

*PGA**"Pisum Genetics"*

The Pisum Genetics Association (PGA) is a non-profit, unincorporated organization established to foster genetic study of the pea, to facilitate the exchange of information and to ensure preservation of valuable genetic stocks. **Pisum Genetics** (formerly The Pisum Newsletter = PNL) is the principal means of meeting these aims. Published annually in one issue, **Pisum Genetics** contains reports of research findings and other information relating to genetic variation in *Pisum*. The PGA currently has 175 members from 29 countries.

Membership

Membership of the PGA is open to all interested persons and organizations. Dues are per annum \$10 U.S. currency or \$13 Australian. Cheques for an equivalent sum are acceptable in any other major currency e.g. Danish kronar, English pounds, French francs or Japanese yen. Dues are used to help defray the costs of publishing and mailing **Pisum Genetics**. Members are encouraged to pay dues for two or more years to simplify bookkeeping and to reduce losses through bank charges which are Aust \$2.50 per cheque regardless of the size of the cheque. Please make cheques or international money orders payable to **Pisum Genetics Association** and send to Dr I.C. Murfet, Dept. of Plant Science, University of Tasmania, Hobart, Tasmania 7001, Australia. **Pisum Genetics** will be sent on receipt of dues.

Editor

The Editor, Dr I.C. Murfet, may be contacted at the above address by phone 61 02 202605, telex AA 58150, and fax 61 02 202698 or 61 02 202186.

Manuscripts

Please submit manuscripts double-spaced. Figures should be ready to print and of good quality. Tables should be set out in accord with established format. References should be listed in alphabetical then chronological order and full details supplied for papers in monographs, e.g., give details of editors, publisher and city, page numbers and list all authors; Smith *et al.* is not sufficient. Research reports should be organised concisely in the format of a short introduction outlining the background to and aim of the study, a materials and methods section with essential details and references to techniques, a results section and a discussion section interpreting the results and integrating findings with those of other workers. Section headings are not obligatory. Conclusions should be justified, where applicable, by appropriate statistical analysis. Length should generally be kept within the range of 1-4 journal pages but longer papers will be considered on their merits. Research reports and reviews are subjected to peer review and revision if necessary. Research reports should contain original work not currently submitted to any other journal. Review articles are obtained by invitation. However, the Editor would welcome enquiries or suggestions regarding possible review topics. Papers will not be rejected because the English is not fluent. However, the intended meaning must be clear, the scientific content sound and appropriate, the conclusions justified and the organisation logical. Abstracts may be submitted of work to be published elsewhere or conference papers. Issues of interest to members may be discussed in the forum section.

Gene Symbols

Mr Mike Ambrose (John Innes Institute, Norwich NR4 7UH, UK; phone (0603) 52571, telex 975122, fax (0603)56844 continues as Coordinator of Gene Symbols. If you are proposing a new gene symbol please check with Mike that the symbol is free and appropriate. In most cases not more than three letters are necessary to symbolise a locus. Again if you are proposing a new gene please make a reasonable effort to check for allelism with established genes of similar type. (Reports where allelism tests have not been done risk rejection). This saves the literature being cluttered with confusing synonyms. PGA rules for genetic symbols are given in Pisum Newsletter 9 Supplement: 61-64 (1977). In due course, please send type lines for new genes to Dr Stig Blixt (Nordic Gene Bank, S23058 Alnarp, Sweden) or Mike Ambrose, and reprints to Mike. The John Innes Institute has now taken on additional responsibility in regard to the maintenance and supply of pea type and representative lines (see item p. 92 of this issue). Members are reminded that the USA national *Pisum* collection and the G.A. Marx *Pisum* Genetics Stocks Collection have now been transferred from Geneva, N.Y. to Pullman W.A. and enquiries concerning this material should be addressed to Dr R.M. Hannan, USDA-ARS, Western Regional Plant Introduction Station, Washington State Univ., Pullman, WA 99164.

*Pea Genetic Stocks Centre**USA collection Marx lines**Pisum gene database*

Work has continued on updating the *Pisum* gene database, particularly through the efforts of the working party of Mike Ambrose, Niall Green and Peter Winfield. Updating the *Pisum* gene database is seen as a first step toward bringing the proposed *Pisum* Gene Handbook to fruition. If you are the author of a pea gene symbol you will likely have heard from one of the group during the year. Your cooperation in providing information for the database is most appreciated. The group is seeking to complete the genelist update by the end of 1992 and have targetted 1994 for completion of a draft of the Handbook which will be illustrated with photographs where applicable.

Linkage map

Dr Norman F. Weeden (Dept. of Hort. Sci., NYSAES, Geneva NY 14456, USA; phone (315)787 2245, fax (315)787 2397, telex 6717017) is Coordinator of Linkage Maps. He, or other members of the Linkage Map Committee (Mike Ambrose, Wojtek Swiecicki), would be pleased to receive a copy of new linkage results as they become available. A further update of the pea map is planned for Vol. 25. Norm Weeden points out on p. 91 of this issue there are still many inconsistencies and uncertainties in the pea map despite a long history of study. In contrast, some relative newcomers already have relatively complete and stable maps. Norm suggests a little more rigour in mapping analysis might help and to that end the Linkage Map Committee is planning to put forward a set of mapping guidelines for pea in Vol. 25. In particular, there is a need to be alert for variations from the normal (standard) karyotype and, in studies primarily aimed at mapping, to use a series of standard markers each not too far apart. Of course for new gene loci even evidence of loose linkage can be useful, providing it is statistically significant, since it enables more detailed studies to be focused on the region indicated.

New members We welcome all new members, including some from Poland and Russia who have contributed to this issue, and one each from Bolivia and Uruguay representing those countries for the first time.

Resignations We farewell Drs S.T. Ali Khan and Shirley Tucker who are no longer working on peas.

Congratulations Congratulations to Al Slinkard and Fred Muehlbauer for their substantial contribution to the International Food Legume Research Conference II (Cairo, Egypt, April 1992) as Conference Chairman and Senior Editor, respectively. Congratulations also to Earl Gritton, recipient of the Univ. of Wisconsin, Agricultural Research Station Excellence in Service Award, and Glen Murray, recipient of the Annual Award for Teaching Excellence for 1991-1992 at the Univ. of Idaho.

Deaths We note with sadness the deaths from cancer of two longstanding and distinguished members.

C.O. Lehmann Dr Christian O. Lehmann died on 8 Jun 1992 aged 66 years. Born 13 Jan 1926 at Schirgiswalde, Germany, he joined the Institute of Crop Plant Research at Gatersleben in 1950 becoming Head of the Genebank in 1969 until his retirement in 1991. With the advent of long term storage capabilities, the number of accessions rose from about 10,000 in 1950 to 68,840 at the time of his retirement. He was a pioneer of computerisation in genebanks. His work focussed particularly on barley, wheat, tomatoes and pulse crops but he had an abiding general interest in the evaluation, characterisation and classification of plant material and in the history of plant genetic resources.

T. Tsuchiya Takumi Tsuchiya, Colorado State University professor of agronomy died on 1 May 1992 aged 69. Dr Tsuchiya was born 10 Mar 1923 in the Oita Prefecture, Japan. He moved to North America in 1963. His research involved the genetics, cytology, cytogenetics, and cytotaxonomy of several plant species including barley, sugar beet, melon species and triticale. He left a heritage of over 300 refereed papers. Dr Tsuchiya maintained the World Collection of Barley Genetic Stocks and served as editor of the Barley Genetics Newsletter.

Thanks My sincere thanks to Beverley Thomson for typing this her fourth volume and Sue Dwyer (Plant Genetic Resources Unit, Geneva, N.Y.) for sending out back issues prior to 1990 (Volumes 6 and 11 are now out of print). Thanks also to those of our members who have assisted with refereeing and in other ways helped the work of the PGA and, in particular, our Symbols and Map Coordinators. Special thanks to Norm Weeden who took on an additional load as Associate Editor and shared the editorial burden at a difficult time in the year for me. Lastly thanks to Mark Appleby and the crew in the Printing Section for their significant contribution in bringing Vol. 24 to fruition.

*Financial
Report*

Financial report for the period October 1 1991 to October 1 1992. This period includes the production and mailing of Pisum Genetics Vol. 23. All sums are Australian dollars.

Our situation is healthy but be assured the real cost of producing and mailing Pisum Genetics certainly is not less than our subscription rate. The surplus in this year reflects the smaller size of Volume 23 with reduced printing and mailing costs, two substantial donations and advance payments of numerous subscriptions. The costs associated with Volume 24 will be significantly greater than those for Volume 23.

Balance brought forward		2834.97
Income		
Subscriptions		2532.40
Donations		
National Pea Improvement Assoc.	755.94	
Todd J Cooke	<u>128.11</u>	884.05
Bank interest		<u>205.25</u>
Total income		3621.70
Expenditure		
Printing		1211.50
Postage		467.00
Supplies		13.60
State duties		<u>2.74</u>
Total expenditure		1694.84
Balance as at October 1 1992		
Commonwealth Bank		4619.80
Univ. of Tas. A72 KPA 070-36		127.33
Cash on hand		<u>14.70</u>
		4761.83

I.C. Murfet
for the Coordinating Committee:

S. Blixt	F. Muehlbauer	B. Snoad
E. Gritton	I. Murfet	W.K. Swiecicki
C. Hedley	J. Reid	N. Weeden
L. Monti	B. Sharma	