



Diploid F1 Hybrid Breeding in Potato

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Message from the Guest Editor

Dear Colleagues,

The advent of diploid F₁ hybrid potato (*Solanum tuberosum*) breeding in 2008, and progress since, has solved the problem of the production of genetically uniform cultivars for propagation from true potato seed (TPS). There is now much interest in applying advances in potato genetics and genomics to make such breeding as effective and efficient as possible. There are questions to answer about the scale of breeding required, the existence of heterotic groups, and the determination of how to produce sufficient TPS to meet demand. There is also the wider issue of the choice between producing diploid cultivars for propagation from TPS or tetraploid cultivars for vegetative propagation from tubers, currently the most widespread method. If we do reach the point where (pelleted) botanical seed can be directly drilled, then we are into the economics of two different farming methods, and diploid F₁ hybrid potatoes will find their favoured places around the world. It therefore seems timely to invite contributions for a Special Issue on all of these aspects of diploid F₁ hybrid potato breeding.

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Message from the Editor-in-Chief

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