

PREFACE

Dear Reader, the book in your hands (paper-copy or electronic version) is unique. It relates to only a single type of molecular markers routinely used in molecular biology but the topic of this book is focused only on Plant Biology. Since the first time CAPS markers were described by Andrzej Konieczny and Frederick M. Ausubel in 1993, these markers are rapidly being developed and widely distributed especially among plant biologists. Methods of CAPS markers include the amplification of the DNA fragment, sequencing and polymorphic site identification caused by either Single Nucleotide Polymorphism or Insertion/Deletion.

A reader can find that CAPS markers are very powerful tools successfully used in gene mapping and positional cloning, but they are also very popular in the research of different plants. Applications of CAPS can be found in a range of studies from comparative genomics to 'gene of interest' structure between various plants. However, this type of marker is very dynamic and modifications of current techniques and applications of the novel technology are happening constantly.

I want to especially thank all contributors to this book, who are experts in their particular areas of plants biology, where CAPS markers are an important and valuable tool to their research. Authors generously volunteered their time and knowledge in conducting research to combine with their own studies and produce the following pages. Many chapters are written as successful stories of CAPS marker development and application to demonstrate a very wide range of research in different plants, and I think it would be interesting to look through this entire book from beginning to end.

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