

USING SEQUENCE DATA TO REFINE QTL MAPPING IN FRENCH DAIRY GOATS



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CONTEXT

❖ VarGoats project is a re-sequencing program which aims at covering at best genetic diversity
 → to date : 829 sequenced individuals including 44 French Alpine and 37 French Saanen

Expectations of accessing whole-genome variability

- ✓ identification of causal mutations
- ✓ improvement of genomic evaluations accuracy







OBJECTIVE

Assess utility of sequence data in French dairy goats

Dilemma : filter enough to impute correctly while keeping enough variants for GWAS analysis







- On CHI 6 in both Alpine and Saanen breeds:
 - Caseins region confirmed
 - \checkmark New regions detected \rightarrow need an improved annotation
- On CHI 19: 460 variants above chromosome threshold
 ✓ 117 fixed in Alpine (MAF < 5%) with 115 with MAF >25% in Saanen
 → 58 annotated genes
- Among annotated genes \rightarrow 13 genes highly expressed in testis
- \checkmark Other genes need to be investigated \rightarrow no explicit link with trait

Type traits : fore udder (FU), chest depth (CD), Rear Udder Attachment (RUA), Udder Floor Position (UFP) Production traits : fat and protein yield (FY, PY), somatic cells score (LSCS), milk yield (MY) Semen production traits : spermatozoa number (SN), semen volume (SV)

CONCLUSIONS

Sequence data

- Refining known QTL regions
- Identifying candidate mutations

BUT need an improved annotation of *Capra hircus* genome

Future perspectives

Evaluation of impact on genomic selection

Functional analysis to confirm candidate mutations



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