

OPTIMISATION OF THE SAMPLING STRATEGY FOR ESTABLISHING A GENE BANK:

STORING PrP ALLELES
FOLLOWING A SCRAPIE ERADICATION
PLAN AS A CASE STUDY

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GERMOPLASM BANKS

- ✓ Reservoirs of genetic information



- ✓ Complementation of management strategies
on “living populations”



When is a germplasm bank worthy?

✓ Loss of genetic variability

Genetic drift



Selection

Natural

Artificial

➤ Reduced census sizes

✓ endangered populations

species

breeds



➤ Artificial selection

✓ “*classic*” breeding programmes



✓ eradication programmes



Transmissible Spongiform Encephalopathy

“SCRAPIE”



Future reintroduction



- disease is not a concern
⇒ *reintroduce all removed alleles*

- effect of allele on other trait
⇒ *replace ARR by a single allele*

- associated variability
⇒ *reintroduce all removed alleles*





More complex OBJECTIVE

- optimal contributions per candidate donor
 - ✓ Locus of interest
⇒ *collecting predetermined frequencies*
 - ✓ Non-linked loci
⇒ *keeping genetic variability*

Minimum Quadratic Distance

$\min (\text{target freq.} - \text{bank freq.})^2$

s. a. global bank
coancestry

s. a. within-allele
bank coancestry

$\min \text{ distance} + \lambda (\text{coancestry})$

λ : *importance of genetic variability*

$\lambda \uparrow \uparrow$: target frequencies may be unfeasible

$\lambda \downarrow \downarrow$ variability only accounted for after frequency term

MATERIAL AND METHODS

➤ Allelic frequencies

P_{mean} *0.52 ARR, 0.33 ARQ, 0.02 ARH, 0.08 AHQ and 0.05 VRQ*

P_{equal} *0.2 for all alleles*

P_{h_ARR} *0.80 ARR and 0.05 the rest*

P_{I_ARR} *0.04 ARR and 0.24 the rest*

➤ Population size

S *100 candidates*

L *200 candidates*

➤ Cost function

£120 per ram / £ 2.5 per collected dose

➤ Genetic diversity

C_{low} $f = 0.01$

C_{med} $f = 0.20$

C_{high} $f = 0.40$

Computer simulations

- ✓ All combination of factors
 - ⇒ *mimic different breed types*

- ✓ 20 replicates per scenario

- ✓ Controlled parameters

⇒ *alleles frequencies*

⇒ *global coancestry*

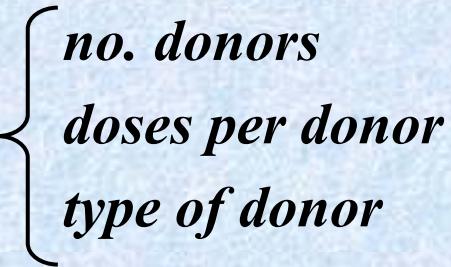
⇒ *coancestry within alleles*

⇒ *distribution of contributions*

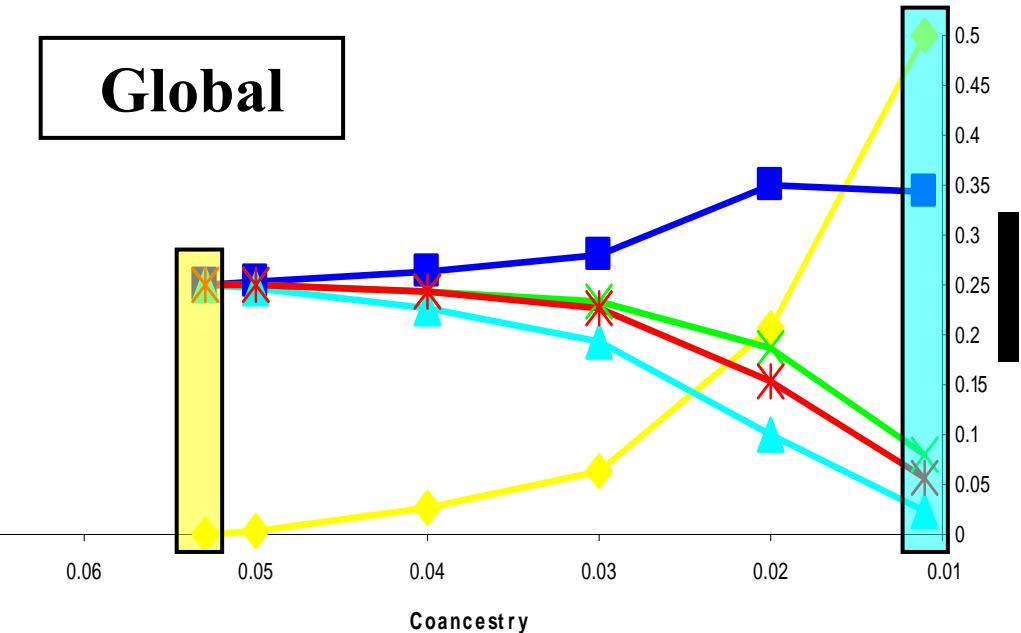
⇒ *cost of the program*



BANK



Global



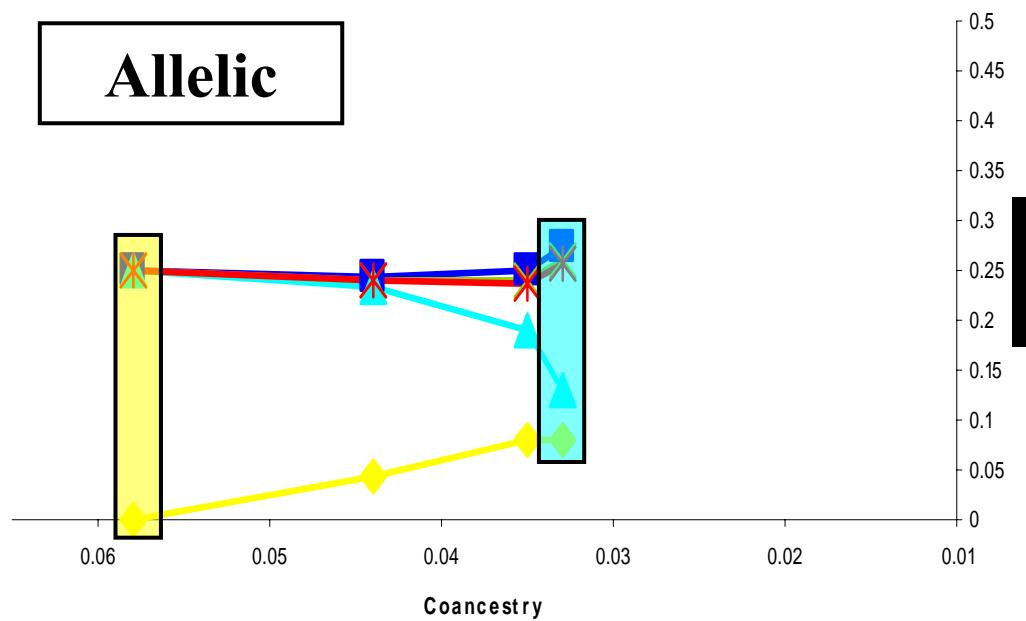
Frequencies



Allelic

Legend for Allelic variants:

- ARR (Yellow Diamond)
- ARQ (Blue Square)
- ARH (Cyan Triangle)
- AHQ (Green Cross)
- VRQ (Red Asterisk)



Global

Diversity

L

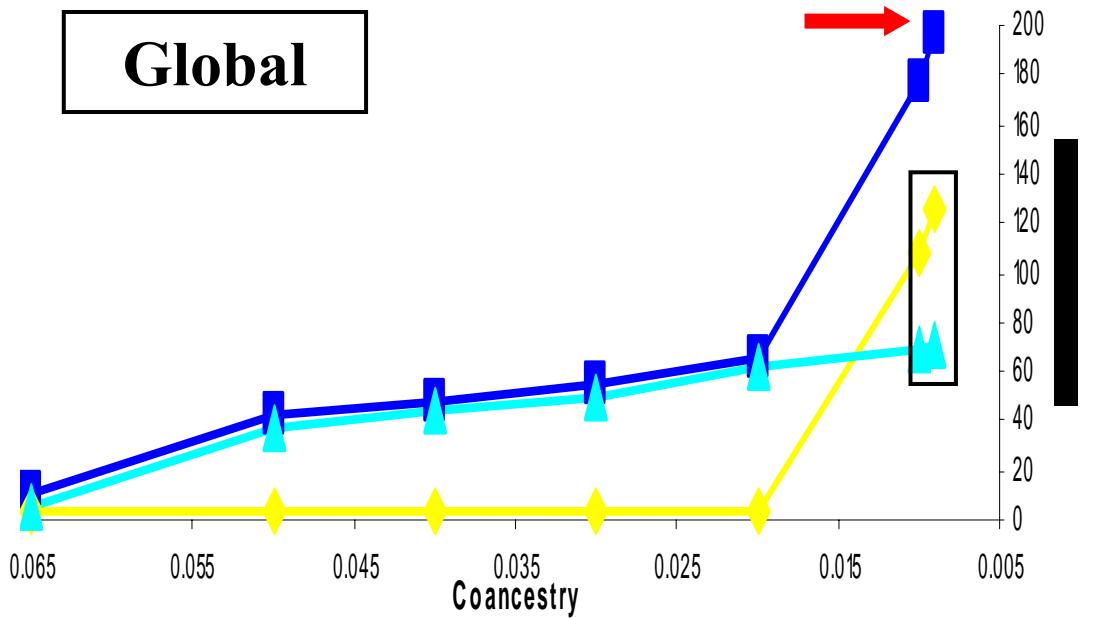
Degree of coancestry in the breed

	Low			Medium			High		
	R	G	A	R	G	A	R	G	A
P_{mean}	WR <.005	.058 .009	.162 .079	WR <.19	.239 .200	.321 .254	WR <.37	.428 .399	.489 .439
	WR <.005	.065 .009	.175 .044	WR <.19	.246 .200	.333 .229	WR <.35	.433 .399	.499 .421
P_{hARR}	WR <.005	.010 .009	.016 .015	WR <.19	.200 .200	.205 .205	WR <.35	.399 .399	.403 .403
	WR <.005	.011 .009	.020 .017	WR <.19	.202 .200	.209 .206	WR <.35	.400 .399	.406 .404

Allelic

P_{mean}	WR <.050	.059	.162	WR <.20	.241	.321	WR <.40	.430	.489
		.033	.070	.218	.248	.248	.411	.434	
P_{hARR}	WR <.010	.065	.168	WR <.20	.246	.331	WR <.40	.433	.491
		.016	.040	.206	.226	.226	.403	.418	
P_{lARR}	WR <.010	.010	.015	WR <.20	.201	.205	WR <.40	.399	.403
		.010	.014	.200	.204	.204	.399	.402	
P_{equa}	WR <.010	.012	.020	WR <.15	.202	.209	WR <.40	.401	.405
		.010	.015	.201	.205	.205	.399	.403	

Global



Distribution of contributions

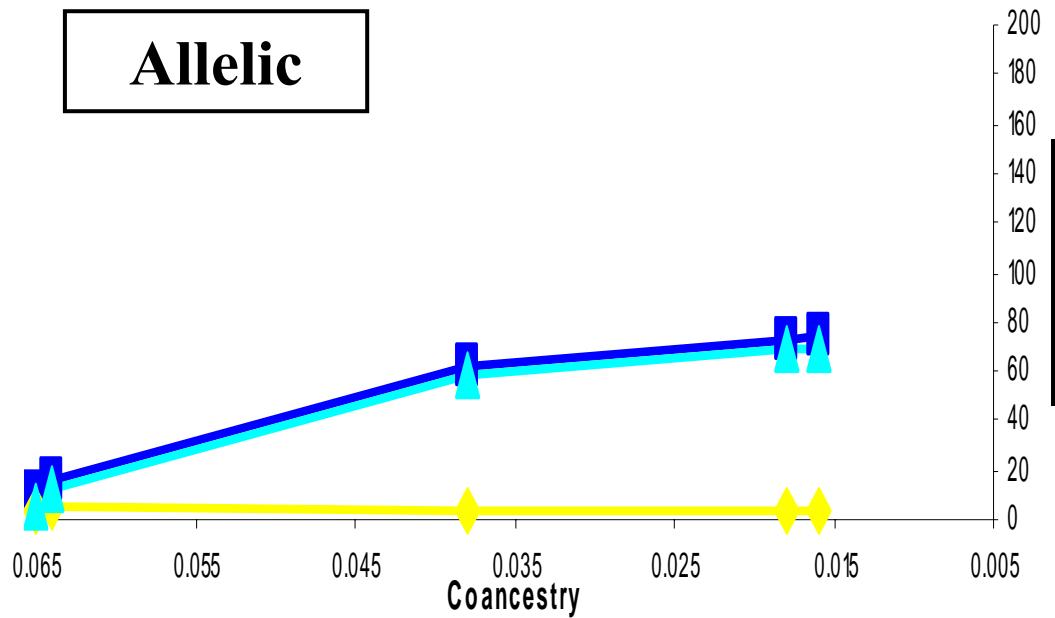
L

C_{low}

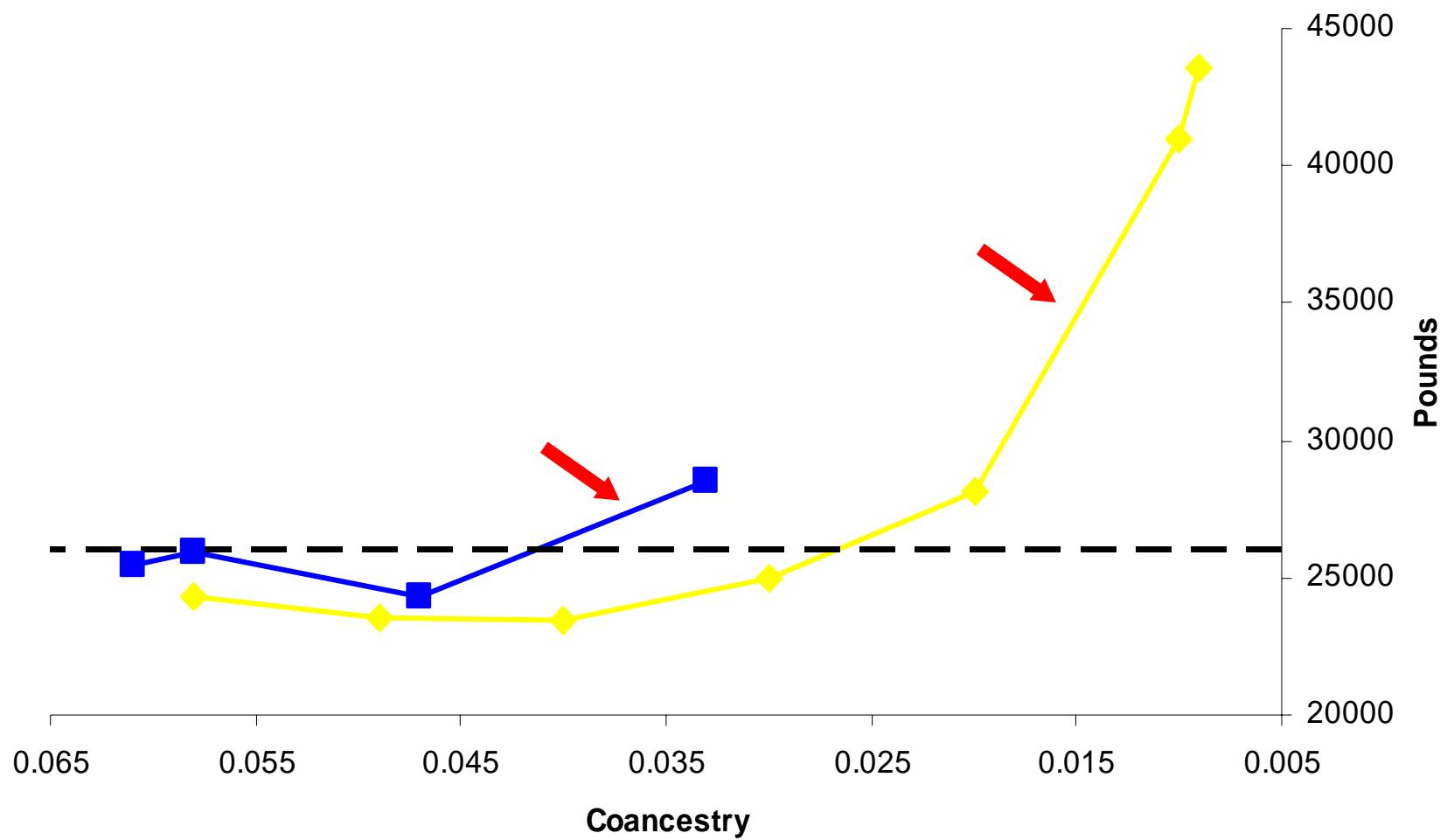
P_h ARR

Allelic

Hom —♦— Het —▲— Total —■—



Cost



Global coancestry

Allelic coancestry

SUMMARISING ...

- ✓ Effective in balancing frequencies/diversity
- ✓ Main factors
 - ⇒ allelic frequencies
 - ⇒ diversity in target population
- ✓ Heterozygotes favoured
 - two alleles at a time (cheap)
 - speed of reintroduction
- ✓ Costs
 - ⇒ careful design before starting the program

✓ Other diseases with genetic determination

✓ Marker assisted fixation of QTLs

✓ Conservation programmes

⇒ maintenance of frequencies in adaptative locus

⇒ use of molecular markers