

1 High-throughput genotyping for species identification and diversity assessment  
2 in germplasm collections

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23 resources, Illumina Infinium SNP array

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25 **Abstract**

26 Germplasm collections provide an extremely valuable resource for breeders and researchers.  
27 However, misclassification of accessions by species often hinders the effective use of these  
28 collections. We propose that use of high-throughput genotyping tools can provide a fast, efficient  
29 and cost-effective way of confirming species in germplasm collections, as well as providing valuable  
30 genetic diversity data. We genotyped 180 Brassicaceae samples sourced from the Australian Grains  
31 Genebank across the recently released Illumina Infinium Brassica 60K SNP array. Of these, 76 were  
32 provided on the basis of suspected misclassification and another 104 were sourced independently  
33 from the germplasm collection. Presence of the A and C genomes combined with principle  
34 components analysis clearly separated *B. rapa*, *B. oleracea*, *B. napus*, *B. carinata* and *B. juncea*  
35 samples into distinct species groups. Several lines were further validated using chromosome counts.  
36 Overall, 18% of samples (32/180) were misclassified on the basis of species. Within these 180  
37 samples, 23/76 (30%) supplied on the basis of suspected misclassification were misclassified, and  
38 9/105 (9%) of the samples randomly sourced from the Genebank were misclassified. Surprisingly,  
39 several individuals were also found to be the product of interspecific hybridisation events. The SNP  
40 (Single Nucleotide Polymorphism) array proved effective at confirming species, and provided useful  
41 information related to genetic diversity. As similar genomic resources become available for different  
42 crops, high-throughput molecular genotyping will offer an efficient and cost-effective method to  
43 screen germplasm collections worldwide, facilitating more effective use of these valuable resources  
44 by breeders and researchers.

## 45 Introduction

46 Natural genetic diversity in crop species is a key resource for agricultural improvement. Genetic  
47 variation for cold and heat tolerance, drought and disease resistance as well as other environmental  
48 stresses exists in most natural species, but is often lost through domestication and selection for yield  
49 and yield-related traits in crops (Day 1973; Hyten *et al.* 2006; Simmonds 1962; Zamir 2001). In order  
50 to preserve this useful genetic diversity for later introgression back into crop cultivars and for  
51 targeted breeding attempts in crop improvement, “genebanks” and diversity collections exist around  
52 the world (Tanksley& McCouch 1997). These collections preserve wild accessions, landraces and  
53 cultivars collated from local and international sources, often comprising tens to thousands of lines.  
54 Seeds are donated by breeders, collectors and research institutions, and lines are maintained as a  
55 resource for future generations.

56

57 *Brassica* comprises the largest number of domesticated crop species of any genus, and includes leaf  
58 vegetables, oilseeds, condiments and root vegetable crops; such as rapeseed, mustards, cabbage,  
59 turnips, broccoli and cauliflower. Numerous species in the wider Brassicaceae can also be hybridised  
60 with key crop species within *Brassica*, including the wild radishes (*Raphanus*), woad (*Isatis*) and white  
61 mustard (*Sinapis*), as well as the *Brassica* C genome clade of *B. cretica*, *B. hilarionis*, *B. incana* and *B.*  
62 *macrocarpa*, among others (FitzJohn *et al.* 2007; Harberd& McArthur 1980; Prakash *et al.* 1999;  
63 Warwick *et al.* 2003). This potential for hybrid introgression from wild relatives coupled with the  
64 extant genetic diversity in the non-cultivated forms of key crop species makes *Brassica* a major  
65 feature of genebank collections worldwide. The six cultivated *Brassica* species share an interesting  
66 genomic relationship, with three diploids (*B. rapa*,  $2n = AA = 20$ ; *B. nigra*,  $2n = BB = 16$  and *B.*  
67 *oleracea*,  $2n = CC = 18$ ) and a set of three allotetraploids each containing two of the three diploid  
68 genomes (*B. juncea*,  $2n = AABB = 36$ ; *B. napus*,  $2n = AACC = 38$  and *B. carinata*,  $2n = BBCC = 34$ )  
69 (Morinaga 1934; U 1935). Allotetraploid *B. napus* is one of the most agriculturally significant crop

70 species within this genus, with rapeseed and canola contributing to oil production for food and  
71 biofuel. However, canola is also the least diverse, with major genetic bottlenecks as a result of only a  
72 limited number of hybridisation events between diploid progenitors to form the allotetraploid  
73 (Palmer *et al.* 1983), coupled with rigorous selective pressure to achieve “canola-quality” oil for  
74 human consumption and enhance yield with the recent emphasis on breeding of oilseeds in this  
75 domesticated crop (Cowling 2007). No known wild forms of this species exist (Dixon 2007). Hence, *B.*  
76 *napus* in particular is a critical crop species for genetic improvement via introgression of diversity  
77 from both wild and domestic diploid relatives, particularly those with which it shares the A and C  
78 genomes (*B. rapa*, *B. oleracea*, *B. juncea* and *B. carinata*). Several past breeding attempts have  
79 demonstrated the efficacy of this approach in introgressing disease resistance from related species  
80 (Navabi *et al.* 2010b; Rygulla *et al.* 2007; Saal *et al.* 2004).

81

82 A major problem with genebank collections is ensuring the accurate identification of species. Many  
83 genebanks do not have the resources to assess every line gifted to them for genetic diversity, correct  
84 origin and correct species identification. To date, attempts to identify species in germplasm  
85 collections have all relied on low-throughput molecular marker genotyping approaches (Dangl *et al.*  
86 2001; Ferriol *et al.* 2003; Lee *et al.* 2014; Martin *et al.* 1997; Pradhan *et al.* 2011). However,  
87 generation of inexpensive high-throughput molecular marker data is now becoming routine for many  
88 genera. We show how the recently released Illumina Infinium Brassica 60K SNP array can be used for  
89 rapid species identification in the *Brassica* genus, revealing cases of species misclassification,  
90 providing useful genetic diversity information and confirming genome composition in this major  
91 agricultural genus.

92

## 93 **Materials and Methods**

### 94 *Germplasm*

95 A total of 188 experimental samples (176 lines) were genotyped for this experiment (Supplementary  
96 Table 1). A set of 77 samples with suspected species attribution errors and another set of 111  
97 independently-obtained samples were sourced from the Australian Grains Genebank (Supplementary  
98 Table 1). Forty two additional samples (37 lines) of confirmed species origin were also included in the  
99 analysis as controls (Supplementary Table 1). These comprised 22 *B. napus* lines (commercially  
100 available canola cultivars from Australia and China), four *B. juncea* lines (“JN9-04”, “Purple Leaf  
101 Mustard”, “Domo” and “Lethbridge”), two *B. carinata* lines (“195923” and “94024”, breeding lines in  
102 Australia of Ethiopian origin), two *B. oleracea* lines (sequenced accession “TO1000” and commercially  
103 available cauliflower “Snowball”), two *B. rapa* lines (sequenced South Korean cultivar “Chiifu” and a  
104 commercial “Pak Choy” variety) and five *Raphanus sativus* lines (commercial radish varieties “Cherry  
105 Belle”, “Long Scarlet”, “Mila”, “Saxa” and “Scarlet Globe”).

106

#### 107 *Genotyping and statistical analyses*

108 DNA was extracted according to methodology detailed in Fulton et al. (1995). All DNA samples were  
109 hybridized to an Illumina Infinium Brassica 60K array SNP array released for the *Brassica napus*  
110 genome (<http://illumina.com>; 52157 SNPs) according to manufacturer’s instructions. SNP (Single  
111 Nucleotide Polymorphism) chips were scanned using an Illumina HiScanSQ and data visualised using  
112 Genome Studio V2011.1 (Illumina, Inc., San Diego, CA, USA). A cluster file provided by Agriculture  
113 and Agri-Food Canada, Saskatoon, Canada was used to cluster SNPs into genotype groupings (e.g.  
114 GG, GT and TT allele calls, which were converted into 0, 1 and 2 scores for subsequent analysis). SNP  
115 locations were determined through BLAST comparison with the public *B. rapa* and *B. oleracea*  
116 reference genome sequences (Parkin et al. 2014; Wang et al. 2011); Supplementary Table 2.  
117 Percentage SNP calls for each genome were calculated for each sample and this information used to  
118 determine the presence or absence of the A and C genomes in the sample.

119

120 Hierarchical clustering and principle components analysis (PCA) were carried out using R version 3.0  
121 (The R Project for Statistical Computing). Dendrograms were generated using  $n = 1000$  bootstrap  
122 iterations to validate branches, using the “pvclust” function in R package “pvclust”. Dendrogram  
123 “Height” represents squared Euclidean distance between samples. Missing values were replaced with  
124 means for each SNP across the population using R package “gam”, function “na.gam.replace”. PCA  
125 was carried out and output graphs generated using the “dudi.pca” function in R package “ade4”.

126

### 127 *Chromosome counting*

128 Seeds from five experimental lines were germinated on petri dishes under laboratory conditions  
129 before harvesting root tip meristems. Root tips were collected and chromosome spreads prepared  
130 according to protocols detailed in Mason et al. (2014), using DAPI (4,6-diamidino-2-phenylindole) as a  
131 fluorescent stain. Pictures were taken on a Nikon Eclipse E600 microscope with digital camera.

132

## 133 **Results**

### 134 *Presence and absence of the A and C genomes*

135 The Illumina Infinium Brassica 60K array comprises 52 157 SNPs. Of these, 10 634 (20.4%) were  
136 removed as unreliable or non-specific (consistently amplifying alleles at more than one locus) on the  
137 basis of information provided by the Illumina Infinium Brassica 60K cluster file. Of the remaining 41  
138 523 SNPs, 44.5% (18 471) were physically located on the *B. rapa* genome (Wang et al. 2011) and  
139 53.4% (22 155) on the *B. oleracea* genome (Parkin et al. 2014). Approximately 12% of these A-  
140 genome SNPs also amplified C-genome alleles (in *B. carinata* and *B. oleracea* controls with no A  
141 genome), and approximately 23% of these C-genome SNPs also amplified A-genome alleles (in *B.*  
142 *rapa* and *B. juncea* controls with no C genome). *Raphanus sativus* samples amplified 13% of alleles on  
143 average, with no difference in amplification between the A and C genome SNPs ( $p = 0.2$ , Student’s t-  
144 test).

145

146 A set of 43 control samples (3 *B. rapa*; 6 *B. juncea*, 23 *B. napus*, 2 *B. oleracea*, 4 *B. carinata* and 5  
147 *Raphanus sativus*) were run on the Illumina Infinium 60K SNP array. Amplification of A and C genome  
148 alleles was assessed in these samples. Clear groups could be distinguished on the basis of A and C  
149 genome presence or absence in the controls (Supplementary Figure 1); these groups corresponded  
150 to the expected genome presence/absence for each species sample. Of the 188 samples in the  
151 experimental population, 59 samples could be classed as “A genome only”, 16 samples could be  
152 classed as “C genome only”, 101 samples could be classed as “A + C genomes” and two samples  
153 could be classed as “neither A or C genome present” (Figure 1). An additional seven samples were  
154 considered to have failed due to poor quality amplification (removed from further analysis and not  
155 included in Figure 1), and another three samples were considered anomalous (included in Figure 1).  
156 Two of these samples (R14 and J16) were included in subsequent “A genome only” analyses, and one  
157 sample (I2) was discarded from further analysis, leaving 180 samples. On this basis alone, 29/180 of  
158 the samples (16%) could be identified to belong to a different species than the one in the genebank  
159 records (Supplementary Table 1, Figure 1). Presence of both the A and C genomes also provided a  
160 unique identifier for *Brassica napus* samples: 83% of samples (95/115) thought to be *B. napus* were  
161 actually *B. napus* (Supplementary Table 1, Figure 1).

162

163 A robust cut-off for sample quality was >75% amplification (an allele call for >75% of SNPs in the A  
164 and/or C genome rather than no call reliably indicated genome presence) or <35% amplification in  
165 each genome (an allele call for <35% of SNPs in the A and/or C genome reliably indicated genome  
166 absence). Samples with 32-57% A and C genome amplification (Supplementary Table 1) also showed  
167 random patterns of allele calls and missing data across chromosomes, indicative of unreliable and  
168 poor quality SNP data. One of the three samples considered to be anomalous was a putative *B. nigra*  
169 sample (I2) that showed 36% A genome and 41% C genome amplification (Figure 1); this may be due

170 to misclassification of this sample coupled with poor quality amplification. The second sample (J16)  
171 considered to be anomalous showed 70% A genome amplification and 39% C genome amplification  
172 (Figure 1). The third sample considered to be anomalous (putative *B. rapa* sample R14) had 89% A  
173 genome presence and 49% C genome presence: on closer inspection of the SNP data, this individual  
174 showed presence of some C genome chromosome segments (27 Mbp of C1, all of C2, 7 Mbp of C5,  
175 24 Mbp of C6, 30 Mbp of C7 and 39 Mbp of C8). Although material was not available from the  
176 individual genotyped, the presence of only 20 chromosomes was confirmed in other individuals from  
177 this same line by chromosome counting. Anomalous samples J16 and R14 were retained in our  
178 analysis, and sample I2 was discarded.

179

#### 180 *Phylogenetic groupings for species identification*

181 Hierarchical clustering and principle components analysis were performed to separate *B. juncea* and  
182 *B. rapa* individuals and *B. carinata* and *B. oleracea* individuals. The *B. juncea* and *B. rapa* group (as  
183 deduced from genome presence/absence to have only the A genome) comprised 9 controls and 61  
184 experimental individuals. Of the 18 471 SNPs physically mapping to the A genome, 11 983 were  
185 polymorphic and amplified in  $\geq 90\%$  of the individuals in the population, and were hence used for  
186 subsequent analysis. Hierarchical clustering allowed separation of *B. rapa* and *B. juncea* lines, but  
187 although species-specific clades were apparent, 100% confidence was not achieved for clade  
188 separation (Figure 2; numbers in green and red represent the number of times each branch was in  
189 the same position over the 1000 iterations, hence  $P < 0.05 = 95$  or greater). PCA provided clear  
190 separation between *B. rapa* and *B. juncea*, with the first two axes separating two *B. rapa* clades and  
191 separating these two groups from *B. juncea* clade, contributing to 18.4% and 13.9% of the variance  
192 respectively (Figure 3). Sixty-eight axes were generated, with 48.7% of the variance explained by the  
193 first five axes of the PCA.

194



195 The *B. carinata* and *B. oleracea* group as identified by presence of only the C genome consisted of 6  
196 control samples and 16 experimental samples. Of the SNP markers mapped to the C genome, 12 794  
197 were polymorphic and amplified in  $\geq 90\%$  of the individuals in the population, and were hence used  
198 for subsequent analysis. Although the *B. carinata* clade fell within the wider *B. oleracea* group, these  
199 individuals formed a smaller subgroup with 100% confidence for clade identity using hierarchical  
200 clustering (Figure 4). Principle components analysis also showed very clear separation of *B. oleracea*  
201 and *B. carinata* samples (first and second axes 41.3% and 13.0% of the variance respectively) and  
202 extremely tight grouping of *B. carinata* samples relative to the *B. oleracea* types (Figure 5).

203  
204 Overall, 18% of samples (32/180) were misclassified on the basis of species (Table 1). Of the samples  
205 suspected to be misclassified, 23/76 (30%) were indeed a species different to the one listed by the  
206 Australian Grains Genebank. Of the samples otherwise sourced from the Australian Grains Genebank,  
207 9/104 (9%) were misclassified on the basis of species. *B. napus* was observed to be mistaken for each  
208 of *B. rapa*, *B. juncea* and *B. carinata*; *B. juncea* was mistaken for *B. rapa* and *B. napus* and *B. rapa* was  
209 mistaken for *B. juncea* (Table 1). A complete set of source, species and cultivar/landrace/wild type  
210 classifications from the Australian Grains Genebank with confirmed species identifications and SNP  
211 genome amplification and heterozygosity results is provided in Supplementary Table 1. Lines were  
212 supplied by the Australian Grains Genebank with the label “Advanced cultivar”, “Breeder’s Line”,  
213 “Traditional Cultivar/Landrace”, “Wild” or “Unknown”. Of the 75 samples in the “Advanced cultivar”  
214 category, 9 were misclassified (12%). “Traditional cultivar/landraces” had 2/22 samples misclassified  
215 (9%) and “Breeder’s Line” samples had 2/21 samples misclassified (10%). The single “Wild” sample  
216 was also misclassified. “Unknown” samples were misclassified 21 % of the time (11/61).

217

218 *Genetic diversity*

219 Genome diversity within the A genome was assessed in *B. napus*, *B. juncea* and *B. rapa* lines using 13  
220 292 polymorphic SNPs amplifying in  $\geq 90\%$  of the individuals. Percentage heterozygosity for each  
221 individual within the A genome was also calculated using the entire set of A-genome specific SNPs  
222 (Supplementary Table 1). C genome diversity was assessed in *B. napus*, *B. oleracea* and *B. carinata*  
223 lines using 18 076 SNPs amplifying in  $\geq 90\%$  of the individuals and not monomorphic in the  
224 population. Percentage heterozygosity for each individual within the C genome was also calculated  
225 using the whole set of C-genome specific SNPs (Supplementary Table 1).

226

227 *Brassica rapa* samples putatively from India and Bangladesh based on provenance of samples R05  
228 and R21 (Supplementary Table 1, leftmost clade in Figure 3) formed a clearly distinct subgroup when  
229 compared to other samples originating from Europe and the rest of Asia. This grouping was not  
230 apparent in the first two axes of the PCA of A-genome diversity including the *B. napus* samples  
231 (Figure 6). Two outliers were observed on the basis of A-genome diversity using PCA: J06 and J08  
232 (Figure 6), which were both reported to be *B. juncea* from China but showed presence of both the A  
233 and C genomes; however, using hierarchical clustering analysis these individuals fell within the *B.*  
234 *juncea* clade (Supplementary Figure 2). Both individuals had very high A genome heterozygosity (40  
235 and 49%) but lower C genome heterozygosity (7 and 21%; Supplementary Table 1).

236

237 As previously observed (Figure 5), the *B. carinata* clade formed a group of tightly-related lines  
238 nestled within the *B. oleracea* samples using hierarchical cluster analysis (Supplementary Figure 3).  
239 All *B. napus* lines fell outside the *B. oleracea/carinata* clade except for three: N019a, N038 and N074  
240 (Supplementary Figure 3). Principle components analysis placed N019a within the *B. oleracea*  
241 samples, with N038 and N074 in the *B. napus* group but close to *B. oleracea* (Figure 7). N019b, a  
242 separately sourced individual of the same accession as N019a, was confirmed to be *B. carinata* due  
243 to lack of A genome alleles. N019a had a complete A and C genome, but showed 8.5% heterozygosity

244 in the A genome and 43% C genome heterozygosity, the highest C genome heterozygosity of any  
245 experimental *B. napus* sample (Supplementary Table 1). N038 and N074 both had high A- and C-  
246 genome heterozygosity (25 – 36% per genome, Supplementary Table 1).

247

#### 248 *Chromosome counting*

249 Chromosome counts were performed for five experimental lines: N067, N089, R05, R14 and R21  
250 (Figure 8). Putative *B. napus* sample N067 was confirmed to be *B. juncea* ( $2n = 36$  chromosomes)  
251 rather than *B. napus* or *B. rapa*, and putative *B. napus* sample N089 was confirmed to be *B. carinata*  
252 ( $2n = 34$  chromosomes) rather than *B. napus* or *B. oleracea*. Each of putative *B. rapa* samples R05,  
253 R14 and R21 had  $2n = 20$  chromosomes, confirming that these plants were *B. rapa*.

254

#### 255 **Discussion**

256 Germplasm collections and genebanks provide an excellent resource for breeders and researchers.  
257 However, misclassification of sample genotype and even species is common. Here, we evaluate the  
258 use of a high-throughput genotyping technology for the assessment of germplasm collections: the  
259 Illumina SNP array, which is increasingly becoming available and cost-effective for many species of  
260 interest. We used the Illumina Brassica 60K SNP array for species identification in 180 Brassicaceae  
261 samples from the Australian Grains Genebank, a widely used germplasm collection housed in  
262 Horsham, Victoria, Australia. The Illumina SNP array provided a quick and effective means to classify  
263 species and assess genetic diversity in these samples. A total of 18% of samples were found to be  
264 misclassified on the basis of species, and several subpopulations were identified within the various  
265 *Brassica* species. A few individuals were also unexpectedly found to result from interspecific  
266 hybridisation. This information will prove valuable to future users of this germplasm resource, and  
267 validates the use of the Illumina SNP array system for high-throughput genotyping of germplasm  
268 collections, particularly in *Brassica*.

269

270 Molecular markers have been used to genotype germplasm collections in the past: SRAP and AFLP  
271 markers have been used in cucumber (Ferriol *et al.* 2003), RAPD markers have been used in rice  
272 (Martin *et al.* 1997) and SSR markers have been used in grape (Dangl *et al.* 2001) and safflower (Lee  
273 *et al.* 2014). High-throughput molecular genotyping is now also starting to be used in major crops: a  
274 recent study used genotyping-by-sequencing to characterise lines in the USA national maize inbred  
275 seed bank (Romay *et al.* 2013). Problems of species identity within germplasm collections are  
276 widespread: in rice, 9/62 (15%) of wild *Oryza* accessions were found to be misclassified; 2/41 grape  
277 lines were misclassified, and in another *B. nigra* study using SSR markers, 16/60 (27%) accessions  
278 were found to not be *B. nigra* (Pradhan *et al.* 2011). However, older marker technologies are  
279 generally not high-throughput, and species identification in germplasm collections using molecular  
280 markers has remained out of reach in terms of time and cost until now. In *Brassica* in particular, the  
281 high level of homoeology between the A and C genomes, and the presence of multiple species  
282 sharing these genomes, can make identification of species-specific alleles difficult (Li *et al.* 2013). In  
283 our study, the provision of SNP markers already mapped to the reference genome sequences, a  
284 resource which is increasingly available for species of interest, allowed much greater resolution and  
285 effectively separated the closely related *Brassica* species.

286

287 We used both Principal Components Analysis and hierarchical clustering to group individuals based  
288 on the SNP data results. Importantly, presence of the A genome only, C genome only or both A and C  
289 genomes was first used to discriminate *B. napus* samples from *B. juncea*/*B. rapa* and *B. carinata*/*B.*  
290 *oleracea*, as *B. napus* samples were not always otherwise 100% distinguishable from *B. juncea* or *B.*  
291 *carinata*. Principal Components Analysis proved more effective at separating species with shared  
292 genomes than hierarchical clustering in our analysis. As allopolyploid species *B. carinata*, *B. juncea*  
293 and *B. napus* result from a few hybridisation events between diploid progenitor species *B. rapa*, *B.*

294 *nigra* and *B. oleracea* (Arias *et al.* 2014; Kaur *et al.* 2014), the allopolyploid species form less diverse  
295 clades nested within the diversity represented by the diploids. To distinguish between *B. juncea* and  
296 *B. rapa* and between *B. carinata* and *B. oleracea*, only shared genome information (A or C genome)  
297 was available. Hence, hierarchical clustering, which performs pairwise calculations of similarity  
298 between samples, may have been less effective at separating species than Principal Components  
299 Analysis, which looks at broader correlations and similarities across the data set. Although  
300 hierarchical clustering still showed some utility in discriminating between species (Fig. 2, Fig. 4)  
301 single-genome Principal Components Analysis is therefore recommended for this purpose in future  
302 studies.

303

304 Interestingly, *B. napus* lines in our study were observed to be mistaken for each of *B. carinata*, *B.*  
305 *juncea* and *B. rapa*, but only *B. juncea* was commonly mistaken as *B. napus*. However, more *B. napus*  
306 lines were used in this experiment than any other species, hence increasing the chance that  
307 misclassification errors would be picked up in *B. napus* relative to the other species. Lines sourced as  
308 “Traditional cultivar/landraces” or “Unknown” samples may have been expected to be more  
309 commonly misclassified than “Advanced Cultivar” or “Breeding Line” samples. However, although  
310 “Unknown” samples comprised by far the largest percentage of misclassified samples (11/25), lines  
311 sourced as “Advanced Cultivars” were also likely to be misclassified, with a further 9 samples falling  
312 into this category. Some of these may have resulted from mislabelling or contamination during seed  
313 collection or during seed regeneration of accessions, particularly in the case of commercially  
314 available open pollinated (OP) canola cultivars or lines that have passed through many hands before  
315 being donated to the Australian Grains Genebank. However, in many cases accurate phenotypic  
316 identification of species misclassification was made by the germplasm curators. Samples suspected  
317 to be misclassified by the germplasm bank were three times more likely to actually be misclassified  
318 on the basis of species (30% as opposed to 9%). In addition, specific recorded notes or remarks

319 (Supplementary Table 1) identified the actual species of the sample in a number of instances. For  
320 example, N057 was correctly identified as *B. juncea* based on 2010 phenotype data, and likewise  
321 N045, N046, N047 and N048 were suspected to be *B. juncea* or *B. rapa* rather than *B. napus* on the  
322 basis of phenotype and were confirmed as *B. rapa* by the SNP molecular data. These findings  
323 highlight the significance of obtaining phenotypic data wherever possible as a complement to  
324 molecular marker results, and support the important role of expert curators in managing germplasm  
325 material.

326

327 One of the most surprising and interesting results was the presence in the germplasm collection of  
328 several individuals clearly originating from interspecific hybridisation events. Although this is a  
329 common method for crop improvement in the *Brassica* genus (Chen *et al.* 2011; Navabi *et al.* 2010b;  
330 Rygulla *et al.* 2007; Seyis *et al.* 2003; Zou *et al.* 2011), and all species assessed in this experiment are  
331 known to be able to hybridise (FitzJohn *et al.* 2007), lines resulting from interspecific hybridisation  
332 events seem unlikely candidates for donation to a germplasm collection, at least without explicit  
333 labelling. Hence, it seems likely that these events were spontaneous and originated as a result of  
334 cross-contamination during seed bulking processes. We observed one very clear case of interspecific  
335 hybridisation in putative *B. rapa* individual R14, which contained a partial C genome in addition to a  
336 complete A genome. Confusingly, chromosome counting of another individual resulting from the  
337 same seed packet revealed only 20 chromosomes, suggesting either that C genome fragments were  
338 still present in a heterozygous state or that only some individuals from this line were carrying these  
339 introgressions. Indirect but compelling evidence for hybridisation between *B. juncea* and *B. napus*  
340 was obtained for individuals J06 and J08: both were classified as *B. juncea* but also showed presence  
341 of a complete C genome; both had much higher A genome heterozygosity than average (45 and 49%)  
342 but normal C genome heterozygosity (Supplementary Table 1), and both fell outside the *B. juncea* –  
343 *B. napus* groups in the PCA. Individual N019a was also a strong candidate for an interspecific

344 hybridisation event between *B. napus* and *B. carinata*: individual N019b from the same Australian  
345 Grains Genebank line but sourced separately was conclusively *B. carinata*, N019a clustered within  
346 the *B. oleracea/B. carinata* clade in both the PCA and hierarchical clustering analysis and N019a also  
347 had disproportionately high C genome heterozygosity (43%) but normal A genome heterozygosity  
348 (9%). Individuals J22 and J05 both also contained an A and a C genome, but grouped strongly with *B.*  
349 *carinata* samples using both PCA and hierarchical clustering. These putative interspecific  
350 hybridisation events are plausible: accessions in genebanks are often sown in close proximity, and  
351 accidental cross-pollination could occur. Hybridisation between the allotetraploid species is relatively  
352 easy when carried out by hand pollination (Mason *et al.* 2011) and interspecific hybrids between the  
353 allotetraploids are capable of producing seed when self-pollinated (Mason *et al.* 2011) and when  
354 back-crossed to the parent species (Chèvre *et al.* 1997; Navabi *et al.* 2010a). Accessions of different  
355 *Brassica* species are often grown adjacently during seed regeneration, allowing opportunity for  
356 natural cross-pollination to occur.

357

358 High-throughput genotyping using molecular resources such as SNP chip arrays and genotyping-by-  
359 sequencing is becoming both readily accessible and cost-effective for large sample sizes and complex  
360 crop genomes (Edwards & Batley 2010; Edwards *et al.* 2013). As demonstrated in our study by  
361 identification of A- and C-genome-specific SNPs, the availability of reference genome sequences can  
362 also dramatically increase the effectiveness of standard molecular marker approaches. We provide  
363 validation of the Illumina Infinium Brassica 60K SNP array for species classification in germplasm  
364 collections, and suggest that similar high-throughput SNP genotyping approaches should be carried  
365 out in future in germplasm collections to support these valuable resources for research and breeding.

366

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373



**Table 1: Species identity as confirmed by SNP molecular genotyping in a set of *Brassica* samples and related species sourced from the Australian Grains Genebank.**

Germplasm collection species	Confirmed species	No. samples	% accuracy overall
<i>B. napus</i>	<i>B. napus</i>	95	
<i>B. napus</i>	<i>B. rapa</i>	8	
<i>B. napus</i>	<i>B. juncea</i>	3	
<i>B. napus</i>	<i>B. carinata</i>	9	
	<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>115</b>	<b>83%</b>
<i>B. rapa</i>	<i>B. rapa</i>	20	
<i>B. rapa</i>	<i>B. juncea</i>	1	
	<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>95%</b>
<i>B. oleracea</i>	<i>B. oleracea</i>	3	
	<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>100%</b>
<i>B. carinata</i>	<i>B. carinata</i>	3	
	<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>100%</b>
<i>B. juncea</i>	<i>B. juncea</i>	25	
<i>B. juncea</i>	<i>B. rapa</i>	2	
<i>B. juncea</i>	<i>B. napus</i>	5	
	<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>32</b>	<b>77%</b>
<i>B. nigra</i>	<i>B. nigra</i>	1	
<i>B. nigra</i>	<i>B. juncea</i>	1	
<i>Sinapis alba</i>	<i>Sinapis alba</i>	1	
<i>Sinapis alba</i>	<i>B. nigra</i>	1	
<i>Sinapis alba</i>	<i>B. carinata</i>	1	
<i>Raphanus sativus</i>	<i>B. napus</i>	1	
	<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>33%</b>
	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>180</b>	<b>82%</b>

375 **Figure Legends**

376

377 **Figure 1:** Presence of the *Brassica* A and C genomes using SNP markers in a set of Brassicaceae  
378 samples sourced from a germplasm collection: 32 putative *B. juncea* samples, 21 putative *B. rapa*  
379 samples, 115 putative *B. napus* samples, 3 putative *B. oleracea* samples, 3 putative *B. carinata*  
380 samples, 3 putative *B. nigra* samples, 3 putative *Sinapis alba* samples and 1 putative *Raphanus*  
381 *sativus* sample. Three anomalous samples are observed outside the tight genome clusters.

382

383 **Figure 2:** Separation of *Brassica rapa* and *B. juncea* samples using A genome SNP data from the  
384 Illumina Infinium Brassica 60K array. Dendrogram generated using default hierarchical clustering in  
385 package and function “pvclust” in R v 3.0 using n = 1000 iterations; “au” and “bp” refer to the  
386 “approximately unbiased” and “bootstrap probability” p-values for each branch. Control samples  
387 from confirmed species genotypes are labelled with “Control\_” followed by the species and a  
388 genotype designation; experimental samples are labelled by a letter representing the supplied  
389 species (“J” for *B. juncea*, “R” for *B. rapa*, “I” for *B. nigra*, “N” for *B. napus* (supplied as *B. napus* but  
390 containing only an A genome), and “XS” for non-*Brassica*, *Sinapis alba* (also containing an A  
391 genome)). Individual plants from the same genotype are labelled with the same number but different  
392 lowercase letters. Chromosome-counted samples are indicated by red stars.

393

394 **Figure 3:** Separation of *B. rapa* and *B. juncea* samples using Principle Components Analysis (first two  
395 axes plotted, explaining 18.2% and 13.7% of the variance respectively). Control samples from  
396 confirmed species genotypes are labelled with “Control” followed by the species and a genotype  
397 designation; experimental samples are labelled by a letter representing the supplied species (“J” for  
398 *B. juncea*, “R” for *B. rapa*, “I” for *B. nigra*, “N” for *B. napus* (supplied as *B. napus* but containing only

399 an A genome), and “XS” for non-*Brassica*, *Sinapis alba* (also containing an A genome)). Individual  
400 plants from the same genotype are labelled with the same number but different lowercase letters.  
401 Red stars indicate chromosome-counted samples. Individual R014 was anomalous (putatively *B.*  
402 *rapa*) with C-genome introgressions in an A-genome background.

403

404 **Figure 4:** Separation of *Brassica oleracea* and *B. carinata* samples using C genome SNP data from the  
405 Illumina Infinium Brassica 60K array. Dendrogram generated using default hierarchical clustering in  
406 package and function “pvclust” in R v 3.0 using n = 1000 iterations; “au” and “bp” refer to the  
407 “approximately unbiased” and “bootstrap probability” p-values for each branch. Control samples  
408 from confirmed species genotypes are labelled with “Control\_” followed by the species and a  
409 genotype designation; experimental samples are labelled by a letter representing the supplied  
410 species (“N” for *B. napus* (supplied as *B. napus* but with no A genome), “O” for *B. oleracea*, “C” for *B.*  
411 *carinata* and “XS” for non-*Brassica*, *Sinapis alba*). Individual plants from the same genotype are  
412 labelled with the same number but different lowercase letters. A chromosome-counted sample is  
413 indicated with a red star.

414

415 **Figure 5:** Separation of *B. oleracea* and *B. carinata* samples using Principle Components Analysis (first  
416 two axes plotted, explaining 41.3% and 13.0% of the variance respectively). Control samples from  
417 confirmed species genotypes are labelled with “Control” followed by the species and a genotype  
418 designation; experimental samples are labelled by a letter representing the supplied species (“N” for  
419 *B. napus* (supplied as *B. napus* but with no A genome), “O” for *B. oleracea*, “C” for *B. carinata* and  
420 “XS” for non-*Brassica*, *Sinapis alba*). Individual plants from the same genotype are labelled with the  
421 same number but different lowercase letters. The red star indicates a chromosome-counted sample.

422

423 **Figure 6:** A genome diversity as assessed by Principle Components Analysis of Illumina Infinium 60k  
424 Brassica array data in a set of 31 A-genome controls of known species origin and 162 *B. rapa*, *B.*  
425 *juncea* and *B. napus* samples found to contain an A genome and originating from the Australian  
426 Grains Genebank. Experimental samples are labelled by a letter representing the supplied species  
427 (“J” for *B. juncea* and “R” for *B. rapa*).

428

429 **Figure 7:** C genome diversity as assessed by principle components analysis of Illumina Infinium 60k  
430 Brassica array data from a set of 29 C-genome controls of known species origin (2 *B. oleracea*, 4 *B.*  
431 *carinata* and 23 *B. napus*) and 117 *B. carinata*, *B. oleracea* and *B. napus* samples all containing a C  
432 genome and originating from the Australian Grains Genebank. Control samples from confirmed  
433 species genotypes are labelled with “Control” followed by the species and a genotype designation;  
434 experimental samples are labelled by a letter representing the supplied species: “N” for *B. napus*, “O”  
435 for *B. oleracea* and “J” for *B. juncea* (supplied as *B. juncea* but containing an A and a C genome and  
436 hence actually *B. napus*). Individual plants from the same genotype are labelled with the same  
437 number but different lowercase letters.

438

439 **Figure 8:** Chromosome counts for two putative *Brassica napus* plants (N089 and N067) showing  $2n =$   
440  $34$  (*B. carinata*) and  $2n = 36$  (*B. juncea*) respectively; and three *B. rapa* individuals (R05, R14 and R21)  
441 showing  $2n = 20$ . Bar = 10  $\mu\text{m}$

442

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538

539



540 **Data Accessibility**

541 The Illumina Infinium Brassica 60K SNP array used in this analysis can be obtained from Illumina Inc.  
542 (<http://www.illumina.com/>). Summary information for each Australian Germplasm Genebank  
543 accession used in this analysis is provided in Supplementary Table 1. Genotype data and SNP  
544 information is provided in Supplementary Table 2 [and this data is also available via the Dryad data](#)  
545 [repository \(doi:10.5061/dryad.c3g5r\)](#). Seeds for each of the lines used can be obtained from the  
546 Australian Germplasm Genebank. PCA and hierarchical clustering analyses were performed using the  
547 R base software and packages “pvclust”, “ade4” and “gam” freely available from the R Project for  
548 Statistical Computing (<http://www.r-project.org/>).

549

550 **Author Contributions**

551 JB, DE and BR conceptualised the study. JB managed the project. BR, GY, JZ and LH contributed  
552 material. RT and JZ grew up seeds and extracted DNA. PVT carried out chromosome counting. JDM  
553 ran the SNP chip. ASM analysed the SNP chip data, generated the figures and tables and wrote the  
554 paper. JB, DE, BR and GY critically revised the manuscript. All authors have read and approved the  
555 final version of the manuscript.

556

557

558 **Supporting Information**

559

560 **Supplementary Figure 1:** Presence of the *Brassica* A and C genomes in a set of known control  
561 samples using SNP markers: 3 *B. rapa* (A genome only); 6 *B. juncea* (A genome only), 23 *B. napus*  
562 (A+C genomes), 2 *B. oleracea* (C genome only), 4 *B. carinata* (C genome only) and 5 *Raphanus sativus*  
563 (neither genome).

564

565 **Supplementary Figure 2:** A genome diversity as assessed by hierarchical clustering of Illumina  
566 Infinium 60k Brassica array data in a set of 31 controls of known species origin and 162 *B. rapa*, *B.*  
567 *juncea* and *B. napus* lines originating from the Australian Grains Genebank. Control samples from  
568 confirmed species genotypes are labelled with "Control" followed by the species and a genotype  
569 designation; experimental samples are labelled by a letter representing the supplied species ("J" for  
570 *B. juncea*, "R" for *B. rapa*, "I" for *B. nigra*, "N" for *B. napus* and "XS" for non-*Brassica*, *Sinapis alba*  
571 (also containing an A genome)). Individual plants from the same genotype are labelled with the same  
572 number but different lowercase letters. Red stars indicate chromosome-counted samples.  
573 Chromosome-counted lines are indicated by red stars, and samples of interest are indicated using  
574 blue four-pointed stars.

575

576 **Supplementary Figure 3:** C genome diversity as assessed by hierarchical clustering of Illumina  
577 Infinium 60k Brassica array data from a set of 29 controls of known species origin and 117 *B.*  
578 *carinata*, *B. oleracea* and *B. napus* lines originating from the Australian Grains Genebank. Control  
579 samples from confirmed species genotypes are labelled with "Control" followed by the species and a  
580 genotype designation; experimental samples are labelled by a letter representing the supplied  
581 species ("N" for *B. napus*, "O" for *B. oleracea*, "C" for *B. carinata*, "J" for *B. juncea* (but containing  
582 both an A and C genome and hence actually *B. napus*) and "XS" for non-*Brassica*, *Sinapis alba*).

583 Individual plants from the same genotype are labelled with the same number but different lowercase  
584 letters. Chromosome-counted lines are indicated by red stars, and samples of interest are indicated  
585 using blue four-pointed stars.

586

587 **Supplementary Table 1:** Information for the set of 188 experimental samples sourced from the  
588 Australian Grains Genebank: sample identification numbers, provided information, genome  
589 amplification results and species re-classifications based on SNP analyses.

590

591 **Supplementary Table 2:** SNP molecular genotyping data and information.

592

