Impact of low and mid-density markers genotyping on CIMMYT's tropical maize breeding

#### Sudha Nair, Xuecai Zhang, Manje Gowda CIMMYT Global Maize Program

#### 01-02-2024





## Outline

- CIMMYT maize molecular breeding
- Genomic resources and genotyping platforms
- Trait marker pipeline: MABC and Forward breeding
- Genomic selection
- Marker-based quality control
- Final takeaways



#### **CIMMYT Maize Molecular Breeding**







Latin America





**E&S** Africa





Asia







# Genomic resources and genotyping platforms





## <u>Genotyping by sequencing</u>

Genotyping-by-sequencing (GBS) is one of most widely used reduced representation sequencing methods

GBS has been extensively applied for the sequencing of more than 17,000 maize materials (<u>https://www.panzea.org/</u>) with ~1 Million imputed SNP calls mapped to reference genome

Three generations of maize haplotype maps are constructed using this data and have been applied to studies on many aspects of maize genetics.



CIMMYT has assembled five association mapping panels which are genotyped with GBS, and used to map various traits of breeding significance

95% of released CIMMYT Maize Lines (CMLs) are genotyped using GBS



## rAmpSeq genotyping

Methodology used conserved regions to design PCR primers for amplifying thousands of middle repetitive regions, followed by bioinformatic scans to identify DNA sequence polymorphisms in the low copy intervening sequences (Buckler et al., 2016).

Cost effective mid-density genotyping strategy for large-scale genomic selection projects.

For maize samples genotyped for genomic selection, ~7000 tags were generated on an average

Routine use of genomic selection as a strategy in maize breeding pipelines initiated in 2017 employing this genotyping platform

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## **DArTag Mid-density panel**



Currently being used for genomic selection, genetic diversity studies, QTL mapping, reference profile

https://excellenceinbreeding.org/toolbox/services/ maize-mid-density-genotyping-services

- ~7000 SNP sequences submitted to DArT for development of MD panel; Version 1 of the MD panel had 1898 genome-wide SNPs
- Version 2 (current) MD panel has 3305 genome wide SNP markers developed from sequencing data of >10,000 breeding lines and landraces belonging to different breeding programs from Latin America, Africa and Asia
- Mainly derived from the genomics resources from CIMMYT and IITA including whole-genome re-sequencing (WGS), genotyping by sequencing (GBS), DArTseq genotyping and maize HapMap3
- The average marker density of the panel is about 1 SNP per 0.72 Mbp, distributed across 10 chromosomes
- Comprises trait markers from several discovery studies in maize along with random markers spread across the genome, including the 70 QC KASP markers

### Maize low-density SNP sets

- The EiB low-density genotyping service is a shared KASPTM genotyping platform serving all CGIAR centers and their partner programs
   <u>KASP markers for maize v2.xlsx</u>
- Includes trait markers for breeding-relevant traits for different tropical product profiles which are outcomes of trait mapping studies of breeding-relevant traits at CIMMYT and IITA
- Includes a common set of 50 SNPs used in quality control at various stages across all maize breeding pipelines



#### Genome assembly of CML495 and re-sequencing of 90 key CMLs



Overview of CML495 genome assembly.

A transposable element; **B** gene density; **C** presence and absence (PAV) relative to B73\_RefGen\_v4; **D** SNPs relative to B73\_RefGen\_v4; **E** SVs relative to B73\_RefGen\_v4; and synteny with lines representing paralogous gene pairs between and within pseudo-chromosomes in CML495 (purple and orange lines).

Genomic feature	CML495
Length of CML495 assembly (bp)	2,208,341,065
Length of 10 pseudochromosomes (bp)	2,162,116,483
Maximum scaffold length (bp)	310,254,704
N50 of scaffold (bp)	221,728,245
LTR assembly index, LAI	24.40
Complete BUSCOs (%)	96.50
Number of unanchored contigs	1,031
Number of genes	37,947
Number of genes in 10 pseudochromosomes	37,879
Number of transcripts	47,760
Genes with RNA-seq support	29,758
Total size of transposable elements (bp)	1.677.097.145



#### 

#### **Re-sequenced CMLs and elite DT lines**

	Subgroup1 Dought Tolerance 19 Lines
CML343	LAPOSTASEQ-C3-FS17-1-2-3-2-1-B
CML405	LAPOSTASEQ-C0-B*3-12-1-1-B
CML477	LAPOSTASEQ-C3-B-B-1-2-B
CML488	DTPW-C8-F31-4-2-1-5-B
CML494	LAPOSTASEQ-C4-F7-1-2-2-2-B
CML564	DTPY-C9-F46-3-9-1-2-2-1-3-B*7
CML566	(LAPOSTASEQ-C7-F96-1-2-1-1-B*3/CML444//CML444)-DH16-B
CML567	(LAPOSTASEQ-C7-F71-1-2-1-2-B*3/CML539//CML539)-DH3-B
CML568	(LAPOSTASEQ-C7-F71-1-2-1-2-B*3/CML539//CML539)-DH20-B
CML576	(CLFAWW11/CML494)-B-24-2-2-B-B-1-B-8-B-B
CML592	(CML536/DTPW-C9-F109-2-6-1-1-B)-DH13-B-B
DPW9F104	DTPWC9-F104-5-4-1-1-B-B
DTPY9F46	DTPYC9-F46-1-2-1-2-B-B-B
DTPY9F74	DTPYC9-F74-1-1-1-B-B-B-B
LPSC7F64	La Posta Sequia C7 F64-2-6-2-2-B-B-B
CML444	Р43-С9-1-1-1-1-В
CML544	((CML395/CML444)-B-4-1-3-1-B/CML444//(TUXPSEQ-C1-F2/P49SR)-F2-45-7- 1-2-B)-2-1-2-2-B
CML522	CML444 IR P43-C9-1-1-1-1-B
CML373	P43SR-4-1-1-2-1-B-8-1-B

Over 600 candidate genes relevant to DT tolerance

Zm00001d050107 opr8 Zm00001d004358 abi28 Zm00001d051194 adc2 Zm00001d030803 ZmARF2 Zm00001d030801 ZmARF1 Zm00001d004384 saur21 Zm00001d049659 saur37 Zm00001d030955 ZmCBL2-1 Zm00001d015743 ZmHy5 Zm00001d049889 DREB2C Zm00001d014113 ERF096 Zm00001d025409 RAP2-6/ereb21 Zm00001d032223 ga20ox6 Zm00001d009646 scl1/ZmGRAS11 Zm00001d042187 grx8 Zm00001d019429 mybr30 Zm00001d047491 jmj3 Zm00001d016381 hdac1 Zm00001d050074 PEPR1 Zm00001d024268 nac110 Zm00001d010743 ZmCIPK19 Zm00001d005484 ZmPLDδ3/pld12 Zm00001d033552 mha13 Zm00001d025303 hak19 Zm00001d050069 ZmTPS7.2/trps8 Zm00001d005003 cal4 Zm00001d011669 myb124 Zm00001d028759 pdc3 Zm00001d042188 SAPK3/SnRK2-10 Zm00001d023931 myb109 Zm00001d021191 ZmbZIP22/vip1 Zm00001d004383 lug6 Zm00001d039245 WRKY6 Zm00001d047309 wrky61

12-oxophytodienoate reductase 3 ABI3VP1 transcription factor (Fragment) Arginine decarboxylase Auxin response factor Auxin response factor Auxin-induced protein 10A5 auxin-responsive protein SAUR21-like Calcineurin B-like protein 3 cAMP response element binding (CREB) protein Dehydration-responsive element-binding protein 2C Ethylene-responsive transcription factor ERF098 Ethylene-responsive transcription factor ERF115 Fe2OG dioxygenase domain-containing protein GA repressor DELLA Glutaredoxin domain-containing protein Glutathione S-transferase T3 Growth-regulating factor 5 Histone deacetylase Leucine-rich repeat receptor-like protein kinase PEPR1 NAC domain-containing protein Non-specific serine/threonine protein kinase Phospholipase D Plasma membrane ATPase Potassium transporter probable alpha, alpha-trehalose-phosphate synthase [UDP-forming] 9 Putative calmodulin-like protein 2 Putative MYB DNA-binding domain superfamily protein Pyruvate decarboxylase Serine/threonine-protein kinase SAPK3 Transcription factor MYB83 (Fragment) Transcription factor RF2a WD40 repeat-containing protein HOS15 WRKY domain-containing protein WRKY53 transcription factor

## **Trait markers in breeding pipelines**



### Trait marker pipeline



CGIAR

### **Molecular marker deployment strategies**

MAS to transfer high value rare alleles in the

breeding pool from trait donors Marker assisted back crossing Favorable allele frequency: null to low Effect size: large MAS in routine breeding crosses for increasing the frequency of specific high-value alleles in Forward breeding breeding populations Favorable allele frequency: medium to high Effect size: moderate to large Prediction of breeding value based on genome-wide markers Genomic selection Favorable allele frequency: medium to high Effect size: multiple small effect

CGIAR

#### **Production markers for Msv1 for Maize streak virus**

- Followed a QTL isogenic recombinant (QIR) strategy to fine map to a genetic interval of <u>0.87 cM</u>
- Validation confirmed <u>94%</u> <u>accuracy</u> for selection with favourable haplotype
- Routine use in forward breeding

Theor Appl Genet DOI 10.1007/s00122-015-2551-8

ORIGINAL PAPER

Fine mapping of *Msv1*, a major QTL for resistance to Maize Streak Virus leads to development of production markers for breeding pipelines

 $\begin{array}{l} Sudha \ K. \ Nair^1 \cdot Raman \ Babu^1 \cdot Cosmos \ Magorokosho^2 \cdot George \ Mahuku^3 \cdot Kassa \ Semagn^3 \cdot Yoseph \ Beyene^3 \cdot Biswanath \ Das^3 \cdot Dan \ Makumbi^3 \cdot P. \ Lava \ Kumar^4 \cdot Michael \ Olsen^3 \cdot Prasanna \ M. \ Boddupalli^3 \end{array}$ 





#### Production markers for MLN: qMLN\_06.157 discovery



- Modified QTLseq experiment
- Three populations involving KS23 sources
- Tissue sampled thousands of F2
  plants
- Inoculated plants
- Genotyped most resistant and susceptible individuals





Special thanks to Diversity Arrays Technology and IGSS for genotyping support

#### MABC for *qMLN\_06.157*: TI pipeline



**Cohort 2 - Equivalency Results** 4.0 3.5 Grain Yield (t/ha) Optimum 3.0 2.5 2.0 1.5 1.0 0.5 0.0 CML540 **CML548 CML442 CML444** CML511 **CML539** CKDHL0106 CKDHL0186 CKDHL0323 CKL05017 **CML567 CML569** Original 2.7 3.2 2.6 1.4 3.2 3.7 2.6 3.0 2.5 2.1 2.2 3.2 2.5 2.5 3.2 2.9 2.5 2.8 2.6 2.1 2.4 3.4 2.5 2.2 2.0 3.3 LNT21 2.6 2.4 2.1 =LNT22 2.4 2.9 1.8 3.6 2.5 3.0 3.1 LNT23 2.6 2.4 2.1 3.7 2.4 2.4 3.1 2.6



>110 elite lines have been introgressed with *qMLN\_06.157* 

#### **Forward Breeding for MLN and MSV**



Forward breeding -Total number of lines genotyped and selected for MLN and MSV resistance haplotypes from last six years in ESA breeding pipelines



#### **Production markers for** *qRtsc8-1* **for maize tar spot complex**



#### Fine mapping of *qRtsc8-1* for resistance to Tar spot complex

Pos.	CML495	B73	Pos.	CML495	B73	1
3	Н	Q	532	S	Ν	3
11	S	G	542	V	Ι	\$\$8_83/2852 \$58_83/28541 \$58_83/28541 \$58_83/2852
18	А	Р	561	Ν	Н	€ 2 - 68, 827/2013 54 558 525254 558 827/2013 64 53 54 52542540 588 83059756 588 588 588 588 588 588 588 588 588 5
141	S	Ν	589	S	G	2
151	L	V	744	Ν	Т	
191	Y	Н	748	-	Т	82,850,5141 82,820,512 82,420,512 82,420,512 82,420,5161 83,132,709 83,258,658 83,444,605 Zn00001d00/813 Zn00001d00/814 Zp00001d009816 Zm00001d009816 Zm00001d009816
239	Н	R	798	S	L	
282	-	Р	923	Μ	Ι	
287	L	Ι	981	S	Т	
329	А	V	985	-	S	
362	Ι	Μ	1053	V	Ι	
444	Р	S	1076	Т	Ι	
453	Κ	Т	1093	Н	D	
486	G	S	1118	Q	L	
Mutat	ion site o	of Zm	00001d	<i>009814</i> k	oetween	B73 and CML495
		1.	1	D 1'	4 1 1	

 SAAS	Predicted_score	Predicted_class
 R239H	0.209	neutral
T453K	0.251	neutral
S486G	0.441	neutral
I923M	0.724	functional
T981S	0.107	neutral
I1053V	0.642	functional
I1076T	0.798	functional
D1093H	0 752	functional

Candidate gene-based GWAS in the qRtsc8-1 fine-mapping region of 721 kb including *Zm00001d009814*, a leucine-rich repeat receptor-like protein kinase



**PPVED** prediction of single amino acid mutations

#### **TSC: Discovery stage of** *qRtsc10-1*

#### *qRtsc10-1* from CML576 detected by QTL mapping in (CML576/CLWN244) DH population with 225 DH lines evaluated in 7 reps



**CIMMYT** 

CML576 ranged from 1 to 4 across locations, with an average of 2.23;

CLV 1244 ranged from 5 to 9 across locations, with an average of 7.13;

DH lines ranged from 3.18 to 7.62 across locations, with a heritability of 0.85, and LSD of 0.68.

	No. of	snpZM	0 snpZM00	snpZM00 s	npZM00	snpZM00	snpZM00	snpZM00	snpZM00
Populations	samples	263	266	267	286	288	269	270	289
((CML576/CLWN244)@40-B/CLWN244)-13	92	4.28e-08 ***	* 7.66e-13 ***	3.64e-12 ***	2 4e-11 ***	2.4e-11 ***	1.48e-10 ***	2.39e-07 ***	4.24e-05 ***
((CML576/CLWN244)@233-B/(CML576/CLWN244)@15-B)-68	105	0.523	5.03e-12 ***	8.12e-12 ***	5 2e-09 ***	5.2e-09 ***	1.53e-10 ***	3.29e-09 ***	5.09e-05 ***
((CML576/CLWN244)@10-B/(CML576/CLWN244)@15-B)-35	143	0.179	3.8e-08 ***	4.04e-09 *** 5	5. <b>7</b> 6e-08 ***	3.86e-08 ***	2.07e-06 ***	2.18e-05 ***	0.688
((CML576/CLWN244)@40-B/(CML576/CLWN244)@15-B)-27	156	0.00464 **	0.00051 ***	0.000179 ***	0 00483 **	0.00483 **	0.00133 **	0.000715 ***	NA
((CML576/CLWN244)@127-B/(CML576/CLWN244)@211-B-48	165	5.47e-08 **	* <2e-16 ***	<2e-16 ***	<2e-16 ***	<2e-16 ***	2.58e-12 ***	2.03e-09 ***	1.14e-05 ***
((CML576/CLWN244)@158-B/(CML576/CLWN244)@15-B)-26	157	1.99e-06 **	* <2e-16 ***	<2e-16 ***	<2e-16 ***	<2e-16 ***	<2e-16 ***	<2e-16 ***	0.0157 *
((CML576/CLWN244)@158-B/(CML576/CLWN244)@167-B)-6	167	4.47e-06 **	* 1.81e-12 ***	1.01e-13 ***	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
((CML576/CLWN244)@233-B/(CML576/CLWN244)@167-B)-13	136	0.813	2.83e-07 ***	1.34e-12 ***	0.571	0.571	0.569	0.571	
((CML576/CLWN244)@76-B/(CML576/CLWN244)@167-B)-3	104	NA	NA	NA	0.541	0.456	0.119	0.411	0.627
((CML576/CLWN244)@76-B/(CML576/CLWN244)@15-B)-35	80	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	0.0882
((CML576/CLWN244)@92-B/(CML576/CLWN244)@211-B)-81	132	0.323	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Intertek SNP ID *) Customer SNP ID Comments		L							

			comments
	snpZM00262	S10-219993	1, bad quality
	snpZM00263	S10-826897	2
	snpZM00264	S10-1475501	
	snpZM00265	S10-1501085	
	snpZM00266	S10-2246125	3
	snpZM00267	S10-3599696	4
	snpZM00268	S10-3855495	5, bad quality
	snpZM00285	S10-4127370	
	snpZM00286	S10-4163326	6
	snpZM00287	S10-4183669	
	snpZM00288	S10-4184535	7
k	snpZM00269	S10-4262659	8
	snpZM00270	S10-4336876	
CG	IAR snpZM00289	S10-4478412	10
	snpZM00271	S10-5178159	

#### TSC: Fine mapping of qRtsc10-1

Marker-trait association in fine-mapping populations snpZM266 (2.24 Mb)- snpZM267 (3.60 Mb), 1.36 Mb interval snpZM263 (0.83 Mb)- snpZM267 (4.16 Mb), 3.33 Mb interval

#### **TSC: Fine mapping of qRtsc10-1**

#### Marker validation in 499 breeding lines, including 279 CMLs and 220 coded breeding lines

	Favorable allele <sup>b</sup>				Unfavorable allele				P-value <sup>e</sup>	
KASP markers	Allele	Frequency	TSC	AUDPC	Allele	Frequency	TSC	AUDPC	TSC	AUDPC
K10-219993	А	0.56	5.13	57.16	С	0.44	5.29	60.06	0.0563	0.0029**
K10-826897	т	0.52	5.15	57.69	А	0.48	5.29	59.70	0.1083	0.0401*
K10-1475501	А	0.38	5.16	58.00	Т	0.62	5.23	58.79	0.4347	0.4297
K10-1501085	G	0.77	5.19	58.09	С	0.23	5.25	59.79	0.5496	0.1442
K10-2028072	Т	0.43	5.14	57.16	С	0.57	5.27	59.66	0.1406	0.0120*
K10-2246125	G	0.60	5.17	57.77	Т	0.40	5.27	59.70	0.2262	0.0518
K10-3599696	Т	0.45	5.11	57.95	С	0.55	5.30	59.17	0.0259*	0.2147
K10-3855495	А	0.53	5.15	57.41	Т	0.47	5.26	59.59	0.1811	0.0251*
K10-4262659	А	0.54	5.19	58.80	С	0.46	5.22	58.15	0.6755	0.5015
K10-4336876	С	0.64	5.16	57.49	G	0.36	5.28	60.30	0.1772	0.0058**



Haplotype optimization & Assay verification in Stage-1 breeding lines

### **Genomic selection in breeding pipelines**



#### Three Potential GS Applications in Maize Breeding

• Prediction and selection of untested inbred lines

• Prediction and selection of untested hybrids

• Population improvement through rapid cycle recurrent selection



3

### Initial strategy for GS in maize breeding pipelines

- Final products from maize breeding pipelines are hybrids: three-way cross hybrids in ESA and single cross hybrids in Asia
- Initial strategy followed was test-half predicthalf strategy
- 40-50% of the lines were test crossed and evaluated
- All lines were genotyped at mid-density and GEBVs estimated for the remaining 50% of the lines
- Lines with best BVs (10-20%) were selected for stage II evaluation
- This saves 30-45% resources with same selection efficiency

ORIGINAL RESEARCH

frontiers

in Plant Science



Yoseph Beyene 1\*, Manje Gowda 1, Michael Olsen 1, Kelly R. Robbins 2, Paulino Perez-Rodriguez<sup>3</sup>, Gregorio Alvarado<sup>4</sup>, Kate Dreher<sup>4</sup>, Star Yanxin Gao<sup>2</sup>, Stephen Mugo1, Boddupalli M. Prasanna1 and Jose Crossa4

Genomic and Phenotypic Selections

**Empirical Comparison of Tropical** 

Maize Hybrids Selected Through

trontiers 💱

in Plant Science

Yoseph Beyene 1\*, Manje Gowda 1, Paulino Pérez-Rodriguez 2\*, Michael Olsen 1, Kelly R. Robbins<sup>2</sup>, Juan Burgueño<sup>4</sup>, Boddupalli M. Prasanna<sup>4</sup> and Jose Crossa

in Tropical Maize

Sikiru Adeniyi Atanda<sup>1,2,3</sup>1 • Michael Olsen<sup>4</sup> • Juan Burgueño<sup>2</sup> • Jose Crossa<sup>2</sup> • Daniel Dzidzienyo<sup>1</sup> Yoseph Beyene<sup>4</sup> · Manje Gowda<sup>4</sup> · Kate Dreher<sup>2</sup> · Xuecai Zhang<sup>2</sup> · Boddupalli M. Prasanna<sup>4</sup> · Pangirayi Tongoona<sup>1</sup> Eric Yirenkyi Danquah<sup>1</sup> · Gbadebo Olaoye<sup>5</sup> · Kelly R. Robbins<sup>3</sup>

#### Comparison of PS vs GS at Stage II hybrids in three regions

**Optimum - ESA** 

**Managed Drought - ESA** 



Heat stress – South Asia



#### **Optimum and Drought - Latin America**







CGIAR

## GS – With different genotyping platforms

- GY\_Dt\_DArTseq
- GY\_Dt\_RamSeq
- GY\_Opt\_DArTseq

GY\_Opt\_RamSeq

Year/Manag ement	Managed drought	Optimum	Low Nitrogen
2017	423	423	-
2018	620	620	-
2019	246	244	-
2020	302	302	302
2021	499	499	499

**Table.** Number of individuals with phenotypes andgenotypes with both rAmpSeq and Dart markers by year

AD\_Dt\_DArTseq

- AD\_Dt\_RamSeq
- AD\_Opt\_DArTseq

AD\_Opt\_RamSeq

#### **Stage 1 lines Genotyped (Phenotyped) in Five Product Profiles**

GS Strategy	Year	EA-PP1	EA-PP2	EA-PP3	SAPP1	SAPP2
T50:P50 (TP - FR)	2017	1500(850)	1400(600)	-	-	-
T50:P50 (TP - FR)	2018	2600(1400)	-	-	-	-
T50:P50 (TP - FR)	2019	2500(890)	-	-	-	-
T50:P50 (TP-SpD)	2020	1550(720)	1300(510)	-	-	-
T50:P50 (TP - SpD)	2021	2050(860)	1200(460)	500	-	-
T50:P50 (TP -SpD)	2022	1880(635)	1460(520)	590	1450(420)	-
Test all (Sparse D)	2023	2500 (2500)	1200(425)	500	1500 (660)	570
	Total No of lines	14180 (7355)	6500 (2515)	1590	2950 (1080)	570



## Prediction using historical data and GRM under drought stress and optimal conditions (EAPP1)





**A** Heatmap of the genomic relationship matrix. **B** First three PCs of the additive genomic relationship matrix, G. Dots represent individuals that are separated by colors for each year (2017, 2018, 2019 or 2020). **C** Venn diagram representing the number of common parents used to generate the DH lines at each year.

## Prediction using historical data and multi-environmental model under optimal conditions in LA breeding pipelines

Training Population	Testing Population	Prediction accuracy		
2015+2016	2017	0.38		
2015+2017	2016	0.36		
2016+2017	2015	0.50		
2015+2016+ 50% 2017	50% 2017	0.50 (0.03)		
2015+2017+ 50% 2016	50% 2016	0.56 (0.02)		

Prediction accuracy improvement by increasing TRN size and strengthening the relationship between TRN and TST

Decis fe

Theoretical and Applied Genetics (2020) 133:2869–2879 https://doi.org/10.1007/s00122-020-03638-5

ORIGINAL ARTICLE

Genomic prediction across years in a maize doubled haploid breeding program to accelerate early-stage testcross testing

Nan Wang<sup>12</sup> · Hui Wang<sup>2,3,4</sup> · Ao Zhang<sup>5</sup> · Yubo Liu<sup>5</sup> · Diansi Yu<sup>2,3,4</sup> · Zhuanfang Hao<sup>1</sup> · Dan Ilut<sup>6</sup> · Jeffrey C. Glaubitz<sup>7</sup> · Yanxin Gao<sup>7</sup> · Elizabeth Jones<sup>7</sup> · Michael Olsen<sup>8</sup> · Xinhai Li<sup>1</sup> · Felix San Vicente<sup>2</sup> · Boddupalli M. Prasanna<sup>8</sup> · Jose Crossa<sup>2</sup> · Paulino Pérez-Rodríguez<sup>9</sup> · Xuecai Zhang<sup>2</sup>



#### Prediction accuracies of GY

estimated from cross-validation schemes, within and across location analyses, single-environment model (SM) and multiple-environment model (MM)



#### **GS with Sparse Selection Index**



Proportion of the training individuals from each year that contributed to the prediction of genotypes from 2020, using SSIs with different relationship matrices





## Exploring genomic relationship with historical datasets for predictions under heat stress (SAHDT)



In 2023, a sub-set of past data considering average GRM with respect to each individual in the testing set was used in predictions of new cohort, rather than using all available historical datasets, and the work is ongoing to test different algorithms for improving prediction accuracy using GRM.
 Historical training set optimization using GRM is being carefully considered CIMMYT.

#### Lines developed through biparental based RCGS are used as parent in allocated hybrids to partners

Line	Parent in # allocated hybrids
CKLMARS1C3S50268	1
CKLMARS1C3S50080	2
CKLMARS1C3S50113	3
CKLMARS1C3S50140	2
CKLMARS1C3S50137	1





#### Multi-parent based Rapid cycle GS : Latin \_\_\_\_\_America



# Multi-parent based Rapid cycle GS : Asia (Drought stress)



#### Modified Rapid Cycle GS with historical data



Figure. Flow chart showing the steps involved in RCGS cycle scheme

CGIAR

#### **Modified RCGS with historical data**



Best 10% of the lines were selected at cycle 1 and intermated, and the harvested seeds are submitted for DH induction





# Objective of GS – Reduce both cost and cycle length

## Future Strategy – Integration of sparse design with increased number of testers from two to six.

- Sparse design is planned in such a way that all lines get the opportunity to evaluated in the field with at least one tester and a set of lines are evaluated with all testers from each heterotic group.
- This approach mimics the combination of stage 1 and 2 evaluations, so helps to skip stage I evaluation from breeding pipeline ultimately reduce the breeding cycle time.
- Reducing the phenotyping plots up to 40% and reduces the cost significantly.
- Genotyping all lines, and phenotyping in chosen locations where all genotypes will be evaluated in more than two to three locations in the sparse design.





#### Sparse phenotyping & testcrossing (SPST) with historical data



CGI

### **Continuous Improvement in GS Strategy**

- Strategy I completely replicated TP use test-half and predict-half strategy in PPs where GS is newly started – We use this approach in EAPP-2 in 2017-2019
- Strategy II Sparse design-based TP with test-half and predict-half strategy – Here test crosses are evaluated in sparse design – helps to increase one additional location with fixed number of plots as of test-half and predict-half strategy. This helps to capture better GxE interaction effect in the model. From 2020, we are using this approach for EAPP-I, and II.
- Strategy III Test all in Sparse design genotype all and test all in the product profile – Here we use sparse testing design where all the stage I lines are phenotyped, but sparse design is planned in such a way that total number of plots is reduced but all the genotypes are evaluated in field. GEBVs are estimated for all the lines and used for selection

**Modified Strategy** – Use Sparse phenotyping with Sparse testcrossing Strategy III in combination with historical data which improves selection efficiency and reduce cycle length.





#### QA & QC in maize breeding and seed production

- QC is a mainstay in many stages in all maize breeding pipelines starting from parental and F1 QC to line finishing
- Set of >350 lines being used in regional breeding programs and all released hybrids are genotyped with QC markers, and final Reference profile is available for both internal and partners' use
- All CMLs are genotyped with QC set and their reference profile is also available for internal and partners' use







A set of 100 informative markers were identified for routine application of QA&QC CIMMYT



## In Summary

- Cost-effective and time and error sensitive genotyping platforms are key to use novel tools and strategies in breeding pipelines
- Application of molecular markers are decided by trait architecture, improvement of pipeline efficiency and cost optimization
- Maize has a trait marker pipeline that follows stage gate advancement process before trait markers are adopted for deployment in breeding pipelines
- Genomic selection is a routine strategy followed in all breeding pipelines and a continuous improvement of the existing strategies are explored for cost and time efficiency with support from breeders, quantitative geneticists and biometricians



#### **Acknowledgements**



Total Quality. Assured.





# Thank you for your interest!