



Reviewer Sheet (for Review, Prospects, Essay, and News and Views articles)

1. Reviewer information

Name and Title: Yasutaka Kubo, Ph.D.

Affiliation and Title: Faculty of Agriculture, Okayama University

Address: Faculty of Agriculture, Okayama University, Tsushima, Okayama, 700-8530, Japan

Contact e-mail : ykubo@cc.okayama-u.ac.jp

Contact Phone (optional) +81-86-251-8338

2. Manuscript information

Title: Systematic development of tomato bioresources in Japan.

Authors: Tohru Ariizumi¹, Koh Aoki², and Hiroshi Ezura^{1, *}

1, Graduate School of Life and Environmental Sciences, University of Tsukuba, Ibaraki 305-8572, Japan

2, Kazusa DNA Research Institute, 2-6-7 Kazusa-Kamatari, Kisarazu, 292-0818, Japan

*, Corresponding author

3. Review process

I was informed by the authors that IBC adopts a full open peer review system and agree with the public opening of the reviewer information and the review provided on this sheet.

This manuscript was finally reviewed on December 20, 2010.

I went through () times of pre-revision with the authors since I received the first draft of the manuscript on December 16, 2010.

This is optional. IBC expect that the open peer review system would facilitate constructive communication between reviewers and authors before submission, which may involve a few rounds of revisions.

None of personal, financial, political, and religious matters biased this review.

4. Review

Please note that the acceptance of the manuscript is mostly based on the scientific integrity, newness, reproducibility, and readability. Importance or significance is not a major consideration, since a report will be assessed eventually by its impact on scientific progress, for example, by citation, access, and downloads.

I have confirmed the overall scientific integrity of the article. Yes () or No ()

The nature of the article is proper as an article in the given category of IBC. Yes () or No ()

The extent of the article is proper as a separate article. Yes () or No ()

The title properly represents the contents. Yes () or No ()

The contents are well organized. Yes () or No ()

The coverage of the article is proper for the given topic and for the given category. Yes () or No ()

The contents are well updated and are not biased. Yes () or No ()

The manuscript is prepared with a clear readability. Yes () or No ()

The manuscript carries author's view or perspective. Yes () or No ()

The extent of the author's view or perspective is proper. Yes () or No ()

The author's view or perspective is scientifically valid. Yes () or No ()

I recommend publication of this article in IBC. Yes () or No ()

If yes, I rate this manuscript as

() Exceptional: Score of 9. Truly novel concept and/or breakthrough with a general impact

() Highly recommended: Score of 6. Highly novel article of significantly broad impact

() Recommended: Score of 3. Original and sound article of recommended scientific significance

() Fair: No score. Original and sound article worthy of sharing and depositing

General and specific comments, including why the article is worth to be shared. Please use additional sheets, if needed.

This essay introduced the NBRP Tomato project using Micro-Tom tomato and demonstrated its importance and usefulness as a basic infrastructure for current research society clearly. In last decade, genome project of Arabidopsis and development of related tools and technology have impacted plant research and contributed to basic understanding of plant at molecular level. Therefore, next main target of plant research must be application of basic understanding to real crop to contribute to public welfare, in addition to comprehension of diversity between species. As authors pointed out, tomato is an excellent model plant for fruit crop with commercial and economical importance. Recently, genome sequences of tomato cv Heinz has been released and several supporting database and genetic resource centers for tomato are available. Based on these situations, the research community of tomato has been expanding rapidly. This mini essay covers not only the NBRP Tomato project, but also useful information of related tomato bioresources such as SGN and is well written. Therefore, the essay matches for coming trend of plant research and provide useful information for IBC readers. I am confident to recommend this essay for publication on IBC.