



Date palm (*Phoenix dactylifera* L.) cultivar identification
through Simple Sequence Repeats (SSR's):
A practical molecular approach for next-generation
commercial date palm micropropagation production and
general Palmàprinting (Fingerprinting)



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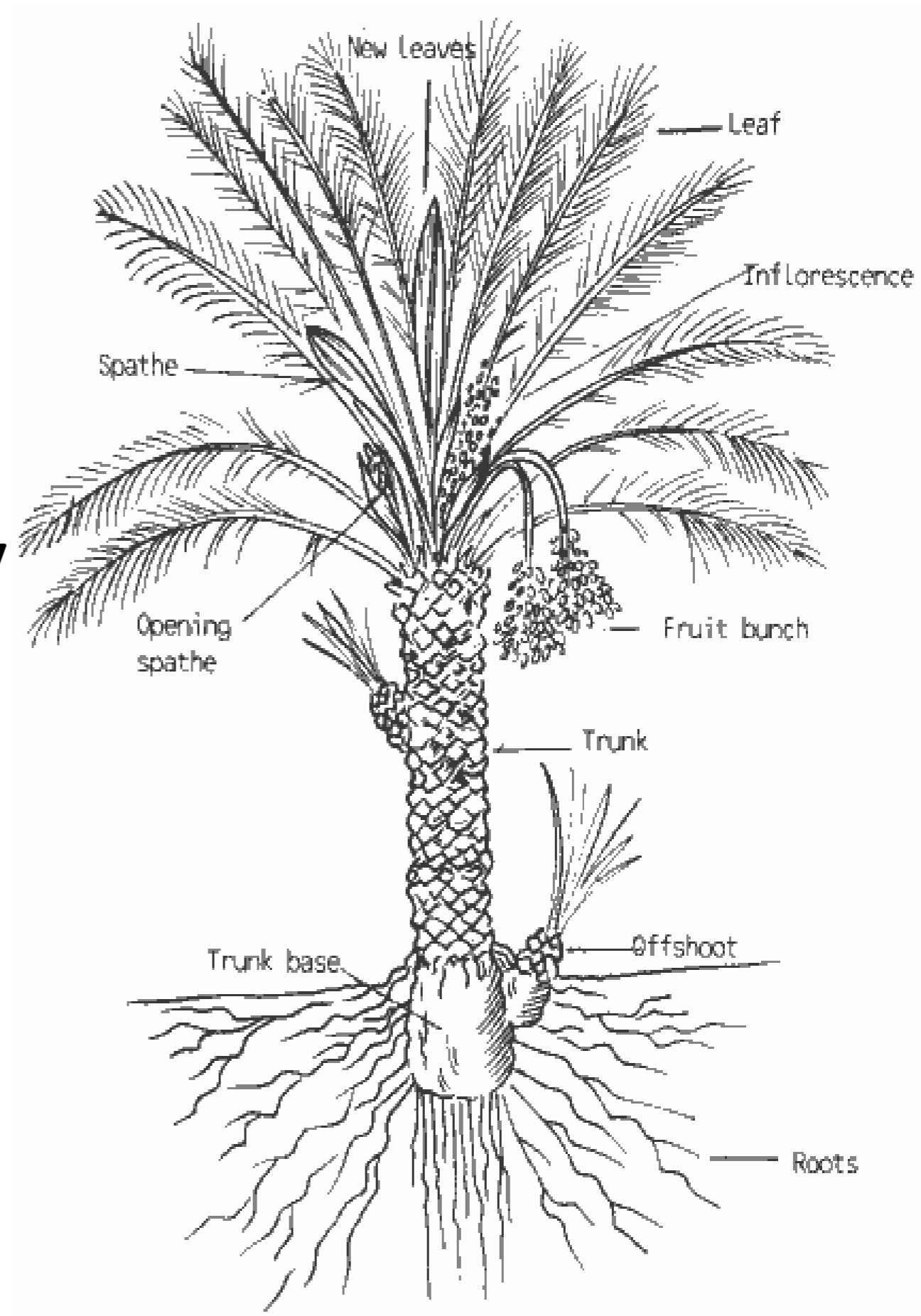


جائزة خليفة الدولية لنخيل التمر والابتكار الزراعي
KHALIFA INTERNATIONAL AWARD FOR DATE PALM
AND AGRICULTURAL INNOVATION

²Marrakech Date Palm Project, MDPP
Marrakech, Morocco



Applied Biotechnology of Date Palm



CONTENTS

I. Introduction

I. *Phoenix dactylifera* L.

II. *Distribution*

II. Rational / Background / Purpose

I. Mixing of genotypes within production and on field / major variation by methods such as Somatic Embryogenesis vs. Organogenesis / true to typeness

II. *Fusarium oxysporum forma specialis albedinis*

III. *Climate Change & need of plant material production*

III. Materials & Methods

I. Selected Cultivars / Locations

II. Multiple Date Palm Accessions

III. Primers

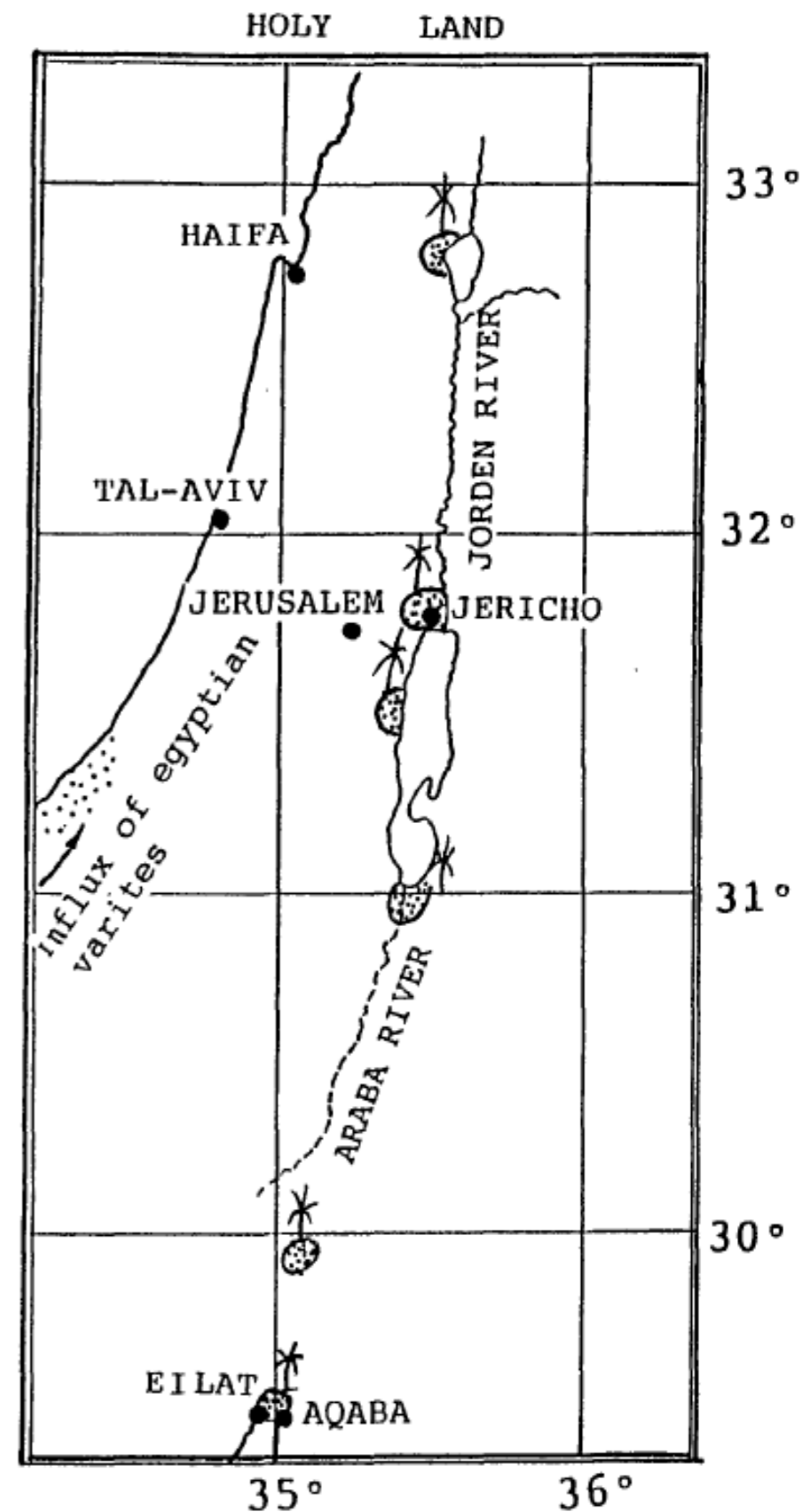
IV. Results

I. Panel of 4 Loci

II. Intra-Varietal Polymorphisms

III. Sympatric Speciation

V. Conclusion



Ancient Sites of Date Palm Oases



(Zohary & Spiegel-Roy 1975; Morton 1987).

Source:
<https://www.dreamstime.com/royalty-free-stock-images-date-palm-phoenix-dactylifera>

Date Palm

Phoenix dactylifera L.

Date Palm

Phoenix dactylifera L.

Dioecious
Perennial monocot

Well known for its edible, sugar / nutrient-rich fruit

(Zohary & Spiegel-Roy 1975; Morton 1987).



Date Palm

Phoenix dactylifera L.

Dioecious

Perennial monocot

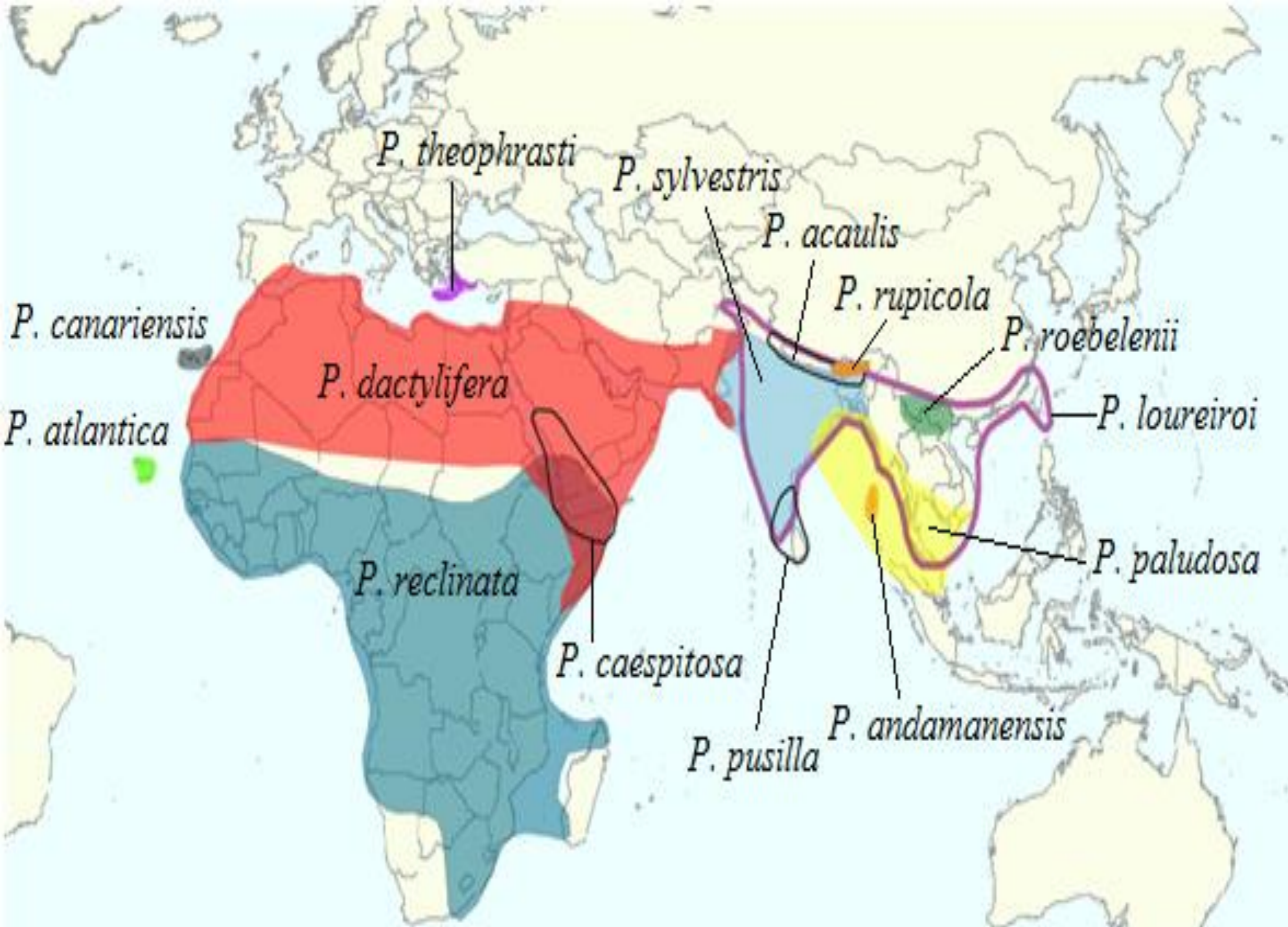
Well known for its edible, sugar / nutrient-rich fruit

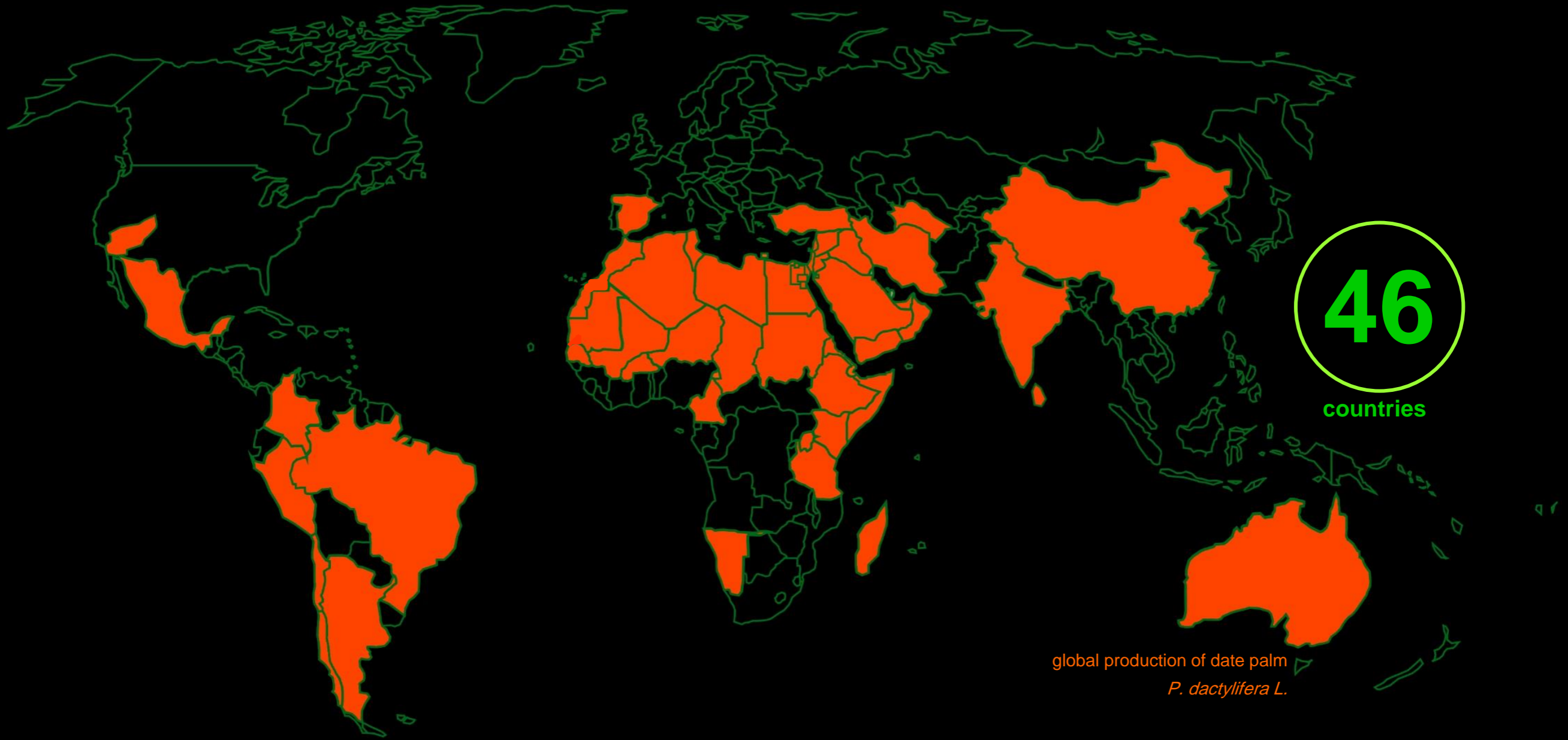
(Zohary & Spiegel-Roy 1975; Morton 1987).



Genome → Two 18 chromosome pairs

↘
≈ 670 Mb

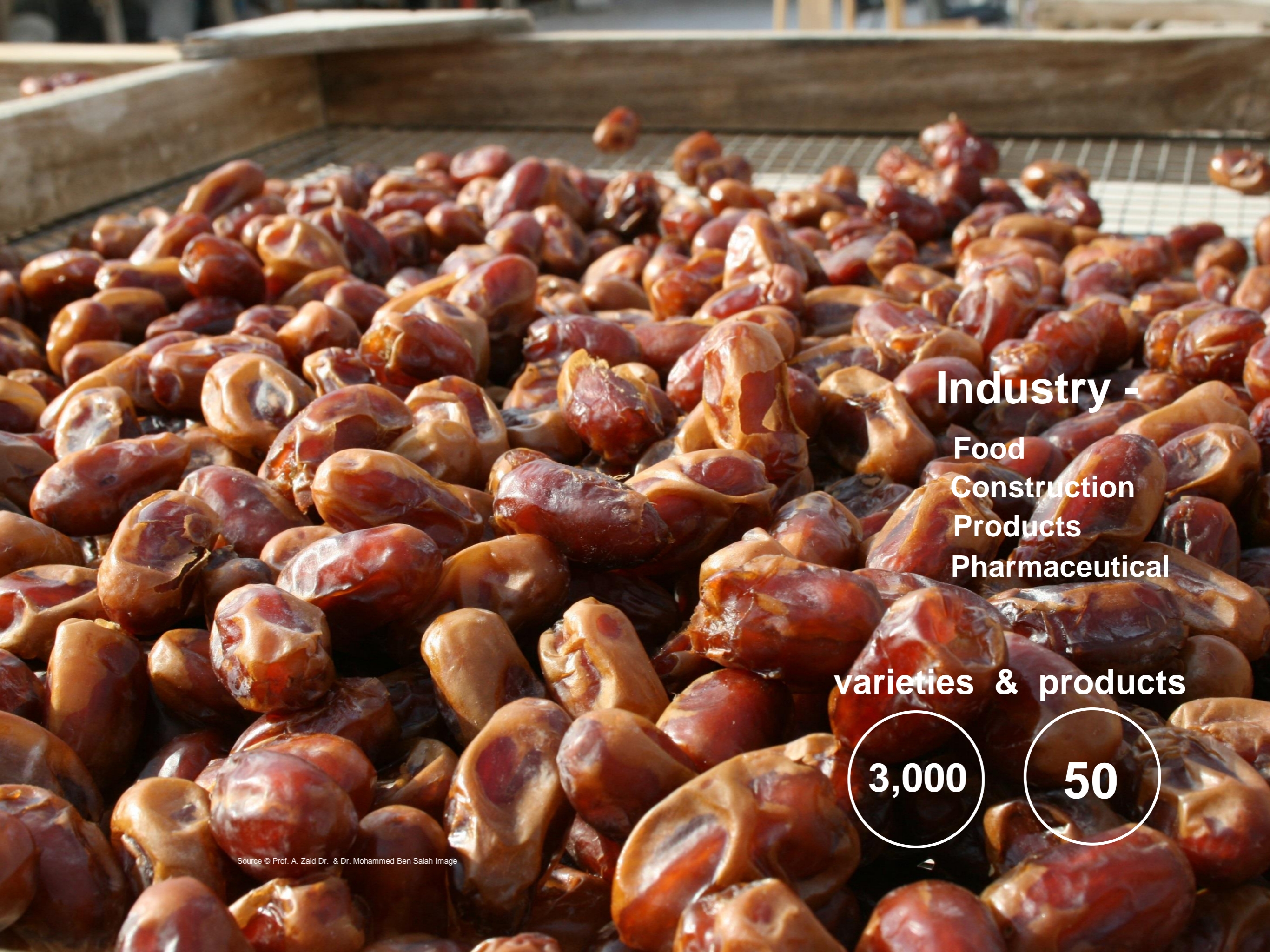




46

countries

global production of date palm
P. dactylifera L.



Industry -

**Food
Construction
Products
Pharmaceutical**

varieties & products

3,000

50

Rational

Date palm Bayoudh disease incidence

Fusarium oxysporum forma specialis albe

dinis (Killian and Maire, 1930; Malencon, 1934 and 1936).

Rational

Date palm Bayoudh disease incidence

Fusarium oxysporum forma specialis albedini

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Rational

Date palm Bayoudh disease incidence

Fusarium oxysporum forma specialis albedini

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1940's !

Rational

Date palm Bayoudh disease incidence

Fusarium oxysporum forma specialis albedini

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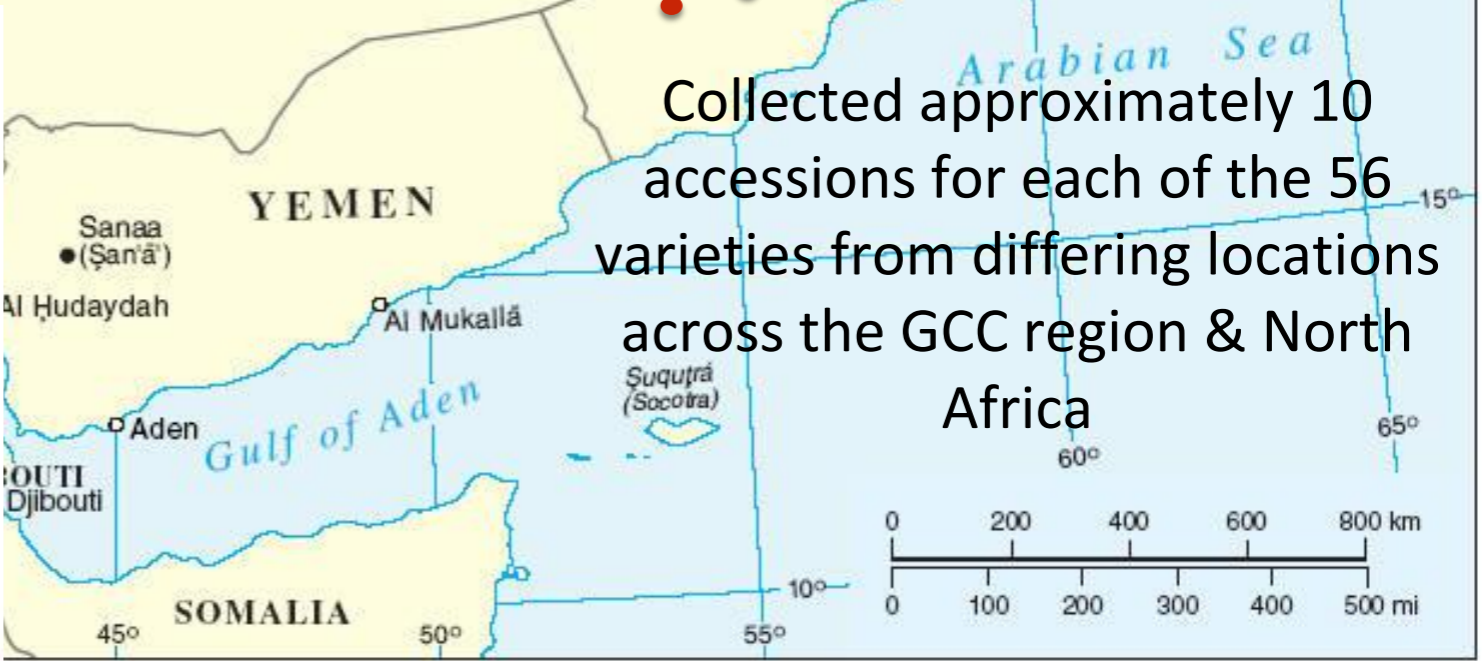


Personal Photo, Location : Marrakech 2007

Rational

- *Mixing of cultivars in large scale production through the Tissue Culture Organogenesis method*
- *Climate Change & need of large plant material production*





Collected approximately 10 accessions for each of the 56 varieties from differing locations across the GCC region & North Africa

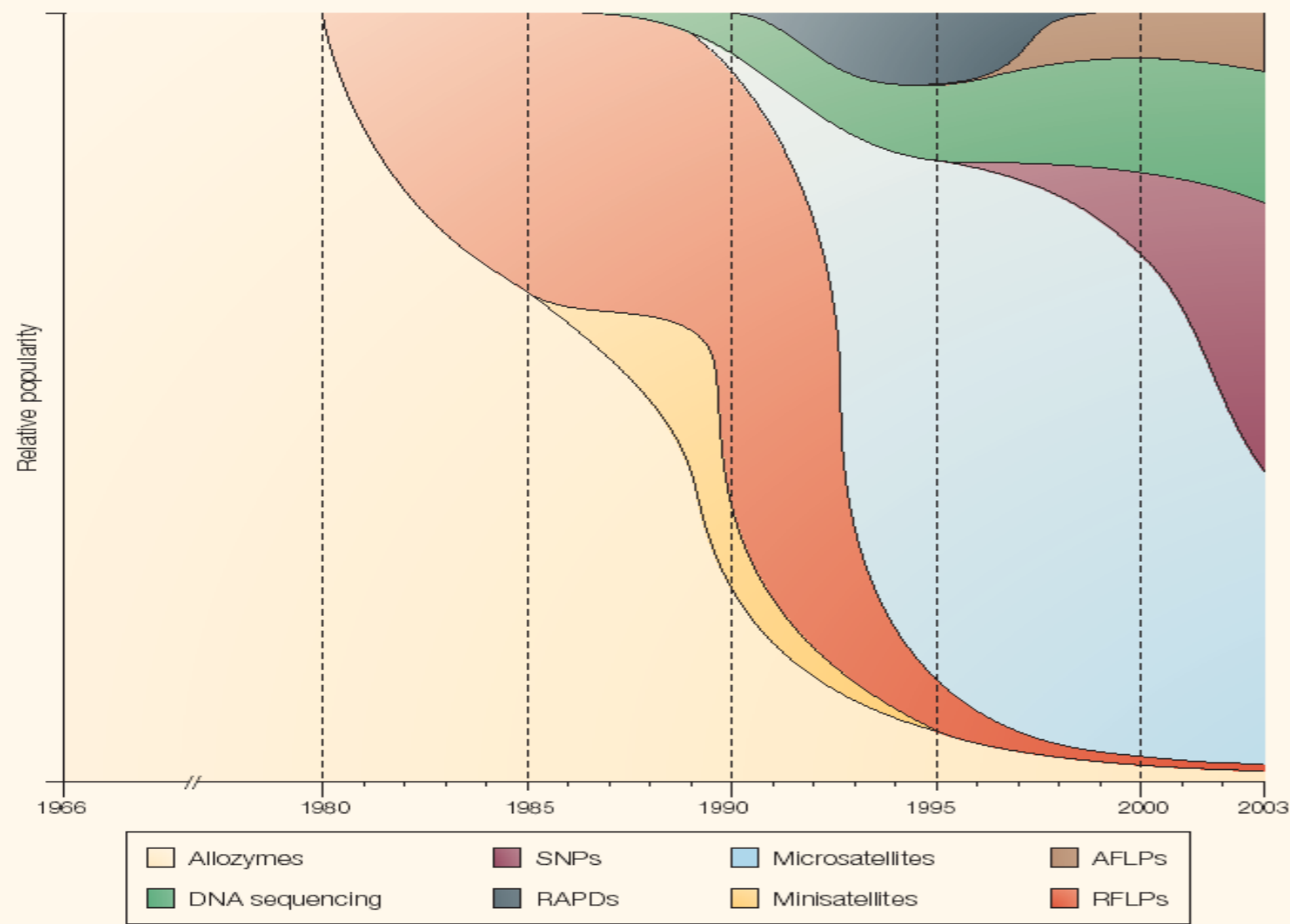
Methods

Historically,

- Indirect methods, such as Differences in Proteins or Phenotypes, were used to infer genetic differences among individuals, populations, and cultivars
- Direct methods
 - Sequencing a few genes or
 - section of genes

Today,

- Possible to detect variation among individuals or Cultivars at single nucleotide sites across entire genomes!



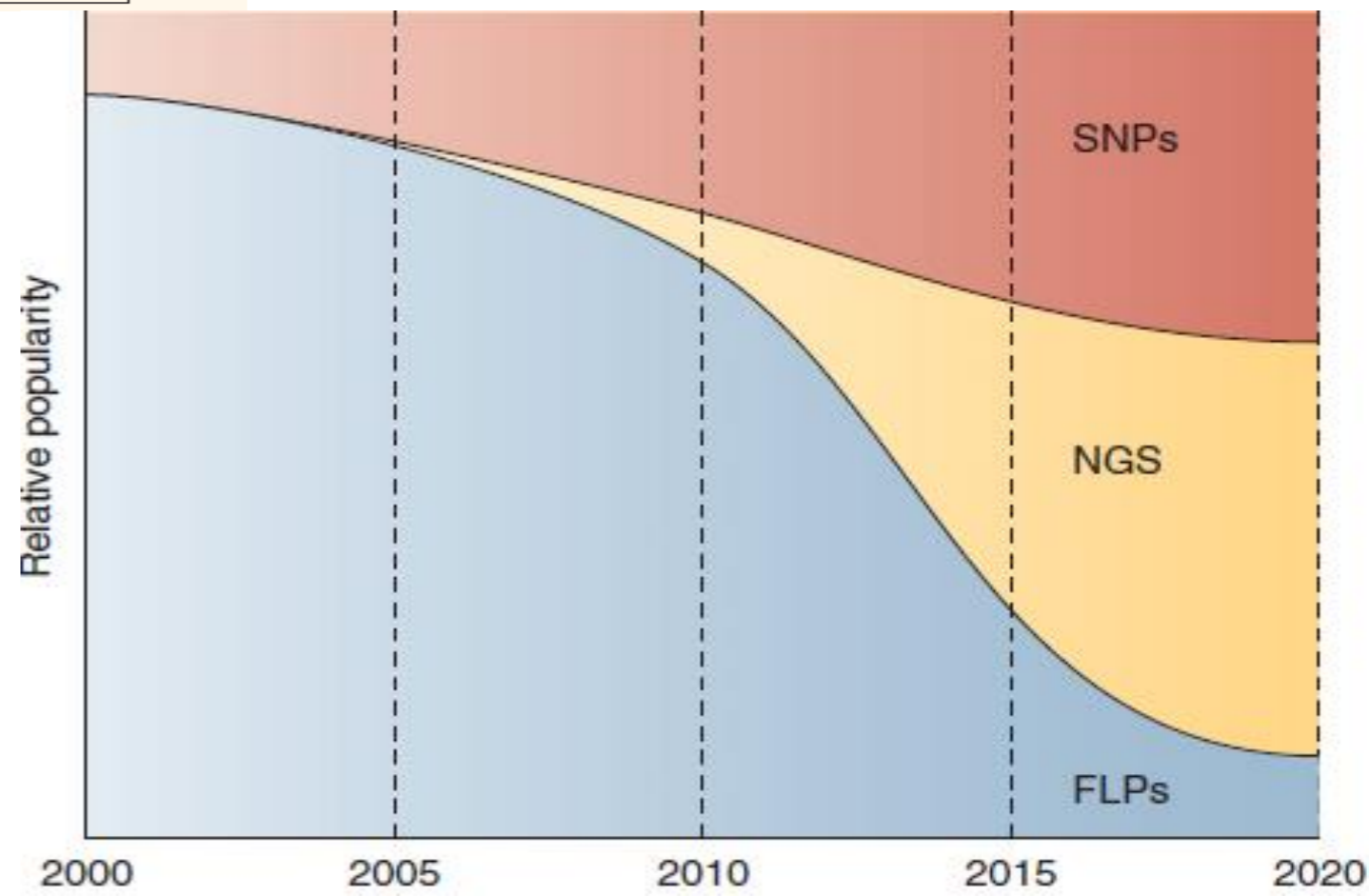
Changes in relative importance of genotyping strategies

1966 - 2020

Schlotterer. 2004. Nature Rev. Gen.
Seeb et al. 2011. Mol.Ecol.Res.

Microsatellites =
Single Sequence (tandem) Repeats

SNP = Single Nucleotide Polymorphism
NGS = Next Generation Sequencing
FLP = Fragment length Polymorphism



Microsatellites

Variation among homologous DNA sequences

Individual	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32	33	34	35
1	G	G	C	A	T	C	G	C	G	C	C	G	T	T	A	C	G	T	A	G	A	G	A	G	A	G	A	G	G	T	G	A	A	T	C
2	G	G	C	A	A	C	G	C	G	C	C	G	T	T	A	C	G	T	A	G	A	G	A	G	A	G	A	G	G	T	G	A	A	T	C
3	G	G	G	A	T	C	G	C	G	C	C	G	T	T	A	C	G	T	A	G	A	G	A	G	A	G	A	G	G	T	G	A	A	T	C
4	G	C	C	A	T	C	G	C	T	C	C	G	T	T	A	C	T	T	A	G	A	G	A	G	-	-	-	-	G	T	T	A	G	T	C
5	G	C	C	A	T	C	G	C	T	C	-	-	-	T	A	C	T	T	A	G	A	G	A	G	-	-	-	-	G	T	T	A	G	T	C
6	G	C	C	A	T	C	G	C	T	C	-	-	-	T	A	C	T	T	A	G	A	G	A	G	-	-	-	-	G	T	T	A	G	T	C
7	G	C	C	A	T	C	G	C	T	C	C	G	T	T	A	C	T	T	A	G	A	G	A	G	-	-	-	-	C	T	T	A	G	T	C

* * *
* { Indel }
* { Microsatellite }
* * *

Microsatellites

Variation among homologous DNA sequences

Individual	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32	33	34	35
1	G	G	C	A	T	C	G	C	G	C	C	G	T	T	A	C	G	T	A	G	A	G	A	G	A	G	A	G	G	T	G	A	A	T	C
2	G	G	C	A	A	C	G	C	G	C	C	G	T	T	A	C	G	T	A	G	A	G	A	G	A	G	A	G	G	T	G	A	A	T	C
3	G	G	G	A	T	C	G	C	G	C	C	G	T	T	A	C	G	T	A	G	A	G	A	G	A	G	A	G	G	T	G	A	A	T	C
4	G	C	C	A	T	C	G	C	T	C	C	G	T	T	A	C	T	T	A	G	A	G	A	G	-	-	-	-	G	T	T	A	G	T	C
5	G	C	C	A	T	C	G	C	T	C	-	-	-	T	A	C	T	T	A	G	A	G	A	G	-	-	-	-	G	T	T	A	G	T	C
6	G	C	C	A	T	C	G	C	T	C	-	-	-	T	A	C	T	T	A	G	A	G	A	G	-	-	-	-	G	T	T	A	G	T	C
7	G	C	C	A	T	C	G	C	T	C	C	G	T	T	A	C	T	T	A	G	A	G	A	G	-	-	-	-	C	T	T	A	G	T	C

* * *
* { Indel }
* { Microsatellite }
* * *

Can occur in Exons, Introns, Regulatory Regions but mainly in **Non-coding regions of DNA**

Present in the genomes of **all eukaryotes** and consists of several to over hundreds of repeats of a **1-6 nucleotide motif**

Locus – Specific (in contrast to multi-locus markers - Minisat. & RAPDs)

Highly **polymorphic** (“hypervariable”) – Providing considerable Patterns

Useful at **range of scale** from **individual ID** to fine-scale Phylogenies

SSR Primers

Panel #	SSR Locus	Allelic Range (bp)	Optimal T _a (°C)	Primer Sequences (5' - 3')	Modification 5'
1	mPdCIR015	120–156	51.6	F: AGCTGGCTCCTCCCTTCTTA R: GCTCGGTTGGACTTGTTCT	6-FAM
	mPdCIR025	199–231	49.3	F: GCACGAGAAGGCTTATAGT R: CCCCTCATTAGGATTCTAC	6-FAM
	mPdCIR032	284–305	51.5	F: CAAATCTTTGCCGTGAG R: GGTGTGGAGTAATCATGTAGTAG	VIC
	mPdCIR085	152–183	50.4	F: GAGAGAGGGTGGTGTTATT R: TTCATCCAGAACCACAGTA	VIC
2	mPdCIR044	281–332	51.7	F: ATGCGGACTACACTATTCTAC R: GGTGATTGACTTTCTTTGAG	6-FAM
	mPdCIR048	156–192	51.4	F: CGAGACCTACCTTCAACAAA R: CCACCAACCAAATCAAACAC	6-FAM
	mPdCIR070	182–208	48.7	F: CAAGACCCAAGGCTAAC R: GGAGGTGGCTTTGTAGTAT	NED
	mPdCIR078	117–152	49.6	F: TGGATTTCCATTGTGAG R: CCCGAAGAGACGCTATT	NED
3	mPdCIR010	118–161	55.9	F: ACCCCGGACGTGAGGTG R: CGTCGATCTCCTCCTTTGTCTC	6-FAM
	mPdCIR035	175–221	53.9	F: ACAAACGGCGATGGGATTAC R: CCGCAGCTCACCTCTTCTAT	6-FAM
4	mPdCIR057	251–278	55.4	F: AAGCAGCAGCCCTTCCGTAG R: GTTCTCACTCGCCCAAAAATAC	6-FAM
	mPdCIR093	153–184	51.8	F: CCATTTATCATTCCTCTCTTG R: CTTGGTAGCTGCGTTTCTTG	6-FAM
5	mPdCIR016	130–138	51.7	F: AGCGGGAAATGAAAAGGTAT R: ATGAAAACGTGCCAAATGTC	6-FAM
	mPdCIR090	142–175	48.6	F: GCAGTCAGTCCCTCATA R: TGCTTGTAGCCCTTCAG	6-FAM

Primers Selected

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5	mPdCIR016	130–138	51.7	F: AGCGGGAAATGAAAAGGTAT R: ATGAAAACGTGCCAAATGTC	6-FAM
	mPdCIR090	142–175	48.6	F: GCAGTCAGTCCCTCATA R: TGCTTGTAGCCCTTCAG	6-FAM

Currently, microsatellites still represent an easy, robust and cost-effective way of performing variety determination for such institutions.

Results



SSR locus	Primer sequence (5' →'3')	5' Modification
mPdCIR015	F: AGC TGG CTC CTC CCT TCT TA R: GCT CGG TTG GAC TTG TTC T	6-FAM
mPdCIR025	F: GCA CGA GAA GGC TTA TAG T R: CCC CTC ATT AGG ATT CTA C	6-FAM
mPdCIR032	F: CAA ATC TTT GCC GTG AG R: GGT GTG GAG TAA TCA TGT AGT AG	VIC
mPdCIR085	F: GAG AGA GGG TGG TGT TAT T R: TTC ATC CAG AAC CAC AGT A	VIC

Provided courtesy of Billotte *et al.* (2004)

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mPdCIR085	F: GAG AGA GGG TGG TGT TAT T R: TTC ATC CAG AAC CAC AGT A	VIC

Provided courtesy of Billotte *et al.* (2004)

Currently, microsatellites still represent an easy, robust and cost-effective way of performing variety determination for such institutions.

Results / Conclusion



Variety name	SSR locus – allele sizes (bp)							
	<i>mPdCIR015</i>		<i>mPdCIR025</i>		<i>mPdCIR032</i>		<i>mPdCIR085</i>	
Aboumaan	122	124	211	213	287	294	155	163
Ajwa	122	128	226	226	292	296	163	172
Ashal Hassa	128	128	211	213	287	298	155	174
Baqlat Bent Manii	122	128	211	230	287	298	153	172
Barhee	120	132	213	230	287	300	155	172
Chichi	132	136	211	230	287	294	153	172
Dibbas	122	122	211	213	287	298	172	176
Fard White	120	128	200	211	294	296	172	172
Ghannami*†	124	124	211	230	300	304	172	176

Ability to distinguish between **54** out of **56** samples (Varieties & Cultivars).

18 Unconfirmed Cultivars / Var.

Abu Badia
Abu Zabd
Ashal Khass
Ayassha
Diyala Sukkarri
Ganda
Hamdiya
Hilali Senee
Kuweitat
Maymona
Nabtat Dakhil
Nabtat Moneef
Nagal Hilali
Rotana Masfoot Salmia
Sheikha
Thinal
Umm Thaq

* Male date palm var.

18 Unconfirmed Cultivars / Var.

Genetically Distinct & Unique

Sympatric speciation

?

Abu Badia
Abu Zabd
Ashal Khass
Ayassha
Diyala Sukkarri
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* Male date palm var.

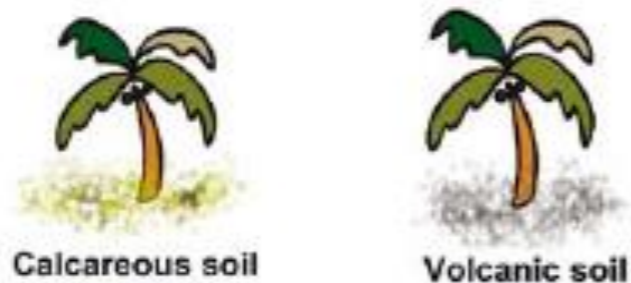
Sympatric speciation

Requires: Genetic correlation (one gene, linkage disequilibrium between genes) between trait subjected to disruptive selection and assortative mating

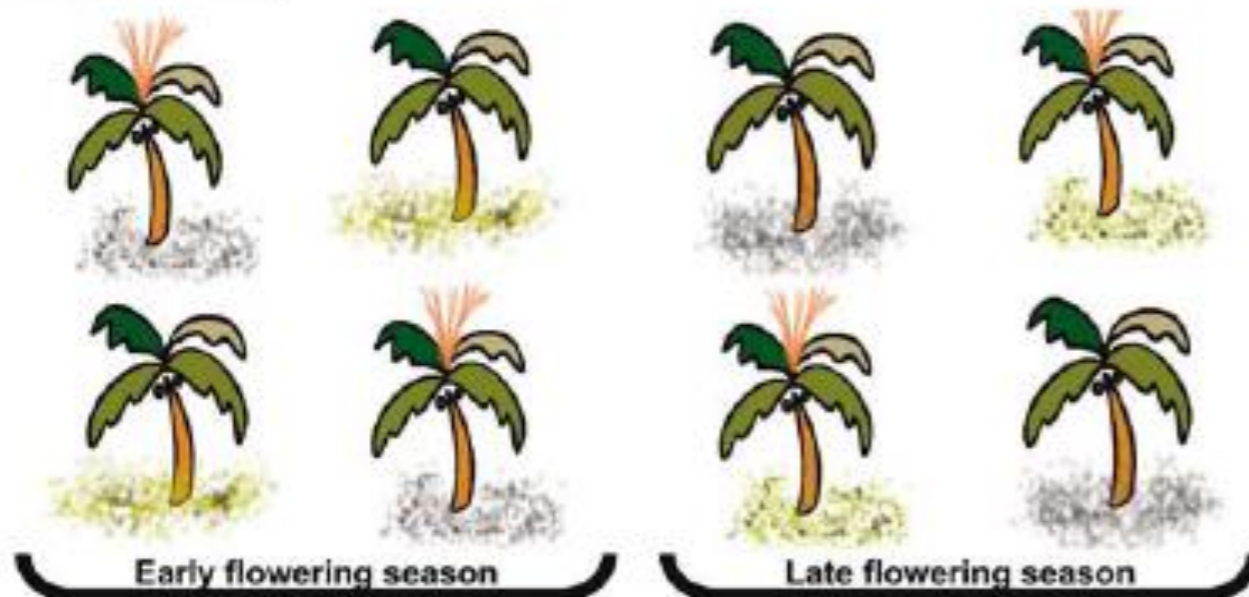
Example: Lord Howe palms (*Howea belmoreana* and *H. forsteriana*)

Disruptive selection

Some palms survive better in volcanic acidic soils whereas others perform better in basic calcareous soils

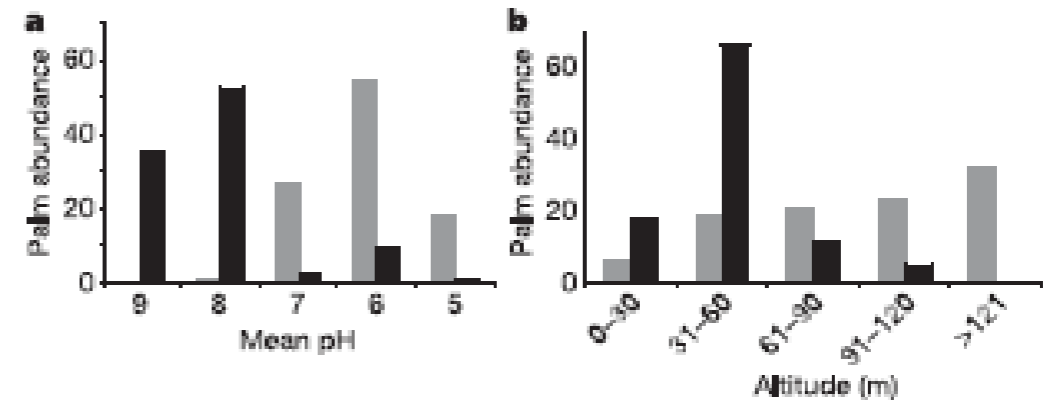


Assortative mating

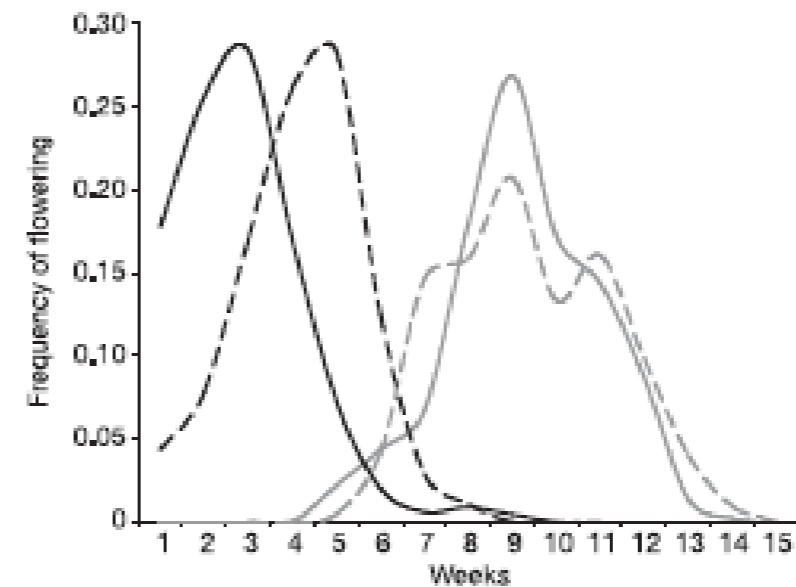


Palms growing in calcareous soil tend to flower later than palms growing in volcanic soils

Ortiz-Barrientos D, Rieseberg LH 2006.
Splitting when together. Divergence 97: 2-3.



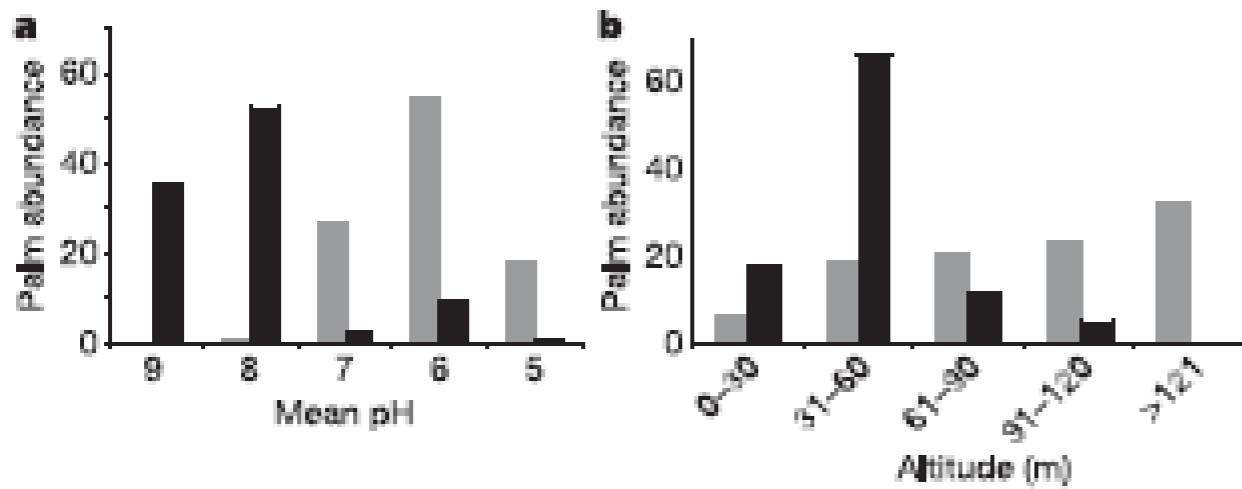
Distribution by pH and altitude: *H. belmoreana* (gray); *H. forsteriana* (black)



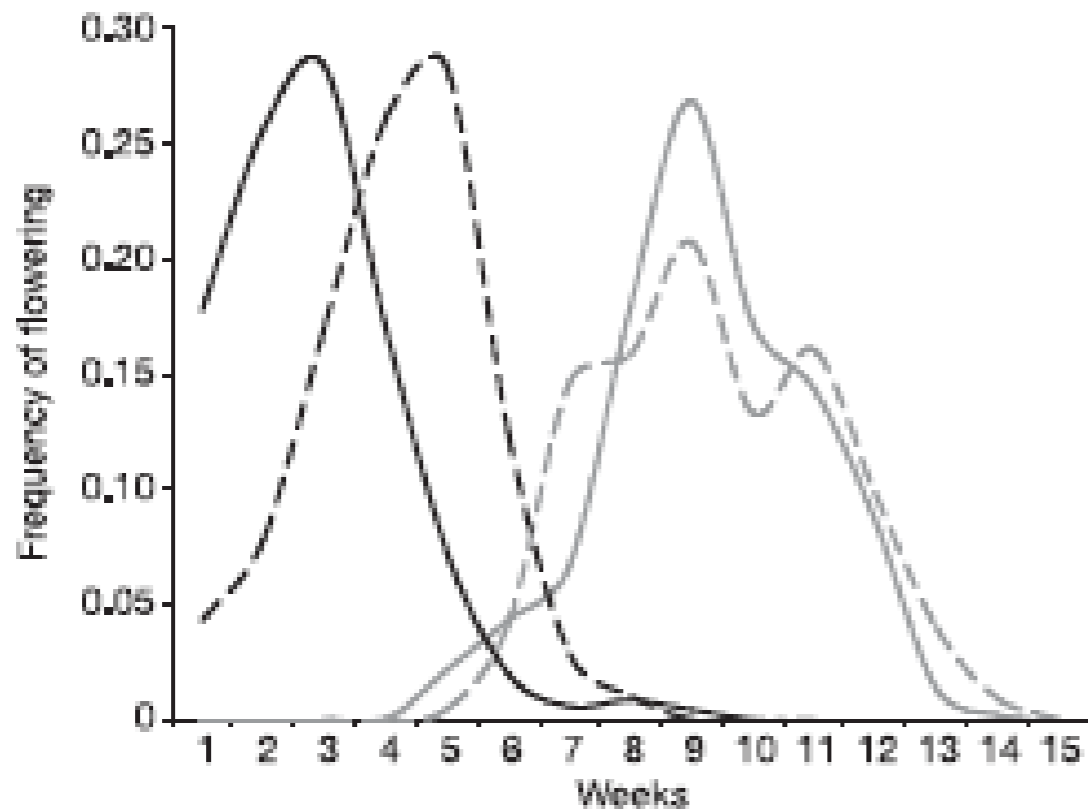
Flowering phenology:
H. belmoreana (gray) *H. forsteriana* (black)
Male phase (solid) Female phase (dotted)

Savolainen V. et al. 2006. Sympatric speciation in palms. Nature 44: 210-213.

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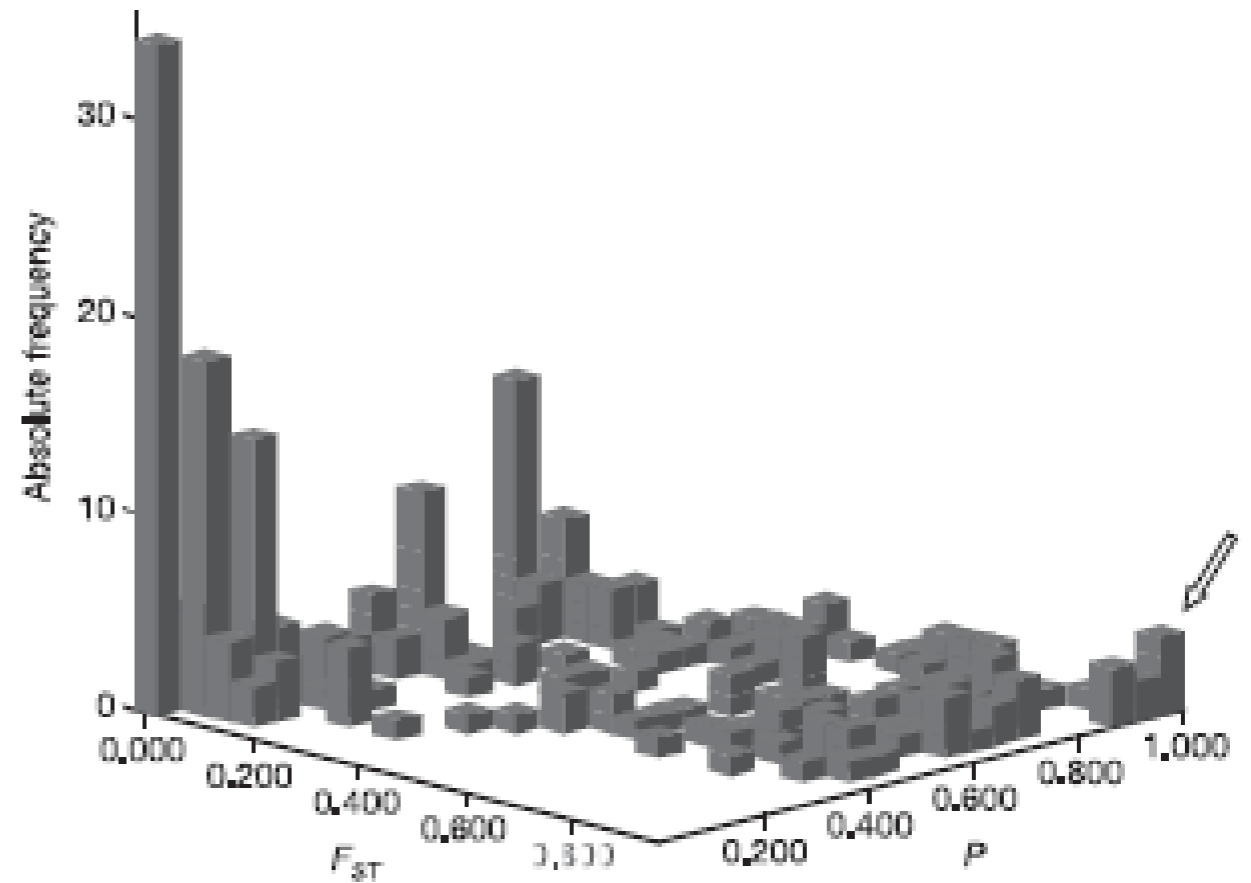


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Howea belmoreana (gray)
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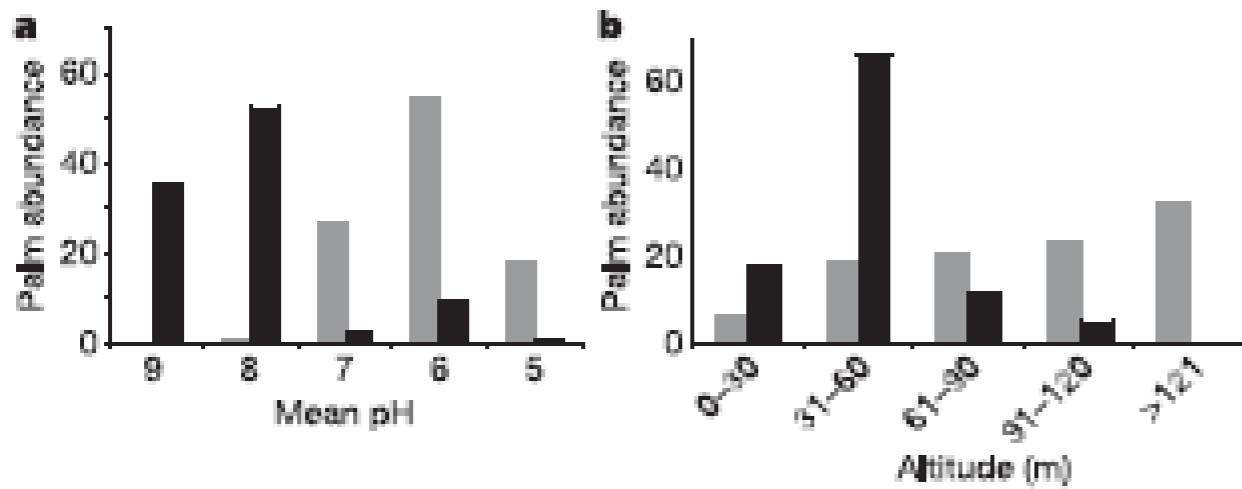
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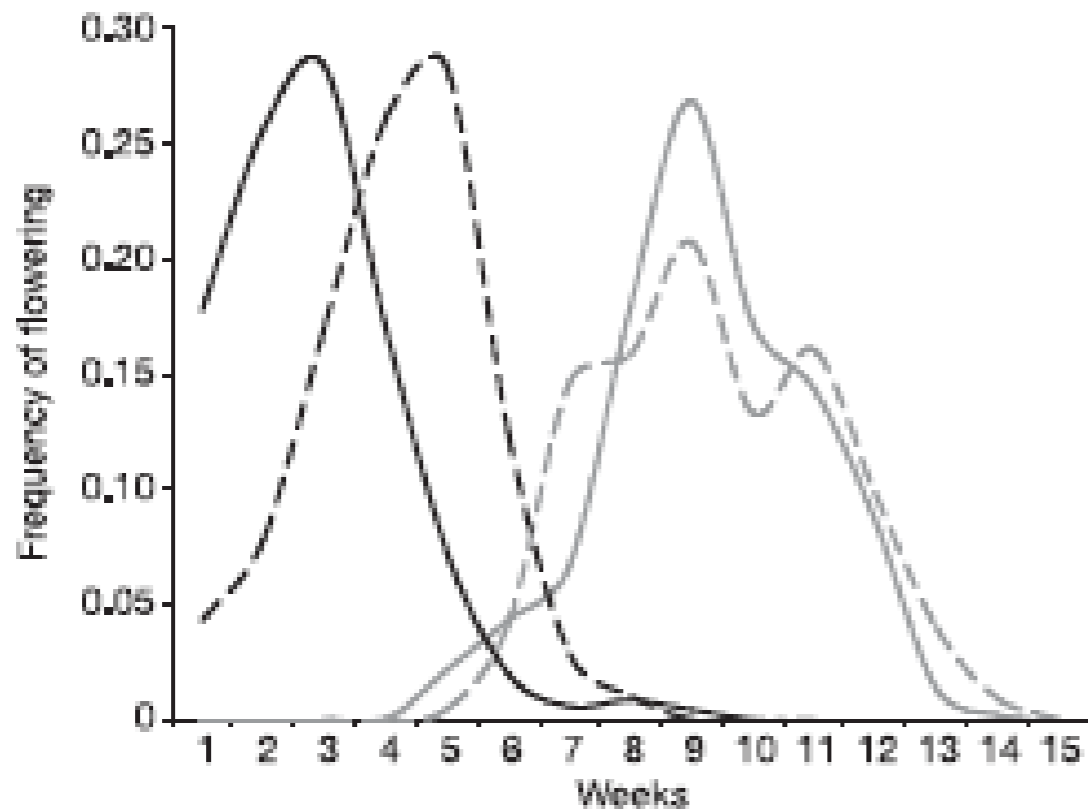


Interspecific differentiation:
 AFLP genome scan (274 loci).

Savolainen V. et al. 2006.
 Sympatric speciation in palms.
 Nature 44: 210-213.

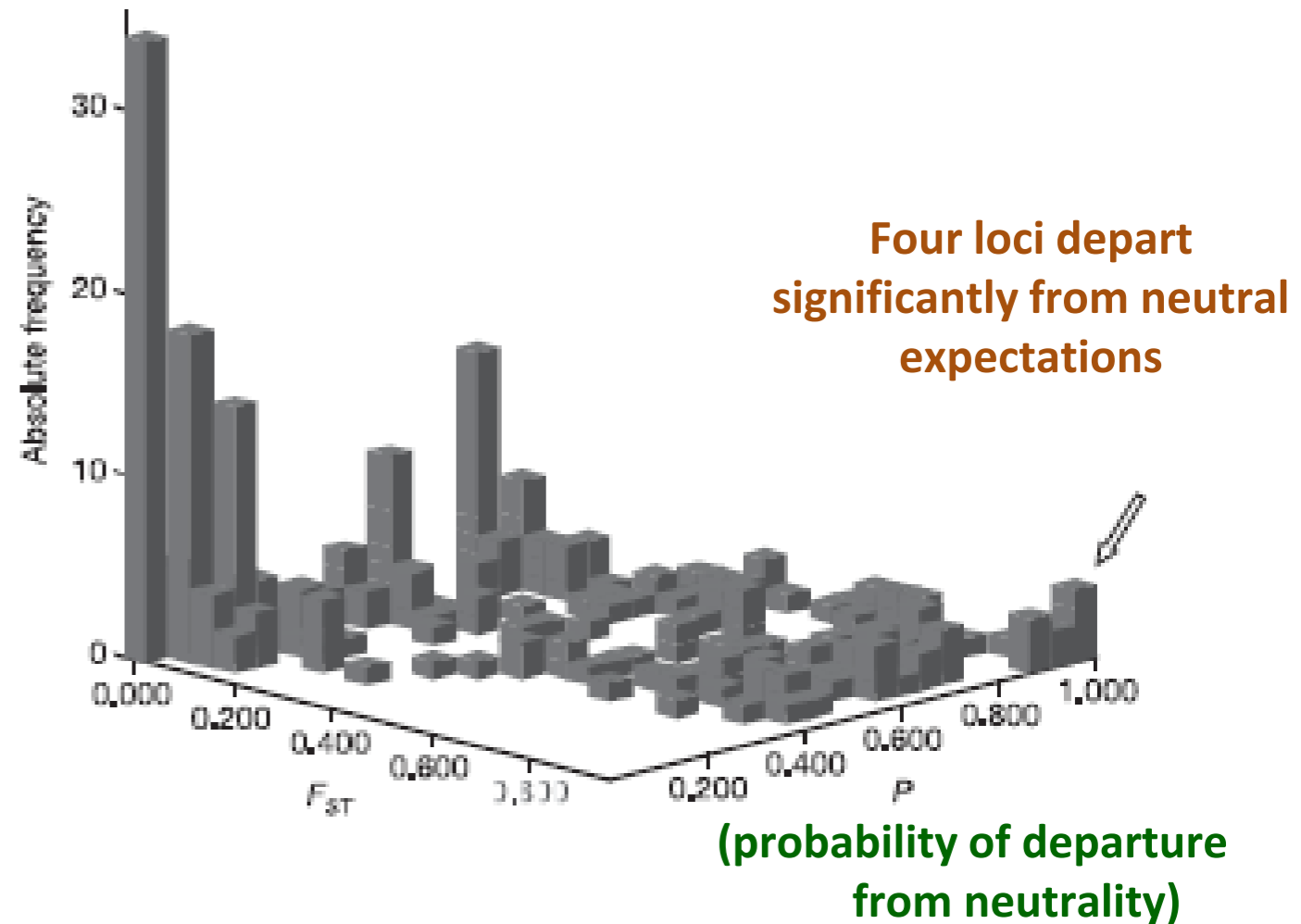


Distribution by pH and altitude:
Howea belmoreana (gray)
H. forsteriana (black)



Flowering phenology:

Howea belmoreana (gray) *H. forsteriana* (black)
 Male phase (solid) Female phase (dotted)

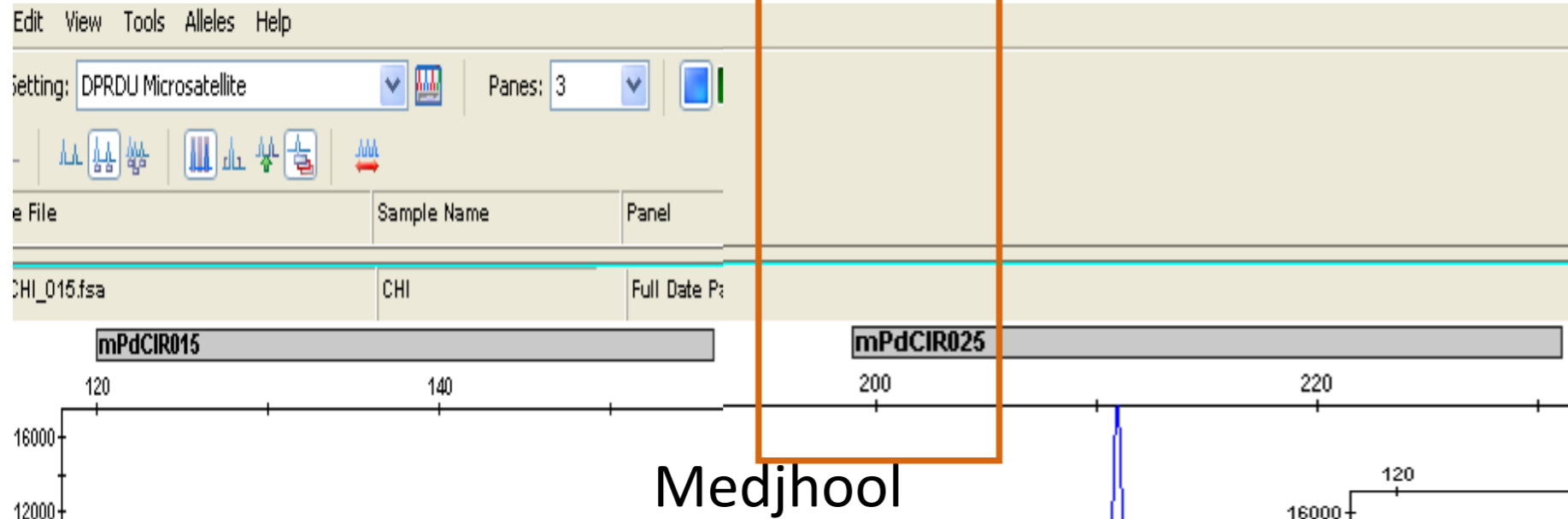


Interspecific differentiation:
 AFLP genome scan (274 loci).

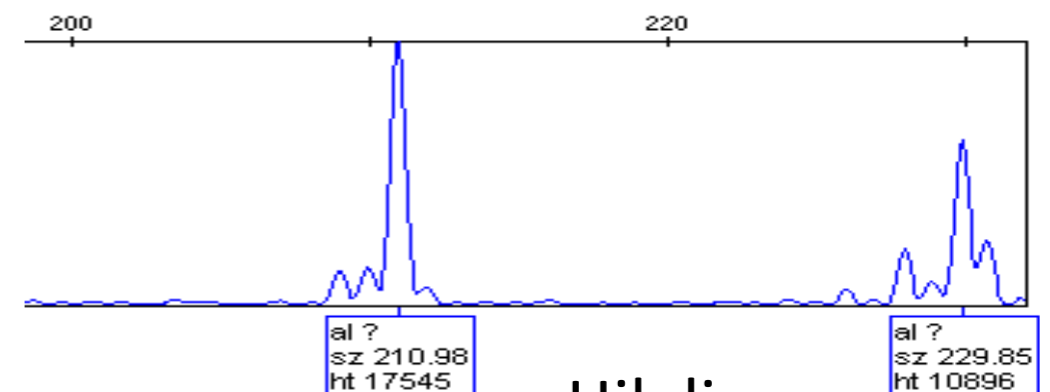
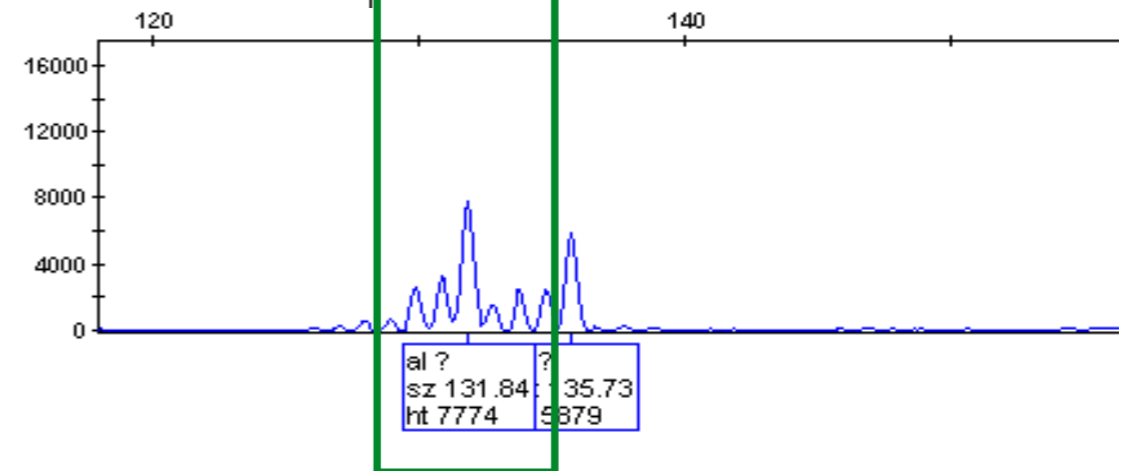
18 Unconfirmed Cultivars / Var.

- Miscalled Primers mpdCIR015 & 25
- Fragment being marginally outside the defined allelic range.

Abu Badia
 Abu Zabd
 Ashal Khass
 Ayassha
 Diyala Sukkarri
 Ganda
 Hamdiya
 Hilali Senee
 Kuweitat
 Maymona
 Nabtat Dakhil
 Nabtat Moneef
 Nagal Hilali
 Rotana Masfoot
 Salmia
 Sheikha
 Thinal
 Umm Thaq



PANEL	MICROSATELLITE	MJH		HEL	
1	mPdCIR015	136	136	120	122
	mPdCIR025	199	213	211	211
	mPdCIR032	294	295	292	300
	mPdCIR085	153	176	172	172
2	mPdCIR044	300	300	-	-
	mPdCIR048	155	155	182	190
	mPdCIR070	190	190	194	195
3	mPdCIR078	117	123	132	136
	mPdCIR010	120	160	134	134
4	mPdCIR035	184	194	186	188
	mPdCIR057	262	266	253	253
5	mPdCIR093	167	171	171	171
	mPdCIR016	129	129	135	135
	mPdCIR090	159	165	157	159



Hilali

38 Confirmable Cultivars / Var.

Aboumaan	Khisab
Ajwa	Khlass
Ashal Hassa	Lulu
Baqlat Bent Manii	Madayan
Barhee	Maktoumi
Chichi	Mdasry*
Dibbas	Medjhool
Fard White	MP (Al Ain Male)*
Ghannami*	Mumtaz
Ghareef*	Nabtat Breem
Hilali	Nabtat Mazroui
Hilali Red	Nabtat Seif
Jabri	Nadira
Jech Fatima	Nawader
Jech Ramli	Sakaii
Kadri	Sekka*
Khadraoui	Sukkarri
Khenezi	Sultana
Khenezi White	Zamli

Revealed that each were genetically distinct and unique

6-FAM labeled primers for *mPdCIR010* and *mPdCIR035*



Routine Var. Typing

* Male date palm var.

Microsatellite panel - 4 SSR Loci

Microsatellite panel - 4 SSR Loci

Quality Control

Microsatellite panel - 4 SSR Loci

Facilitating management

Quality Control

Microsatellite panel - 4 SSR Loci

Applicable in any Date Palm tissue culture facility

Facilitating management

Quality Control

Tack

Vielen Dank

Obrigado

Merci

ありがとうございます

Bedankt

Takk

感謝您

Terima Kasih

谢谢

Grazie

ขอบคุณ

Спасибо

Thank You

Kiitos

Tak

Honey Goat Cheese Dates with Walnuts

Teşekkür ederiz

감사합니다

Gracias

Σας ευχαριστούμε

Dziękujemy