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SECCIÓ DE BOTÀNICA

UNA APROXIMACIÓ A L'ESTUDI DE L'EVOLUCIÓ I LA SISTEMÀTICA D'*ARTEMISIA* I GÈNERES AFINS en els àmbits de la citogenètica i filogènia moleculars

Sònia Marta Garcia Giménez Barcelona, 2007

ANNEXOS



1. Linkage of nuclear 45S and 5S rDNA in the sunflower family (Asteraceae) revealed by *in situ* hybridization, PCR and Southern blot

S. Garcia¹, M. Chester², T. Garnatje³, A. Kovarik⁴, A. R. Leitch², K. Y. Lim², J. Pellicer¹, and J. Vallès¹

¹Laboratori de Botànica, Facultat de Farmàcia, Universitat de Barcelona. Av. Joan XXIII s/n, 08028 Barcelona, Catalonia, Spain

²School of Biological and Chemical Sciences, Queen Mary, University of London, Mile End Road, London, E1 4NS, UK

³Institut Botànic de Barcelona (CSIC-ICUB). Passeig del Migdia s/n, 08038 Barcelona, Catalonia, Spain

⁴Institute of Biophysics, Academy of Sciences of the Czech Republic, CZ-61265 Brno, Czech Republic

Tandem arrays of 45S and 5S ribosomal RNA genes are usually located separately on chromosomes in most plants and animals. However, in some species of the family Asteraceae, fluorescent in situ hybridization has shown that these regions are colocalized (Fig. 1). To determine the genomic organization of the 5S and 45S repeats we surveyed several species from genus Artemisia, in which such colocalization had been previously detected. Using different primer combinations specific for 26S and 5S rRNA genes, a PCR product was obtained, indicating close linkage of these genes in some arrays at least. No products were obtained with DNA from species that do not show such colocalization. Although the data are preliminary, they support a putative location of the 5S rRNA gene(s) downstream from the 26S gene within the intergenic 26S-18S spacer (IGS), also confirmed by Southern blot hybridization. We examined related species from subtribe Artemisiinae, and tribes Anthemideae, Astereae, Calenduleae, Gnaphalieae, Inuleae and Senecioneae finding 5S and 45S linkage in Anthemideae and Gnaphalieae, isolated to a branch of subfamily Asteroideae (Fig. 2 and 3). On the basis of these observations, it is hypothesized that the 5S-45S units might have evolved together and in concert. Further studies are currently being conducted to reveal the organization, function and evolution of these unusual rDNA units (Fig. 4 and 5).



FIGURE 1. A species from subgenus *Tridentatae*, *Artemisia arbuscula* ssp. *arbuscula* 2n=2x=18 showing the 5S genic probe (in red) and 18S genic probe (in green) in metaphase and interphase. Scale bar = 10 µm.



FIGURE 2. Gel indicating presence of a PCR product in different species of Artemisia, several genera of tribe *Anthemideae* and in one genus of tribe *Gnaphalieae* (*Helichrysum*). Different sizes (between 1000 and 600 bp) of product can be observed.



FIGURE 3. A fragment of the supertree of the Asteraceae (Funk et al., 2005) indicating absence/presence of a PCR product with the primer combinations 26SF-5SLF.



FIGURE 4. Southern blot hybridization showing common 26S and 5S ribosomal DNA hybridization bands, using different probes.



FIGURE 5. A proposed structure of the integral 45S-5S rDNA unit.

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2. Genome size evolution and molecular cytogenetic studies in an ancient group of orophytic *Artemisia* (*Asteraceae*)

S. Garcia¹, J. Pellicer¹, J. Martín¹, O. Hidalgo², T. Garnatje², O. Robin³, S. Siljak-Yakovlev³ and J. Vallès¹

¹Laboratori de Botànica, Facultat de Farmàcia, Universitat de Barcelona, Av. Joan XXIII s. n., 08028 Barcelona, Catalonia, Spain ²Institut Botànic de Barcelona (CSIC-ICUB), Passeig del Migdia s. n., Parc de Montjuïc, 08038 Barcelona, Catalonia, Spain ³Ecologie, Systématique, Evolution, UMR CNRS 8079, Université Paris-Sud, Bâtiment 360, 91405 Orsay Cedex, France

The large genus Artemisia includes a group of European and South West Asiatic orophytic taxa, placed mainly within subgenus Absinthium, which inhabits high mountain areas from the Sierra Nevada, across the Pyrenees, the Alps and as far as the Caucasus. It is an interesting dysploid-polyploid complex, which has yet been studied from many points of view. However, questions regarding the origin of these species still remain unresolved. It is believed that alpine flora has a relictual character, and particularly in this group, the glaciations of the Quaternary might have played a major role in habitat fragmentation, with the creation of glacial refugia and subsequent speciation processes. This might explain the disjunct distribution of some of these taxa and the species richness and diversity of the group. On the light of new data on fluorochrome banding and in situ hybridization of rDNA (Fig. 1), genome size (Table 1), additional support is given to the hypothesis that polyploid species within this group (A. nitida, A. splendens, and A. umbelliformis) might come from independent or recurrent hybridization events between the extant diploid taxa (A. alpina, A. eriantha, A. genipi, A. glacialis, and A. granatensis), and/or with the participation of some extinct diploid precursors. Additionally, banding and FISH patterns of the analyzed taxa agree with those previously known for the same subgenus, and considerable genome size differences have been detected between disjunct populations of the same species, which could also be related with ongoing diversification processes linked to geographical isolation.



FIGURE 1. Fluorescent *in situ* hybridization metaphase plates of *A. eriantha* (2n=18, Urdiceto) and *A. umbelliformis* (2n=34, Noucreus), showing 6 and 8 rDNA sites, respectively. Scale bars = 10 μ m.

TABLE 1. Genome size assessments of the populations studied. ¹2C nuclear DNA content (mean value and standard deviation of the samples). ²1 pg = 978 Mbp (Doležel et al., 2003). ³Somatic chromosome number. ⁴Monoploid genome size (2C value divided by ploidy level, Greilhuber et al., 2005). ^cInternal standard used in each case.

Species	Provenance	2C ¹ (pg)(SD)	2C ² (Mbp)	2n ³	1Cx ⁴ (pg)	Standard ⁵
A. eriantha	Bulgary	6,24(0,08)	6102,72	18	3,12	Petunia
A. eriantha	Italy/Ischiator	6,11(0,15)	5975,58	18	3,06	Petunia
A. eriantha	Andorra/Casamanya	6,17(0,07)	6034,26	18	3,09	Petunia
A. eriantha	Spain/Urdiceto	6,18(0,14)	6044,04	18	3,09	Petunia
A. eriantha	France/Galibier	5,72(0,05)	5594,16	18	2,86	Petunia
A. eriantha	France/Pas des Ladres	6,36(0,08)	6220,08	18	3,18	Petunia
A. eriantha	France/Col du Laurichard	6,33(0,09)	6152,76	18	3,17	Petunia
A. eriantha	Rumania/Fagaras	6,44(0,35)	6259,68	18	3,22	Petunia
A. eriantha	Rumania/Bucegi-Caraiman	6,26(0,21)	6122,28	18	3,13	Petunia
A. eriantha	Poland/Mount Tatra	5,94(0,22)	5809,32	18	2,97	Petunia
A. eriantha	Greece/Mount Olympus	5,83(0,24)	5701,74	18	2,92	Petunia
A. eriantha	Greece/Epiro Ploskos	5,93(0,22)	5799,54	18	2,97	Petunia
A. genipi	Italy/Scaletta	5,60(0,09)	5476,80	18	2,80	Petunia
A. glacialis	France/Col de Tortisse	8,92(0,41)	8723,76	16	4,46	Petunia
A. granatensis	Spain/Tajo del Goterón	7,61(0,15)	7442,58	16	3,81	Petunia
A. granatensis	Spain/Sierra Nevada	7,43(0,11)	7266,54	16	3,72	Petunia
A. umbelliformis	France/Canigó	13,10(0,18)	12811,80	34	3,28	Pisum
A. umbelliformis	France/Col de Tortisse	13,03(0,22)	12743,34	34	3,26	Pisum
A. umbelliformis	France/Col du Galibier	13,21(0,08)	12919,38	34	3,30	Pisum
A. umbelliformis	France/Col de la Bonette	13,18(0,19)	12899,82	34	3,30	Pisum
A. umbelliformis	Spain/Collaradeta	12,40(0,25)	12127,20	34	3,10	Pisum
A. umbelliformis	Switzerland/Riffelberg	13,44(0,05)	13144,32	34	3,36	Pisum
A. umbelliformis	Italy/Aosta valley	13,40(0,10)	13105,20	34	3,35	Pisum
A. umbelliformis	Spain/Tajo del Goterón	13,18(0,12)	12890,04	34	3,30	Pisum
A. umbelliformis	Spain/Palencia	13,27(0,06)	12978,06	34	3,32	Pisum

3. Genome size in the Asteraceae: first steps to a database

S. Garcia¹, J. Pellicer¹, O. Hidalgo², S. Siljak-Yakovlev³, J. Vallès¹ and T. Garnatje²

¹Laboratori de Botànica, Facultat de Farmàcia, Universitat de Barcelona, Av. Joan XXIII s. n., 08028 Barcelona, Catalonia, Spain

²Institut Botànic de Barcelona (CSIC-ICUB), Passeig del Migdia s. n., Parc de Montjuïc, 08038 Barcelona, Catalonia, Spain

³Ecologie, Systématique, Evolution, UMR CNRS 8079, Université Paris-Sud, Bâtiment 360, 91405 Orsay Cedex, France

The Asteraceae, one of the biggest and most recent plant families, comprise many economically relevant, useful and noxious plants, and have been profusely studied from many points of view, including genome size assessments. In this contribution we analyse the available data on nuclear DNA amounts of the Asteraceae to evaluate to what extent the family is well and regularly covered by such studies, and to identify gaps in this respect. With the purpose of making information from this family more accessible for both reference and analysis purposes, we have pooled all the available data from the Plant DNA C-values database (M.D. Bennet and I.J. Leitch) and the literature on this topic, and a preliminar database which gathers information exclusively in the Asteraceae has been built. This compilation has allowed addressing several questions such as the relationships between genome size and genome organization, ascending and descending dysploidy, systematics at different levels, phylogeny and evolution, life cycle, ecology and biogeography.

