Sharing Experience: What Can We Learn From Each Other Developing Plant Informatics Systems

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Overview

- Where are Information Systems at now?
- Summary of talks and meetings at PAG
- What comes next

Current efforts on plant information systems

- There’s a need to coordinate and manage information from plant research initiatives
- Several Information System (IS) initiatives exist
- Here at PAG: groups include DivSeek, WheatIS, AgBioData, IRIC, GrapeIS, Brassica.info etc.
- Why not collaborate, share experience, efforts, work?

PAGXXIV

- We’ve had several discussions here at PAG with DivSeek, AgBioData, several plant Information System people
- Forming a plan to facilitate communication and exchange of ideas

AgBioData

- AgBioData organise a workshop at PAG
- Very US ARS focused
- Includes animal and insect

Two models – model A

‘BioData’

AgBioData  DivSeek  WheatIS  IRIC

etc.
Model B

- AgBioData
  - LegumeIS
  - WheatIS
  - IRIC
  - etc.

What comes next

- AgBioData as umbrella or as a spoke in the umbrella?
- Website - possibly "agbiodata.org", comes online this month
- Do we need a Biodata.org web site?
- Hosted and maintained by us (Edwards group) at UWA, Perth

Funding?

- Website: We already have the infrastructure in place, negligible additional cost
- No funding required given current scope

Agbiodata.org

- Lists initiatives, links to these initiatives, contact details for these initiatives
- Happy to host for the next few years (VM transferrable, so we can pass on if desired)

Mailing list

- Need a place to post and discuss news, ask questions etc.
- AgBioData runs a monthly conference call, Basecamp presence
- Time differences may make calls hard, will at least set up a mailing list or newsgroup

Other initiatives

- Joint constructive reviews of projects, one project reviews another, providing feedback both to the project being reviewed and their own project group
- Learn more about each other's work and directly compare approaches, methods, aims and philosophy
- Make reviews public?
Other initiatives

- Publish a review or opinion piece detailing the challenges and opportunities
- Produce a journal special issue on plant information systems

Industry

- Beneficial to have industry on board (information exchange, linkage grants…)
- We’ll start to invite industry once preliminary stages (web-presence) are finished

Outlook

- Decide on structure, AgBioData central or part of something larger?
- Preliminary website will be up this month
- We’ll be in contact with relevant groups to tighten collaboration
- More, closer contact between different research groups!

Questions?

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