



April 2005



## BioResource now! No.4 is here

- News from the Resource Center No. 4
- Resource Feature (Lotus) No.3
  - Visiting the Faculty of Agriculture, Univ. of Miyazaki
  - Info on currently available resources
- Ongoing column vol.4
  - Access Log File Analysis Tool (2)



## Resource Feature (Lotus japonicus) No. 3

### Visiting the Faculty of Agriculture, Univ. of Miyazaki



We visited the agriculture faculty in University of Miyazaki which is the resource center for National BioResource Project – Legume. Although the objective of our visit was to discuss the construction of a database for Legume resources, it was also a great opportunity for us to look at their excellent facilities for cultivating, preserving and distributing Lotus japonicus resources.

March 28 was a really nice day and it was also the first day that cherry blossoms came into bloom in Miyagi prefecture. The university is located south of Miyazaki Airport in the Kibana area, a 15 min drive along the Miyazaki Minami Bypass with beautiful phoenix trees on both sides of the road.

Greenhouses for cultivation and research purposes are situated in the Kibana field of the Kibana Agricultural Science Station which covers over 23 ha of land. They are equipped with glass houses (photo 1 and 3) and isolated cultivation rooms (photo 2). The DNA resources preservation room (photo 4) and the seed selection and preservation room (photo 5) are also facilitated with ample space.

Both Lotus japonicus and Glycine max are model plants for Legumes. Beans are very important as a source of vegetative-protein in Japan. Recently more and more researchers have started using Lotus japonicus as a research resource because of its relatively short life cycle and its small genome size. The legume plant is used for basic science because (1) Legume is the third biggest family in Magnoliophyta, (2) they have a variety of storage proteins, and (3) they have distinctive characteristics such as symbiosis with leguminous bacteria and mycorrhizal fungi and nitrogen fixation. Among the 24 different organisms maintained by the National BioResource Project, "Legume" is anticipated to be one of the model research resources that supports both fundamental science and applied researches.

Download the PDF version of this newsletter at <http://www.shigen.nig.ac.jp/shigen/news/news.jsp>



## News from the Resource Center No. 4

We have started a new web site called "New Resources Information Site", where updates on latest bioreseraches will be provided timely. Hot items posted within the past month are indicated with three stars, items within the past 2 months with two stars and items within the past 3 months are indicated with a star. This site not only contains information on new repositories but also information on new services and sites related to bioresources.

### New Resources Information Site

- : ★★★ Items posted within the past month
- ★★★ Items posted within the past 2 months
- ★★★ Items posted within the past 3 months
- { } : Number of new resources



Photo 1: Exterior of a glass house



Photo 2: Isolated cultivation room in a glass house



Photo 3: Interior of a glass house



Photo 4: DNA preservation room



Photo 5: Seed selection and preservation room



Prof. Akashi and Lotus

New Resources Information Site  
<http://www.shigen.nig.ac.jp/shigen/newresources/>

Users can search for Legume resources and request for them through the online LegumeBase website, which is a portal site for both the LegumeBase - Lotus japonicus and the LegumeBase - Glycine max

## Info on Currently Available Resources



### Lotus japonicus :

Type of resource	No. of strains
Wild accessions (MG)	108
Experimental strains (B-129, MG-20)	2
LjMG recombinant inbred lines (RILs)	205
Root culture system (SR)	1
Resources to be released soon	
S Mutant	
Activation Tagging Line	
DNA Resource	
<b>Total</b>	<b>316</b>



### Glycine max :

Type of resource	No. of strains
Landrace & Cultivar	85
Wild species	520
RILs	100
Isogenic line	18
Resources to be released soon	
Intermediate type	
Related wild species	
Mutant lines	
<b>Total</b>	<b>723</b>

**Legume Base** (Public site for Lotus/Glycine resource)  
<http://www.shigen.nig.ac.jp/legume/legumebase/>

**LegumeBase-Lotus japonicus** (Database for Lotus)  
<http://www.shigen.nig.ac.jp/lotusjaponicus/> (test version)

**LegumeBase-Glycine max** (Database for Glycine)  
<http://www.shigen.nig.ac.jp/bean/glycinesoja/>

**NBRP Lotus / Glycine Introduction Page**  
<http://www.nbrp.jp/report/reportProject.jsp?project=beans>

**NBRP Information Site**  
<http://www.nbrp.jp/>



## News Flash !

The Mouse Resource Centers' Roundtable was held on 21-23 April in Rome, Italy. 7 representatives from Japan, consisting of members from CARD, Kumamoto University and Riken BRC attended the event. Further details will be reported in the next issue.

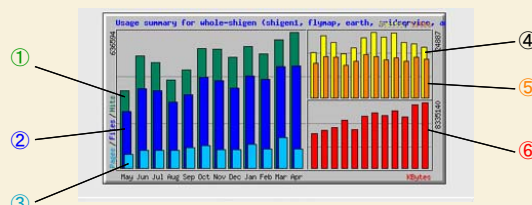


## Information Technology

Vol. 4

### “Access Log File Analysis Tool (2)”

In the previous issue, I talked about “Webalizer”, tool that analyzes access log files and displays the results graphically. In this issue, I will explain the contents of an access analysis graph, a main feature of the “Webalizer”.



The picture above shows an analysis graph for access during the past 12 months.

① Hits	Total access count including errors and access to photos
② Files	Number of normal access included in “Hits”
③ Pages	Number of HTML files accessed in “Hits”
④ Visits	Total of visitors (access from an identical IP address within a period of 30 mins will be excluded)
⑤ Sites	Total of visitors (access from an identical IP address within period of one month will be excluded)
⑥ KBytes	Amount of data transmitted

As you can see, there are many ways that access can be analyzed.

Generally, it is common to assume that the access count is indicated by the number of hits. However access to photos within a webpage or error pages are also counted as a hit. Moreover, visits by robotic search engines such as Google will also cause the hit count to increase excessively. Therefore it is wrong to simply assume that an increase in access count indicates an increase in users. If you want to know the total of users utilizing your website, it is important to view the numbers shown in “Visits” and “Sites”.

In the next issue, I will talk about other analysis graphs.

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 Center for Genetics Resource Information  
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**Editor's notes:** This time around we visited Miyazaki University. Prof. Akashi was kind enough to willingly accept this interview and even introduced Miyazaki's deep food culture to us. All of us who went enjoyed Miyazaki tremendously. Thank you very much to Prof. Akashi and everyone at the research lab.

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