

Tutorial of the Breeding Planner (BP) for Marker Assisted Selection for pyramiding multiple genes (MAS)

BP system consists of three tools relevant to molecular breeding.

- MARS: Marker Assisted Recurrent Selection
- MABC: Marker Assisted Backcrossing
- MAS: Marker Assisted Selection for pyramiding multiple genes
- This tutorial is designed for MAS

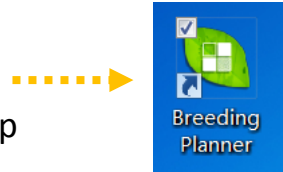
November 2013



Please make sure you have installed Java jdk 1.6 or 1.7 in your computer!

Open the Breeder Planner (BP) software

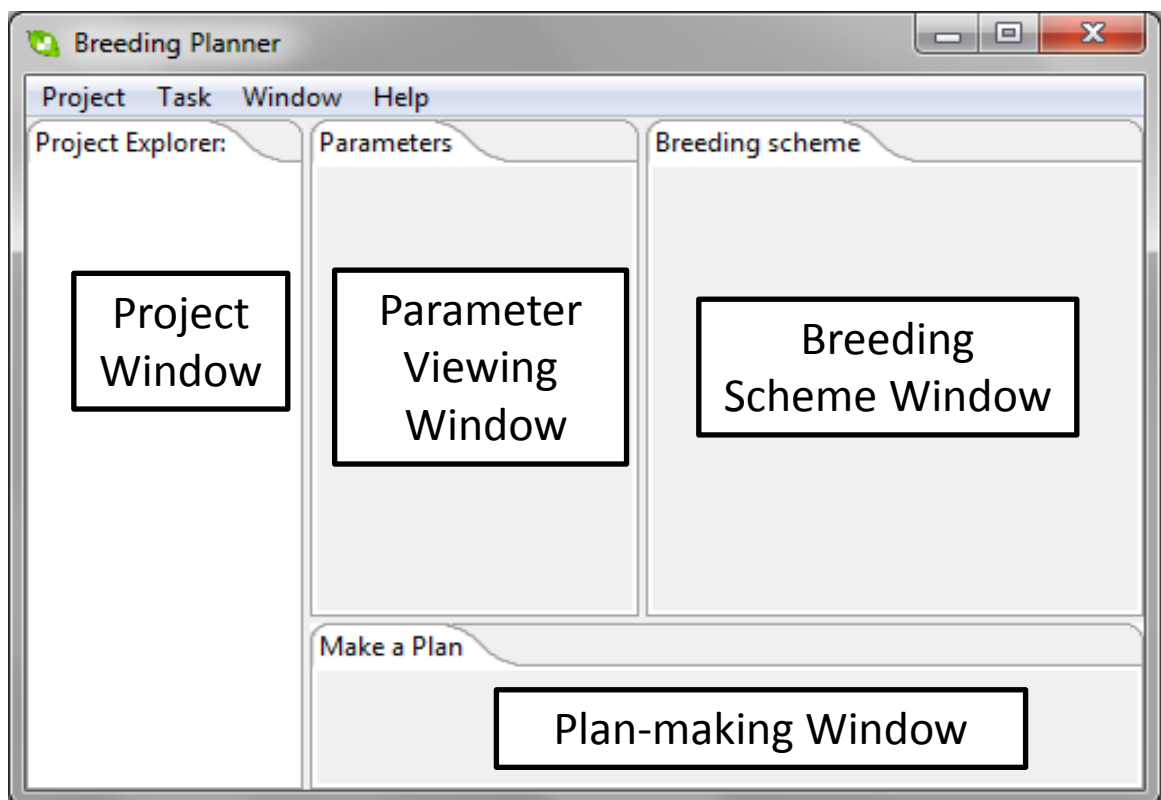
1. **Open the software:** The BP software can be open by double click the **software icon** in your computer desktop



2. **Overview of the software.**

The screen is split into four windows.

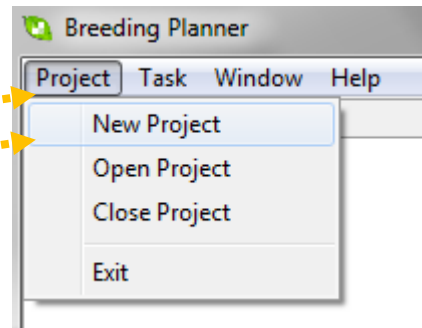
- **Project Window:** List all molecular breeding programs you have planned. Three distinct breeding programs can be considered: MARS, MABC and MAS.
- **Parameter Viewing Window:** You can view your breeding parameters in this window.
- **Breeding Scheme Window:** Once the breeding parameters are specified, a breeding flowchart will be demonstrated in this window.
- **Plan-making Window:** You can select the current stage/generation of your breeding programs in this window. A detailed plan for the near future will be made by the BP system.



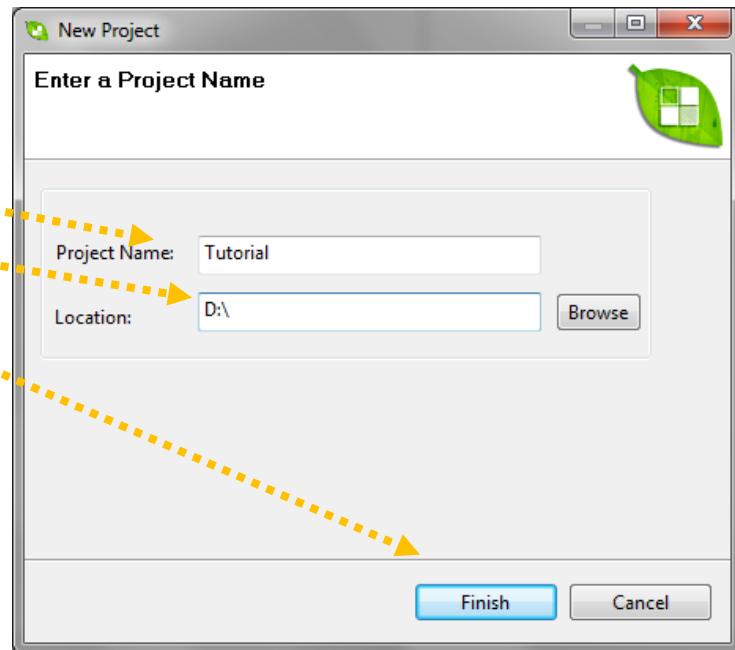
Build a new project

3. Build a new project

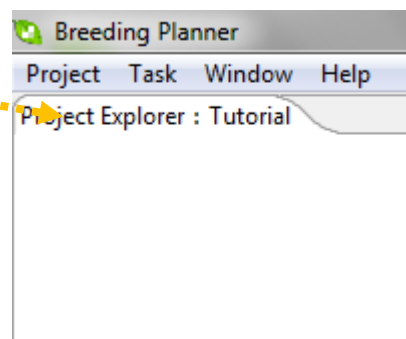
- Click **Project** menu
- Choose **New Project**



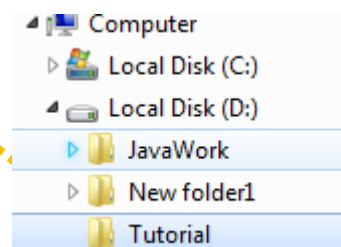
- Specify Project Name (Tutorial for example) and Project Path (D:\ for example)
- Click **Finish** to complete



New project is displayed in the **Project Window**



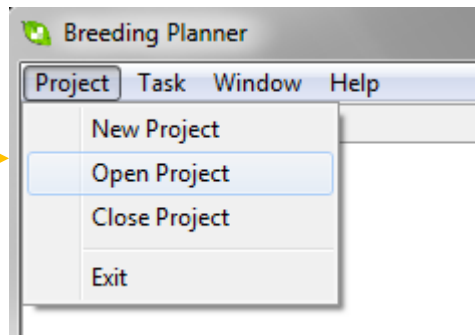
All inputs and outputs will be automatically saved in path of the project (**D:\Tutorial\...** for example)



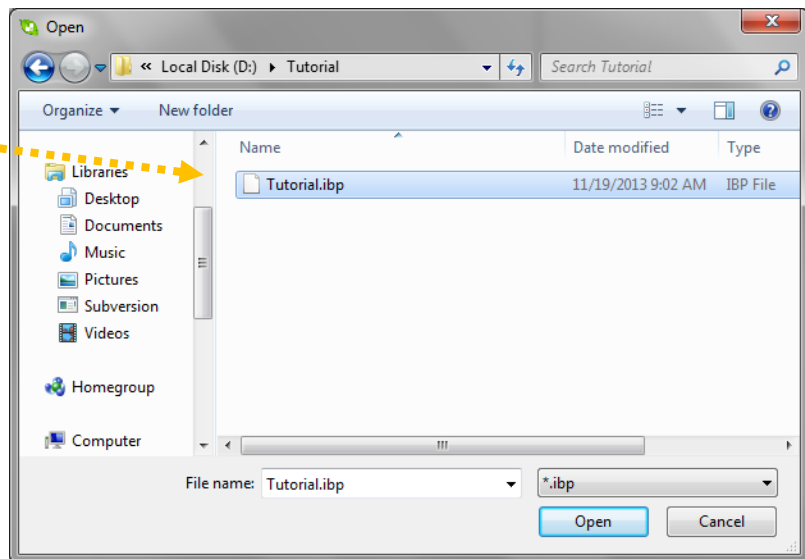
Open an existing project

4. Open an existing project

- Click **Project** menu
- Choose **Open Project**.....→



- Choose an existing project in your computer

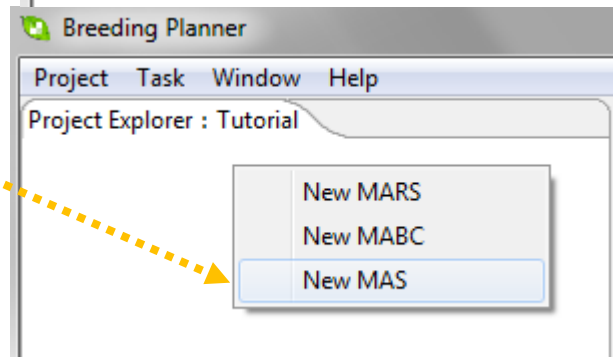
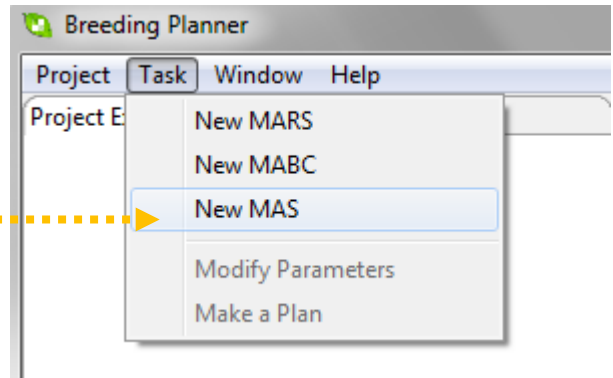


- **Please Note:** The BP system is project-based. When you first use the system, you need to build a new project first. Then you can make various breeding programs. When you leave the system, the system automatically save the jobs you have done. The next time, you can start from a new project, or from an existing project.

PMAS Tutorial: Start a new MAS breeding program

5. Make a new MAS program to the newly-built project

- Click **Task-> New MAS**
- Or right click in the blank area of project explorer, then choose **New MAS**
- You can use either way to make a MAS program
 - Import parameters from an external file
 - Or specify the initial parameters by hand
- There are two pages of input parameters.

A screenshot of the 'New MAS' dialog box, 'Input Information' page. It features a table for 'Source of favorable genes' with columns for Locus1 through Locus10 and rows for Parent1, Parent2, and Target. The 'Parent2' and 'Target' rows have checkboxes checked for all loci. At the bottom are buttons for '< Back', 'Next >', 'Finish', and 'Cancel'. A yellow dashed arrow points from the text 'There are two pages of input parameters.' to this dialog box.A screenshot of the 'New MAS' dialog box, 'Input Information' page, showing detailed parameter settings. The 'Import file' field is empty with a 'Browse' button. 'Researcher information' includes 'Country' (China) and 'Researcher's name' (CAAS). 'Species information' includes 'Crop species' (Cowpea) and 'Expected seeds per plant' (150). 'Greenhouse/offseason' includes 'Length of each season (months)' (6). 'Field condition' includes 'Seasons per year' (1), '1st season starts in' (Jan), '2nd season starts in', and '3rd season starts in'. 'Growing condition' includes 'Parental generation starts in' (November, 2013) and radio buttons for 'Greenhouse/offseason' (selected) and 'Field condition'. 'Number of genes' includes 'Number of unlinked genes to be combined' (2). At the bottom are buttons for '< Back', 'Next >', 'Finish', and 'Cancel'. A yellow dashed arrow points from the text 'There are two pages of input parameters.' to this dialog box.

- **Note:** two alleles at each locus must be present in both parent. Otherwise, this locus is irrelevant to breeding.

PMAS Tutorial: Parameters required to define a MAS program

Users have to specify a set of parameters before a MAS scheme can be given by the system. Below are more details on the required parameters.

1. Researcher information

Country;

Researcher's name;

2. Species information

Crop species: Select one crop species from Cowpea, Rice, Wheat, Maize, Groundnuts, and Cassava

Expected seeds per plant (or propagation rate) **(more on the next page)**

3. Greenhouse/offseason

Length of each season (months).

Note: We assume the crop can be grown across the whole year under the Greenhouse condition. That is, the next season can start in the same month when the previous season is harvested. So the planting time for each season is not needed.

4. Field condition

Seasons per year: the number of seasons per year, select from 1-3

1st season starts in: select a month

2nd season starts in: select a month, after the end of the 1st season

3rd season starts in: select a month, after the end of the 2nd season

Note: The crop cannot be grown across the whole year under the Field condition. So if multiple seasons are possible, the system asks for the planting time for each season.

5. Growing condition

Parental generation starts in: select the start time of the parental generation

Early generation growing condition: select one case "Greenhouse/offseason" or "Field condition"

6. Number of genes

Number of unlinked genes to be combined: 2-10

7. Source of favorable genes: select the favorable genes in the two parents

**Minimum and maximum numbers of seeds per plant for
each crop under optimum or normal conditions**

Crop	Minimum number	Maximum number	Median (used as default in Breeding Planner)
Cowpea	10	300	50
Rice	50	300	200
Wheat	50	250	150
Maize	50	500	200
Groundnuts	30	200	80
Cassava	10	100	50

Notes:

- Expected seeds per plant in Breeding Planner will be used to calculate if there are enough seeds for phenotyping. If not, additional seed increase (by selfing) will be requested.
- The user input must fall into the min-max range for the selected crop! Otherwise, when the input number is smaller than the minimum number, the minimum number will be assumed. When the input number is greater than the maximum number, the maximum number will be assumed.
- The number of seeds required is calculated from settings for “Multi-locational phenotyping”. Say, when genotyping is conducted in F2, multi-locational phenotyping is only possible when each F2 plant can give enough seeds. Otherwise, phenotyping will be delayed until the required seeds are produced.

PMAS Tutorial: The interface

6. Overview of the MAS functionality:

There are four windows in MAS functionality

- **Project Window:** List all molecular breeding programs you have planned. Three distinct MB programs can be considered: MARS, MABC and MAS.
- **Parameter Viewing Window:** You can view your breeding parameters in this window.
- **Breeding Scheme Window:** Once the breeding parameters are specified, a breeding flowchart will be demonstrated in this window.
- **Plan-making Window:** You can select the current stage/generation of your breeding programs in this window. A detailed plan for the near future will be made by the BP system.

When the required parameters are set in the Parameter setting/viewing Window, the defined MAS breeding program is graphed in the Breeding Scheme/flowchart Window. A set of output files are listed in the Project Window.

The screenshot displays the Breeding Planner application window. The interface is divided into several sections:

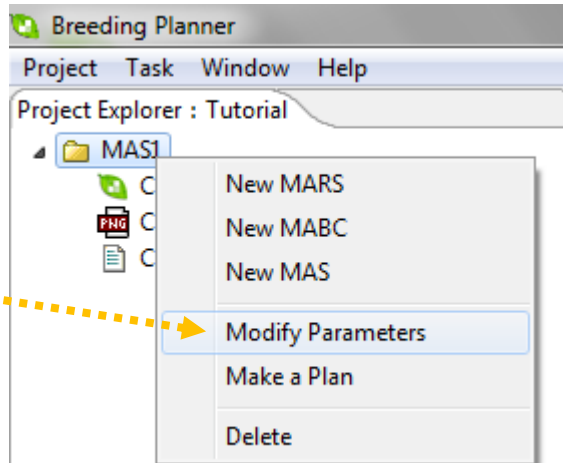
- Project Window:** Located on the left, it shows a Project Explorer with a tree view containing 'MAS1', 'Cowpea.mas', 'Cowpea.png', and 'Cowpea.txt'.
- Parameter Viewing Window:** A central table titled 'Cowpea.mas' displaying parameters and their values. Red box highlights the title.
- Breeding scheme/flowchart window:** On the right, it shows a flowchart for 'Cowpea.png' starting with 'Parent 1 X Parent 2', leading to 'F1', 'F2', and 'F3' generations. Selection options like 'Target selection' and 'Enhancement selection' are visible. Red box highlights the title.
- Plan-making Window:** At the bottom, it includes a 'Make a Plan' section with a 'Current status starts in' dropdown (set to 'November') and a 'Select current status' dropdown (set to '0. Select parental lines and prepare for planting'). A 'Make a Plan' button is also present. Red box highlights the title.

ID	Name	Value
0	country	China
1	researcher	CAAS
2	crop species	Cowpea
3	expected seeds per plant	150
4	length of each season (months)	6
5	seasons per year	1
6	1st season starts in	Jan
7	2nd season starts in	
8		
9		2013/11
10		Greenhouse/o...
11		2
12		Parent2
13		Parent2
14		
15		
16	Favorable gene at Locus5	
17	Favorable gene at Locus6	
18	Favorable gene at Locus7	
19	Favorable gene at Locus8	
20	Favorable gene at Locus9	
21	Favorable gene at Locus10	

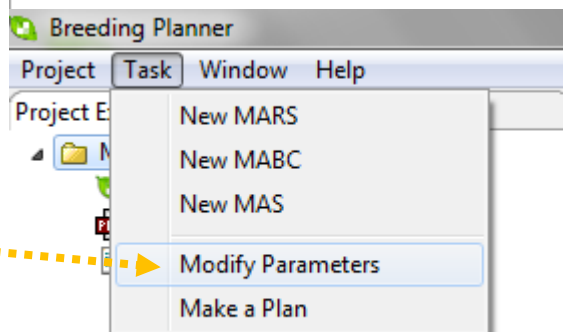
PMAS Tutorial: Modify your parameters

7. Modify Parameters

- Right click the MAS1 folder, then choose **Modify Parameters**



- Or click **Task-> Modify Parameters**



- You may modify the parameters in the Dialog Window, and then click Finish button to save your modifications. The breeding scheme will be automatically modified.

The screenshot shows the 'Modify Parameters' dialog window. The 'Input Information' section contains the following fields and values:

- Import file: [Empty text box] [Browse]
- Researcher information:
 - Country: China
 - Researcher's name: CAAS
- Species information:
 - Crop species: Cowpea
 - Expected seeds per plant: 150
- Greenhouse/offseason:
 - Length of each season (months): 6
- Field condition:
 - Seasons per year: 1
 - 1st season starts in: Jan
 - 2nd season starts in: [Empty dropdown]
 - 3rd season starts in: [Empty dropdown]
- Growing condition:
 - Parental generation starts in: November, 2013
 - ☒ Greenhouse/offseason ☐ Field condition
- Number of genes:
 - Number of unlinked genes to be combined: 2

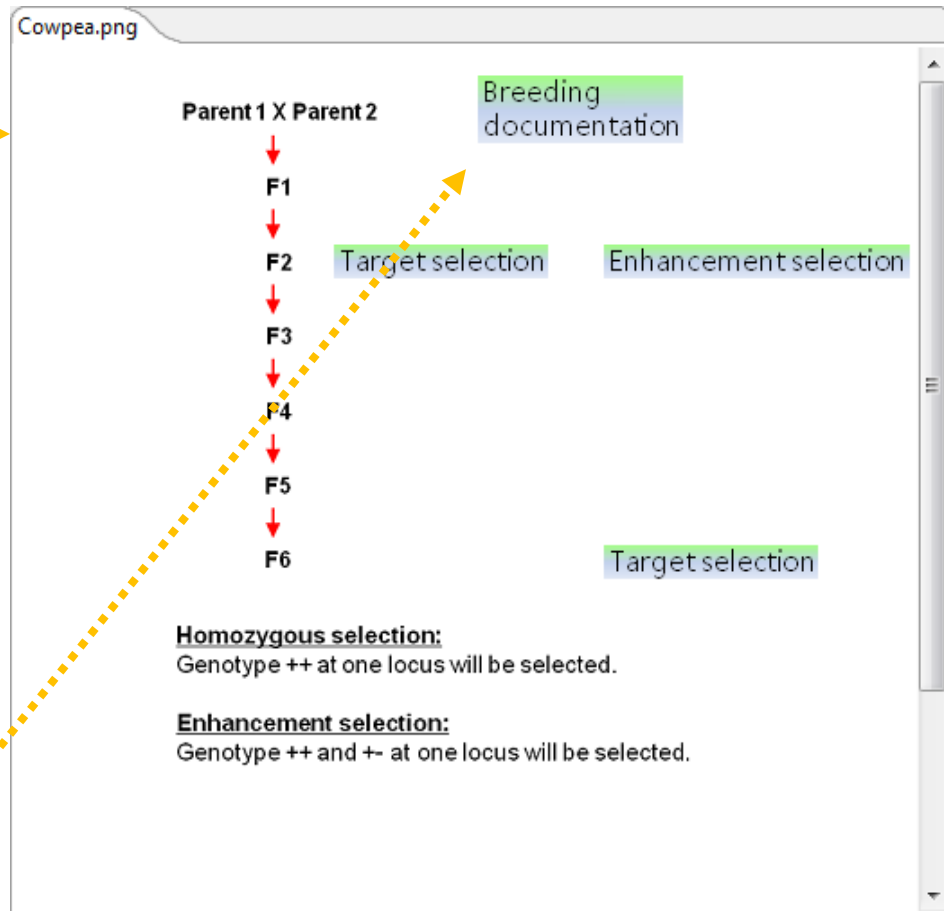
At the bottom, there are four buttons: '< Back', 'Next >', 'Finish', and 'Cancel'. A yellow dashed arrow points from the text 'click Finish button' in the list to the 'Finish' button.

The screenshot shows the 'Modify Parameters' dialog window, specifically the 'Source of favorable genes' section. It displays a table with columns for Locus (Locus, Locus1, Locus2, Locus3, Locus4, Locus5, Locus6, Locus7, Locus8, Locus9, Locus10) and rows for Parent1, Parent2, and Target. The 'Target' row has all checkboxes checked. The 'Parent1' and 'Parent2' rows have checkboxes for Locus1 and Locus2 checked. At the bottom, there are four buttons: '< Back', 'Next >', 'Finish', and 'Cancel'. A yellow dashed arrow points from the text 'click Finish button' in the list to the 'Finish' button.

PMAS Tutorial: The breeding scheme and documentation

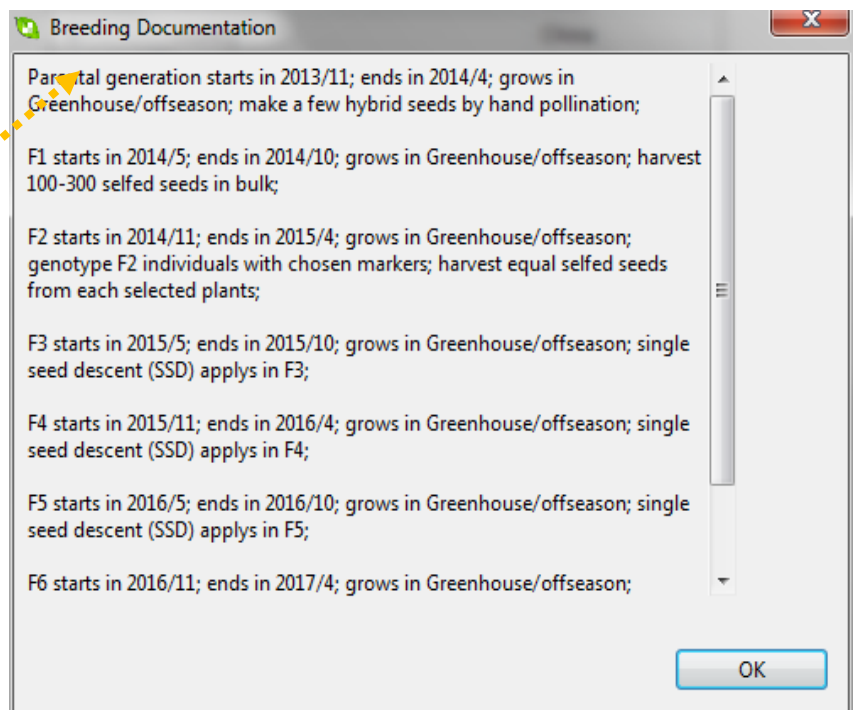
8. View the flowchart

- It is in the right window



9. View breeding documentation

- Click the **Breeding Documentation** button

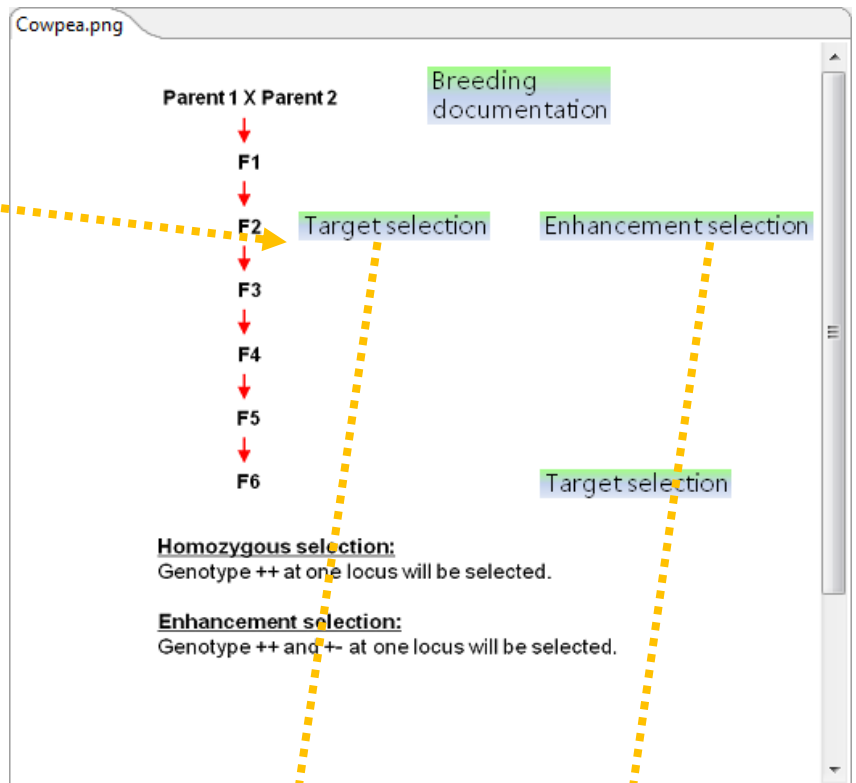


- The **Breeding Documentation** is in the pure text describing the whole flow of the MAS program.

PMAS Tutorial: Additional information

10. Additional information on the flowchart

- Click **Target selection**
- The table for **Target selection** will be popped up to show the proportion of target genotype in F2 population



Target Selection

Proportion of target genotype in F2 population									
Number of independent genes									
2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	
0.0625	0.01563	0.00391	0.00098	0.00024	6.1E-05	1.5E-05	3.8E-06	9.5E-07	

OK

- Click **Enhancement selection**
- The table for **Enhancement selection** will be popped up to show the proportion for enhancement selection

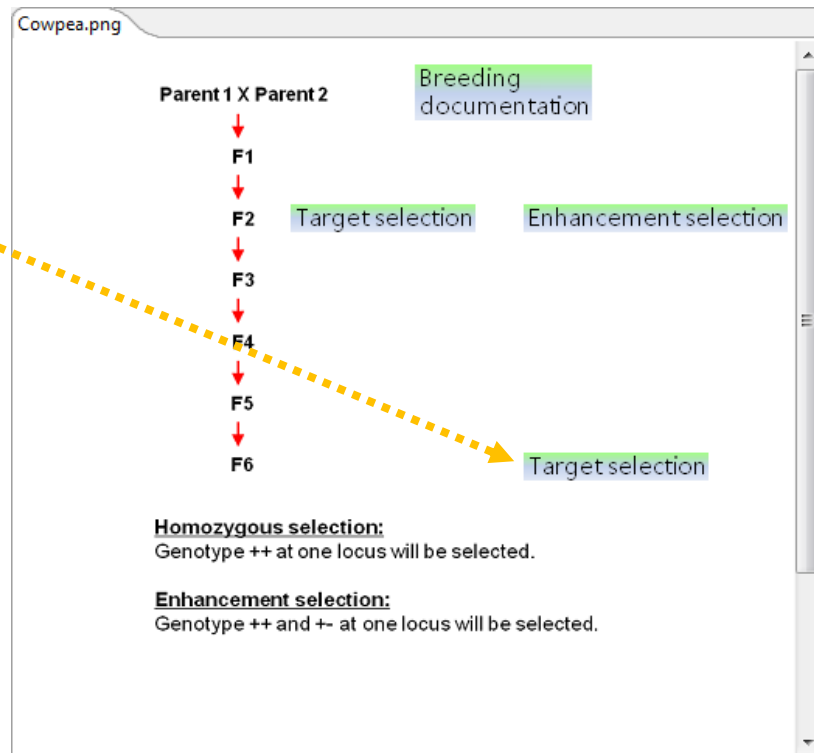
Enhancement Selection

Proportion for enhancement selection									
Number of independent genes									
2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	
0.5625	0.42188	0.31641	0.2373	0.17798	0.13348	0.10011	0.07508	0.05631	

OK

PMAS Tutorial: Additional information

- Click **Target selection**



- The table for **Target selection** will be popped up to show the proportion of target genotype when enhancement selection is applied in F2 population

Target Selection2

Proportion of target genotype when enhancement selection is applied in F2

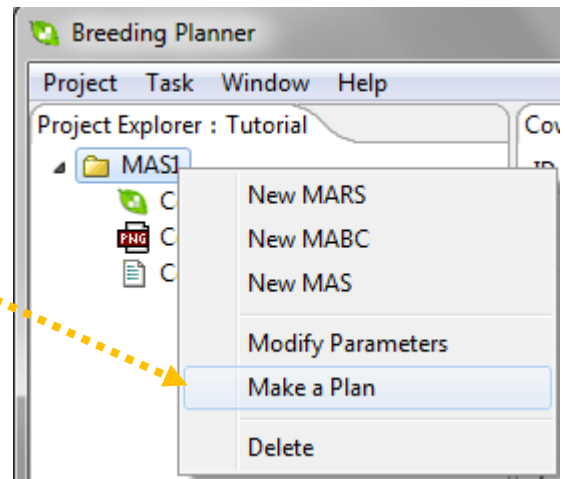
Number of independent genes									
2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	
0.44444	0.2963	0.19753	0.13169	0.08779	0.05853	0.03902	0.02601	0.01734	

OK

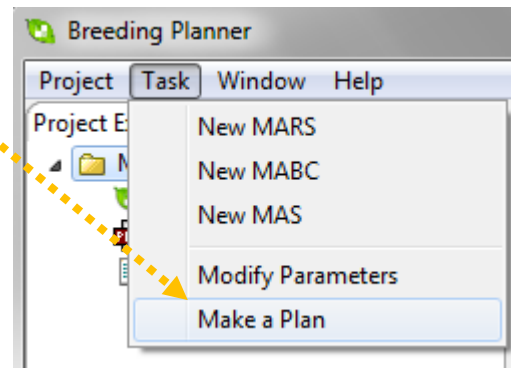
PMAS Tutorial: Make a plan from wherever you are

11. Make a plan

- Right click the **MAS** folder in the **Project Window**, then choose **Make a Plan**



- Or click **Task-> Make a Plan**
- The window for making a plan will be initialized. Some dialog information will appear in the Plan-making Window.



Make a Plan

Current status starts in

Select current status

PMAS Tutorial: Tell the system where you are

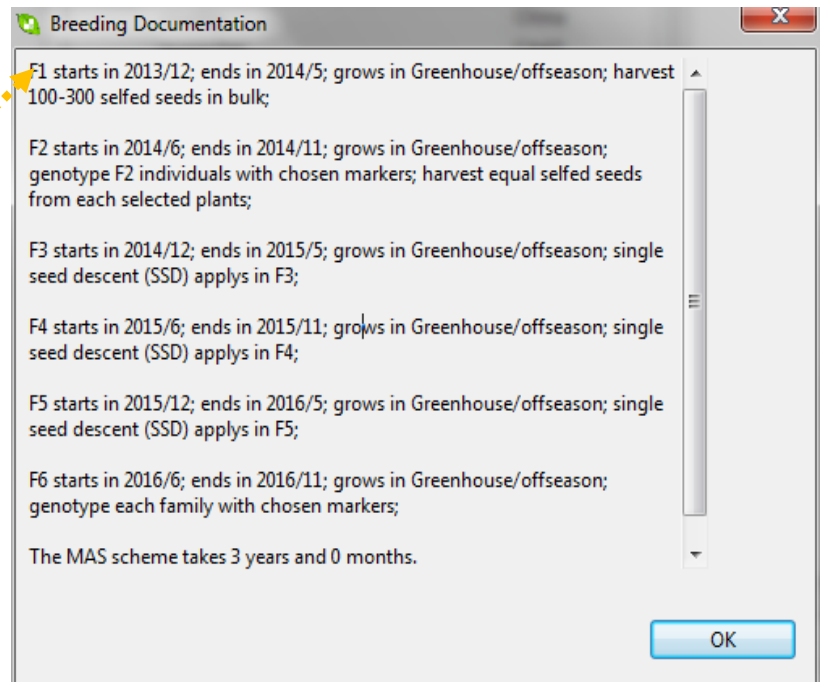
- Tell the system when the current season starts. The system will know the current season is grown in Greenhouse or in Field from the breeding parameters you specified.
- Tell the system where you are by selecting:
 0. Select parental lines and prepare for planting
 1. Parental lines is growing
 2. F1 generation is growing
 3. F2 generation is growing
 4. F3 generation is growing
 5. F4 generation is growing
 6. F5 generation is growing
 7. F6 generation is growing

The screenshot shows the 'Make a Plan' interface. At the top, a grey bar contains the text 'Make a Plan'. Below this bar, there are two main input areas. The left area is labeled 'Current status starts in' and contains a date field set to 'November, 2013'. The right area is labeled 'Select current status' and contains a dropdown menu with the selected option '0. Select parental lines and prepare for planting'. Below these two areas is a 'Make a Plan' button. Three yellow dashed arrows point from the text in the list above to these three elements: the first arrow points to the date field, the second arrow points to the dropdown menu, and the third arrow points to the 'Make a Plan' button.

- Click the **Make a Plan** button to complete the on-going MAS breeding program.

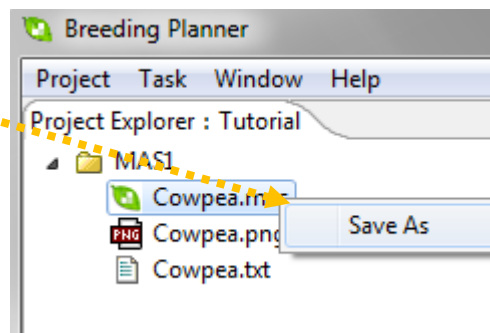
PMAS Tutorial: See the breeding plan the system makes

- New window will show the breeding documentation for the remaining status, and the time to complete the MAS breeding program

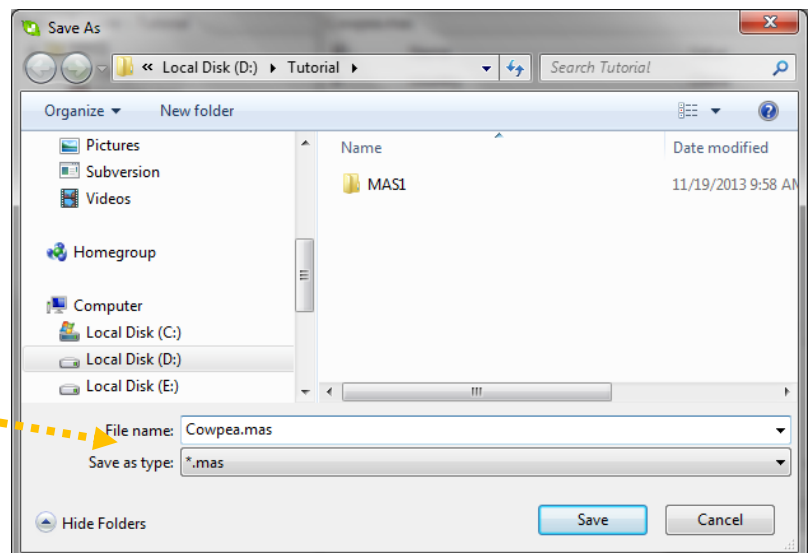


12. Save the result files

- Right click the file name, and then select **Save As** to save the breeding documentation on your computer



- Specify the path and rename of the output file



BP-MAS Tutorial: The contact information

- Any comments or suggestions? You may contact any one on the BP development team
 - Dr. Jiankang Wang, CIMMYT China and CAAS, wangjiankang@caas.cn or jkwang@cgiar.org
 - Dr. Luyan Zhang, CAAS, zhangluyan@caas.cn
 - Mr. Wencheng Wu, CAAS, wuwencheng@caas.cn
 - Dr. Xavier Delannay, GCP, x.delannay@cgiar.org
 - Dr. Hamer Paschal, GCP, Hamerp99@gmail.com

