Review: Crop adaptation through post-domestication introgression from the wild

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The traditional paradigm in crop domestication studies has been origin from a wild relative within one or more defined geographic centers followed by dispersal and expansion to the modern-day extent of cultivation. Absent from this paradigm are the effects of hybridization between diffusing domesticates and closely-related, locally-adapted wild relatives outside the center of origin. New methods have recently been employed to detect genome-wide patterns of introgression in a number of species. In this review, we will: 1) briefly describe these methods and provide a summary of their recent application for detection of crop-wild introgression, 2) review evidence supporting the hypothesis that wild-to-crop introgression has conferred local adaptation to crops, 3) consider how the prevalence of this introgression alters traditional concepts of domestication, and 4) describe future advances in both basic and applied genetics that can be made through the study of introgression in agroecosystems.

Introgression methods and recent applications

The role of introgression in conferring local adaptation to crops

The domestication process in light of introgression

Future studies in crop-wild introgression

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References

[1] MB Hufford, P Lubinksy, T Pyhäjärvi, MT Devengenzo, NC Ellstrand, and J Ross-Ibarra. The genomic signature of crop-wild introgression in maize. *PLoS Genetics*, 9(5):e1003477, 2013.