgMADS11* allele frequency. Annual rainfall (in mm) was estimated based on average pluviometric data from 1976 to 2003. Genotype isofrequencies for the *PgMADS11* (M9LCDA2 marker) were calculated using SURFER V7.02. The genotype frequency in populations ranged from <4% to 75% and covaried with rainfall.

*Mariac et al, Mol Ecol 2010*



# Temporal gradients: pearl millet in Niger (1976-2003)

1976 germplasm collection



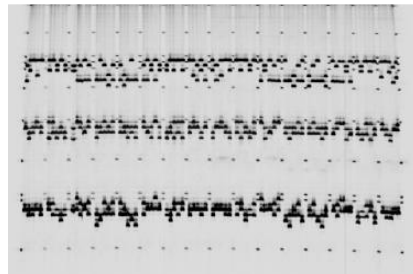
2003 Samples



Information  
on varieties

Conservation at 4°C  
for 27 years

DNA marker  
analysis



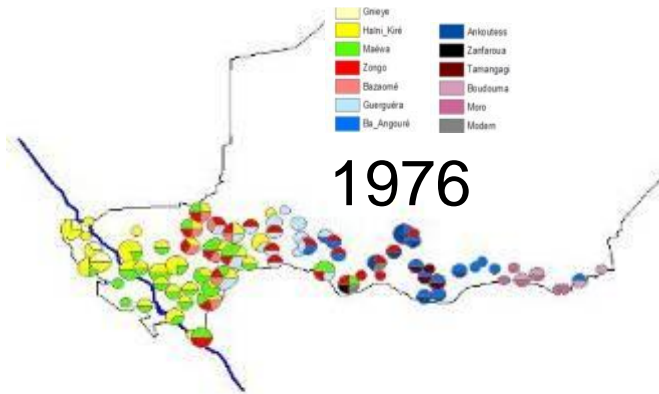
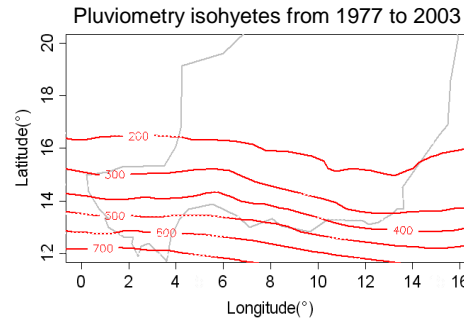
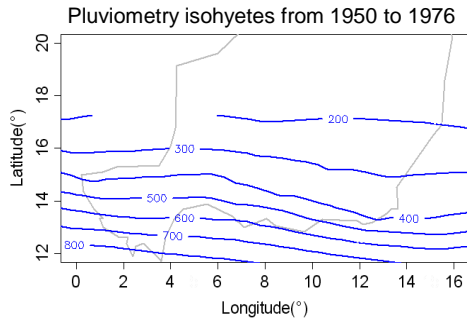
Morphological  
and  
phenological  
analysis





# Temporal gradients: pearl millet in Niger (1976-2003)

Rapid changes in phenology of pearl millet landraces in Niger

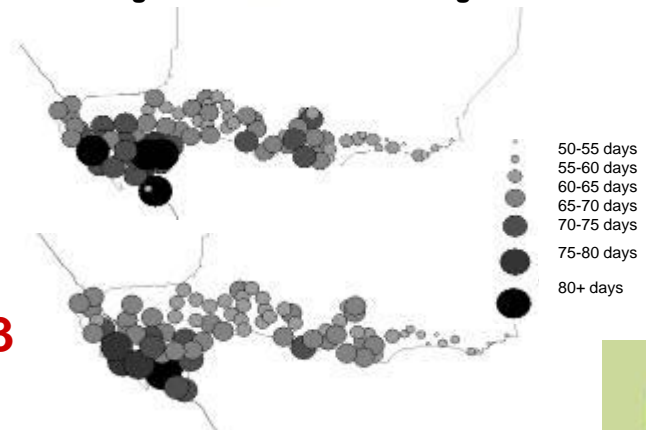


cycle duration →

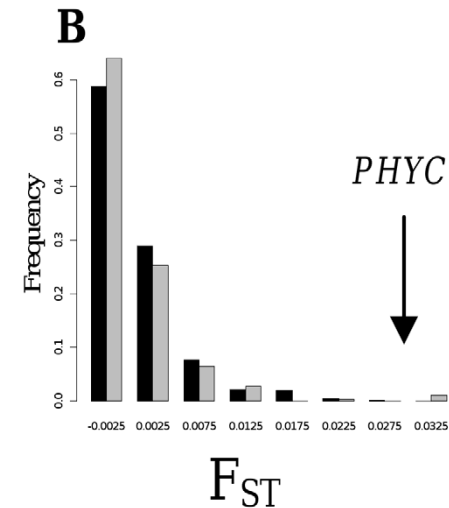
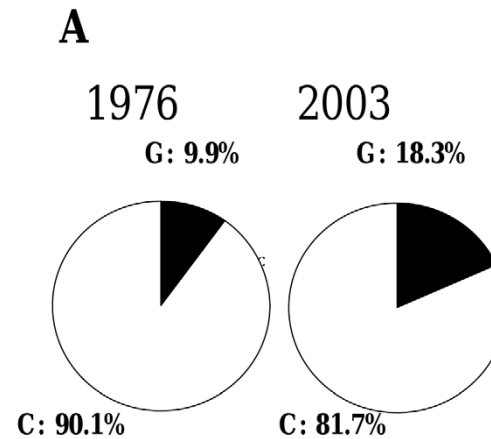
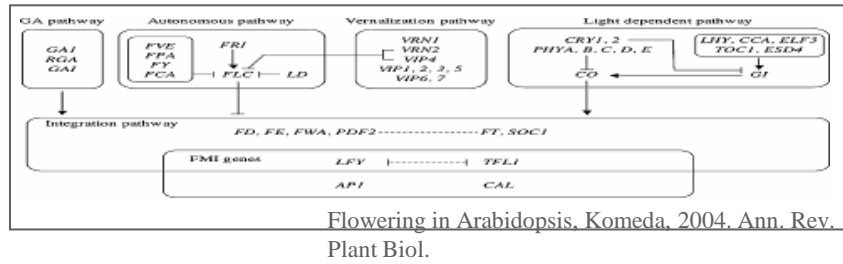
Flowering time of Pearl millet in Niger

1976

2003



# Temporal gradients: pearl millet in Niger (1976-2003)



1976- 2003 :

Increase in the frequency of the early-flowering allele of the *PhyC* gene

OPEN ACCESS Freely available online

PLoS one

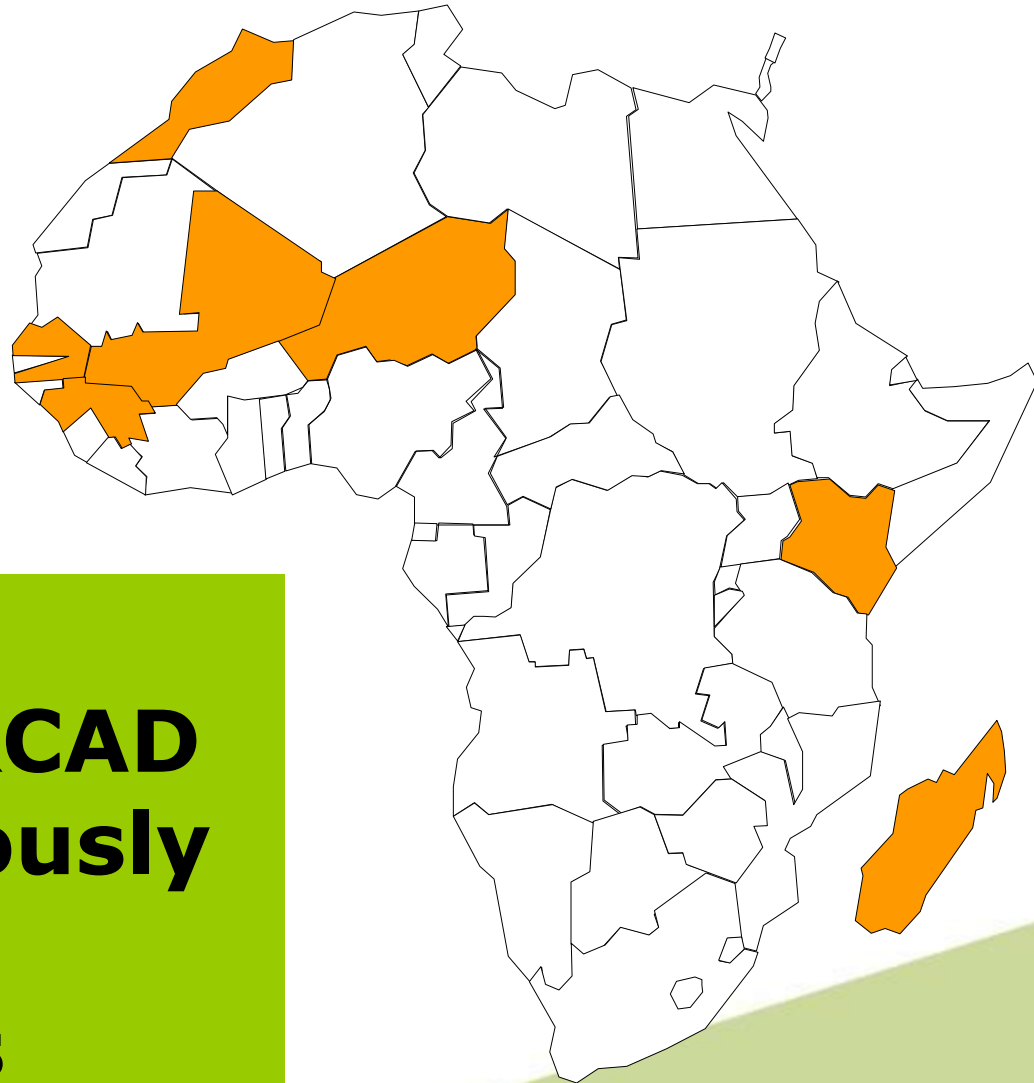
2011

## Selection for Earlier Flowering Crop Associated with Climatic Variations in the Sahel

Yves Vigouroux<sup>1,2\*</sup>, Cédric Mariac<sup>1,2</sup>, Stéphane De Mita<sup>1</sup>, Jean-Louis Pham<sup>1</sup>, Bruno Gérard<sup>3</sup>, Issoufou Kapran<sup>4</sup>, Fabrice Sagnard<sup>5</sup>, Monique Deu<sup>5</sup>, Jacques Chantreau<sup>5</sup>, Abdou Ali<sup>6</sup>, Jupiter Ndjeunga<sup>3</sup>, Viviane Luong<sup>1</sup>, Anne-Céline Thuillet<sup>1</sup>, Abdoul-Aziz Saïdou<sup>1,2,7</sup>, Gilles Bezançon<sup>2</sup>

1 Institut de Recherche pour le Développement, Montpellier, France, 2 Institut de Recherche pour le Développement, Niamey, Niger, 3 International Center of Research for the Semi-Arid Tropics, Niamey, Niger, 4 Institut National de la Recherche Agronomique du Niger, Niamey, Niger, 5 Centre de Coopération Internationale en Recherche Agronomique pour le Développement, Montpellier, France, 6 Centre Régional AGHYMET, Niamey, Niger, 7 Université Abdou Moumouni, Niamey, Niger

## ARCAD : study countries (2013)



**As an open platform, ARCAD will continuously seek new partnerships**





Thank you

 **arcad**