DNA Barcoding

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DNA barcoding (Identifying species by DNA)

- Barcode- identification image that is readable through an optical machine.
- A short DNA sequence, from a uniform locality on the genome, used for identifying species
- Can be used to help discover, characterize and distinguish species, and to assign unidentified individuals to species
- The use of short DNA sequences for biological identifications was first proposed by Herbert et al. (2003)

BARCODE OF LIFE

- Provides an additional master key to knowledge about a species
- Compiling of public library of sequences linked to named specimens, plus faster and cheaper sequencing, will make this new barcode key increasingly practical and useful.

The sequences used for molecular barcoding are the nuclear small subunit ribosomal RNA gene (16S in prokaryotes and 18S in most eukaryotes), the nuclear large-subunit ribosomal RNA gene, the highly variable internal transcribed spacer (ITS, ITS1 and ITS2 regions), the mitochondrial CO1 or cox1 gene and the chloroplast *rbc*L gene.

APPLICATIONS

- Works with fragments(Even small plant parts)
- Works for all stages of life cycle
- Unmasks look-alikes as uses molecular sequences
- Reduces ambiguity(unclear, confusing)
- Makes expertise go further
- Democratizes access
- Opens the way for an electronic handheld field guide, the Life Barcoder

Broad outline of APG IV

A number of informal groups (i.e. clades) have been recognised, in which 64 orders and 416 families are distributed in the latest version of APG-IV classification system. These clades include:

MAGNOLIIDS, MONOCOTS, COMMELINIDS, EUDICOTS, CORE EUDICOTS, FABID, MALVID, ASTERIDS, LAMIID, CAMPANULID (Included in APG III)

SUPERROSIDS and SUPERASTERIDS are two new clades included in APG IV

