

Abstract: Role of Genetic Variation in Vegetable Breeding

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Genetic variation is the most fundamental element to any breeding program. Plant breeders both utilize existing genetic variation, create de novo variation and increase genetic variability by various breeding methods in order to achieve breeding goals and market needs. In doing so, plant breeders continuously improve upon existing and develop new tools as a means to leverage genetic variation for crop improvement. One of the latest tools added to the breeders toolbox is genome editing. This presentation will focus on how these methods are used within breeding process for vegetable crops.