

Topic: Genomics, Evolution and Phylogeny

PI: GEP08

## LINKAGE DISEQUILIBRIUM PATTERNS IN DAIRY GYR BREED

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For using single nucleotide polymorphisms (SNPs) markers in a livestock breeding program they should be in linkage disequilibrium (LD) with the targets regions. Haploview software was used to perform the calculation of LD (r2) between SNPs located on the same chromosome. It performs calculations based on genotypic data. This study presents a first generation of LD map statistics for the genome of indicine (Bos indicus) cattle, the Dairy Gyr breed. DNA samples from 379 Gyr breed genotyped by Illumina BovineSNP50 Bead Chip (Illumina Inc., San Diego, CA). Only SNPs with MAF > 0.03 (minor allelic frequencies) were included in the LD analysis, totalizing 26,094 SNPs (46.4% of the total SNPs available). The pairwise r<sup>2</sup> statistics of SNPs up to 5 Mb apart across the genome was estimated. For the pairwise distances of < 25kb, it was observed a mean value of r<sup>2</sup>= 0.18 ±0.26 and it dropped to 0.16  $\pm 0.24$  at 50-75 kb. The proportion of SNPs in useful LD ( $r^2 > = 0.25$ ) was 20.2% for the distance of 50 and 175 kb between SNPs. LD structure is best described using a haplotype block model, which is defined where 95% of combinations of SNPs within a region are in very high LD, demonstrating historical recombination. A total of 440 haplo-blocks spanning 71,949.092 kb (2.8%) of the genome and containing 1,577 SNPs (6%) were detected. The mean and median block lengths were estimated as 2,481 ±1,429.06 kb and 1,962.572 kb respectively. A set of tag SNPs has been identified, which will be useful for further fine-mapping studies. The number of haplo-blocks in Gyr cattle is lower than Holstein cattle. There are two hypotheses that can explain these findings. First, taurine breeds have a higher level of LD. Second, modern breeding programs increased the extent of LD in Europe and caused differences of LD between genomic regions.

Financial support: FAPEMIG, EMBRAPA, CNPq, CAPES