TAIR Survey 2009

1. How necessary is TAIR and the data it contains for your research or teaching?

	Response Percent	Response Count
Essential	**74.9%**	**517**
Very useful	19.4%	134
Useful	4.1%	28
Somewhat useful	1.4%	10
Not needed at all	0.1%	1
answered question		**690**
skipped question		**0**

2. Number of people in your lab group or research unit?

	Response Percent	Response Count
1-5	28.8%	199
6-10	**36.8%**	**254**
11-20	22.0%	152
21+	11.0%	76
does not apply	1.3%	9
answered question		**690**
skipped question		**0**

3. What is your current position?

		Response Percent	Response Count
Professor (assistant, associate or full)		31.9%	220
Lecturer (college or university)		2.2%	15
Research group leader		9.9%	68
Postdoc		24.3%	168
Other researcher		4.6%	32
Graduate student (Master's or PhD degree candidate)		23.5%	162
Undergraduate student (working toward Bachelor's degree)		1.9%	13
Teacher (elementary, middle or high school)		0.1%	1
Other (please specify)		1.6%	11
	answered question		**690**
	skipped question		**0**

4. Which of the following categories best describes your workplace?

		Response Percent	Response Count
Academic institution		82.8%	571
Nonprofit research institution		10.3%	71
Government agency		5.2%	36
Company		0.9%	6
Other (please specify)		0.9%	6
	answered question		**690**
	skipped question		**0**

5. What is your geographic location?

		Response Percent	Response Count
USA		**30.7%**	**212**
other North America		6.8%	47
Central or South America		2.2%	15
Europe		30.4%	210
Asia		23.8%	164
Africa		0.4%	3
Middle East		1.4%	10
Australia/New Zealand		3.6%	25
Other (please specify)		0.6%	4
	answered question		690
	skipped question		0

6. Which best describes your main daily activity?

		Response Percent	Response Count
Carry out or supervise laboratory or field experiments		**82.2%**	**567**
Carry out or supervise bioinformatics or computational biology work		7.0%	48
Coursework and study		5.1%	35
Teaching		2.5%	17
Other (please specify)		3.3%	23
	answered question		690
	skipped question		0

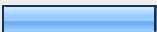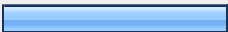**7. Which organisms are the focus of your research or teaching? Please choose up to five species in order of importa**
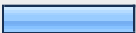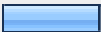
Your research organisms

	Arabidopsis thaliana	Arabidopsis relatives	Brassica species	rice (Oryza)	tobacco (Nicotiana)	tomato (Lycopersico
Most important	**79.2% (545)**	1.0% (7)	1.7% (12)	1.3% (9)	0.1% (1)	2.2% (15)
Second	**15.3% (88)**	10.9% (63)	5.2% (30)	14.2% (82)	11.1% (64)	5.9% (34)
Third	7.4% (30)	4.9% (20)	8.1% (33)	12.5% (51)	**14.0% (57)**	6.4% (26)
Fourth	3.8% (9)	2.1% (5)	6.3% (15)	9.6% (23)	**12.1% (29)**	6.3% (15)
Fifth	2.3% (4)	1.7% (3)	3.4% (6)	8.6% (15)	6.9% (12)	7.4% (13)

8. How often do you use the following resources to find Arabidopsis data?						
	Most weekdays	Once a week or more	Once a month or more	Once a year or more	Never	Response Count
TAIR	**53.2% (362)**	30.9% (210)	11.8% (80)	3.2% (22)	0.9% (6)	680
GenBank/EMBL/DDBJ	24.8% (156)	**36.9% (232)**	23.7% (149)	9.7% (61)	4.9% (31)	629
Entrez Gene (NCBI)	**40.2% (258)**	32.3% (207)	20.3% (130)	4.4% (28)	2.8% (18)	641
Swiss-Prot/UniProt	6.3% (37)	18.7% (109)	**34.2% (200)**	26.2% (153)	14.6% (85)	584
AmiGO/GOOSE	1.7% (9)	4.3% (23)	12.7% (68)	20.0% (107)	**61.3% (328)**	535
SIGnAL/Salk	12.5% (77)	29.2% (180)	**31.3% (193)**	14.7% (91)	12.3% (76)	617
JCVI/TIGR	5.1% (28)	11.5% (63)	28.1% (154)	**29.1% (160)**	26.2% (144)	549
NASC/AtEnsembl	5.1% (29)	14.4% (82)	22.0% (125)	27.5% (156)	**31.0% (176)**	568
MIPS/MAtDB	3.8% (21)	10.0% (55)	18.3% (101)	29.2% (161)	**38.8% (214)**	552
AtGDB	4.2% (23)	11.8% (65)	19.2% (106)	24.0% (132)	**40.8% (225)**	551
KEGG	1.8% (10)	7.1% (39)	21.0% (116)	28.8% (159)	**41.3% (228)**	552
RIKEN/RARGE	1.3% (7)	4.8% (27)	21.3% (119)	34.8% (195)	**37.9% (212)**	560
MPSS Plus	2.0% (11)	5.0% (27)	17.6% (95)	22.4% (121)	**52.9% (285)**	539
ATIDB	2.5% (13)	7.4% (39)	15.5% (82)	18.0% (95)	**56.6% (299)**	528
Internal database not publicly available	10.3% (55)	11.1% (59)	12.0% (64)	9.9% (53)	**56.7% (302)**	533
AraCyc	1.8% (10)	8.0% (44)	19.1% (105)	29.6% (163)	**41.6% (229)**	551
Other (please specify)						49
answered question						690
skipped question						0

9. Can you estimate the amount of time TAIR saves you in a typical week? (In other words, how much additional time would it take you if you needed to get information on Arabidopsis from other public resources?)

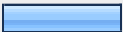|	Response Percent	Response Count
less than 10 minutes per week	6.7%	46
10 minutes - 1 hour per week	22.8%	157
1 - 3 hours per week	**33.6%**	**232**
4 - 8 hours per week	19.6%	135
Over 8 hours per week	14.2%	98
Other (please specify)	3.2%	22
	answered question	**690**
	skipped question	**0**
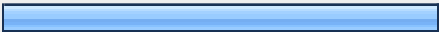
10. Which of the following activities do you think should be TAIR's top five priorities?

	First priority	Second priority	Third priority	Fourth priority	Fifth priority	Response Count
Extracting Arabidopsis gene function data from published research articles	**43.1% (227)**	20.3% (107)	17.1% (90)	9.5% (50)	10.1% (53)	527
Extracting Arabidopsis mutant phenotypes and allele names from published research articles	16.7% (76)	**33.9% (154)**	22.7% (103)	17.0% (77)	9.7% (44)	454
Updating Arabidopsis gene structures (adding new genes and splice variants, correcting errors in gene structures)	**28.8% (128)**	26.7% (119)	23.1% (103)	13.7% (61)	7.6% (34)	445
Updating the Arabidopsis genome sequence to correct sequencing errors	23.7% (80)	20.8% (70)	16.6% (56)	**24.0% (81)**	14.8% (50)	337
Integrating community submissions of gene function, gene structure and other data (including gene families, markers, polymorphisms, gene symbols) into TAIR	22.0% (94)	18.0% (77)	**23.0% (98)**	19.9% (85)	17.1% (73)	427
Providing access to sequence data for Arabidopsis ecotypes	9.2% (23)	14.5% (36)	19.7% (49)	**29.7% (74)**	26.9% (67)	249
Providing access to data for close Arabidopsis relatives including Arabidopsis lyrata, Capsella rubella and Brassica species	2.8% (3)	12.0% (13)	26.9% (29)	24.1% (26)	**34.3% (37)**	108
Providing access to data for other plant species (rice, maize, grape, poplar, etc)	5.0% (8)	12.6% (20)	21.4% (34)	25.2% (40)	**35.8% (57)**	159
Providing links to other useful resources (Arabidopsis eFP Browser, Genevestigator, SIGnAL, etc)	6.1% (15)	11.7% (29)	21.9% (54)	26.7% (66)	**33.6% (83)**	247
Providing tools for visualizing or analyzing data that were previously developed by other groups (e.g. GBrowse, BioMart, Nbrowse protein interaction viewer)	8.6% (16)	11.8% (22)	15.0% (28)	**32.6% (61)**	32.1% (60)	187
Building novel tools to visualize or	6.6% (10)	14.5% (22)	15.8% (24)	24.3% (37)	**38.8% (59)**	152

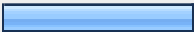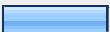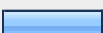|					
analyze data in new ways					
Providing an email helpdesk service for locating and using Arabidopsis data and tools	4.1% (2)	14.3% (7)	16.3% (8)	10.2% (5)	**55.1% (27)**	49
				Other (please specify)		16
				answered question		**690**
				skipped question		**0**
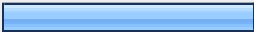
11. Which of the following aspects of TAIR's current free access model do you feel are important to preserve?

	Essential	Very important	Somewhat important	Unimportant	Don't know	Response Count
No login required to access TAIR data, facilitating free exploration by researchers and students who don't yet know what data is available in TAIR	**69.9% (471)**	15.9% (107)	9.9% (67)	3.1% (21)	1.2% (8)	674
TAIR data freely available to companies	14.3% (88)	12.0% (74)	19.8% (122)	**33.0% (203)**	20.8% (128)	615
TAIR genome releases (new genes, new and updated splice forms) freely propagated to other resources such as GenBank, SIGnAL, UniProt, etc.	**53.0% (349)**	34.0% (224)	10.3% (68)	0.9% (6)	1.7% (11)	658
TAIR gene function information (gene description, GO annotations, expression pattern, gene symbols, phenotypes) freely propagated to other resources such as GenBank, SIGnAL, UniProt, etc.	**58.1% (383)**	30.0% (198)	8.5% (56)	1.7% (11)	1.7% (11)	659
Equal access to TAIR data for all users regardless of ability to pay, including researchers from developing countries, educators and students, and less frequent users of Arabidopsis data	**67.3% (444)**	19.5% (129)	7.9% (52)	2.6% (17)	2.7% (18)	660
TAIR's role as a central registry for AGI codes, gene symbols, genome sequence, etc., allowing the research community to share and integrate data based on universally accepted identifiers and genome	**70.7% (461)**	19.9% (130)	6.3% (41)	1.2% (8)	1.8% (12)	652

coordinates						
Keeping the TAIR site free of advertisements	18.1% (115)	17.2% (109)	26.5% (168)	**32.0% (203)**	6.3% (40)	635
				Comment:		31
				answered question		**690**
				skipped question		**0**

12. Have you ever provided data to TAIR?

		Response Percent	Response Count
No		**65.8%**	**454**
Yes, I submitted data once		17.7%	122
Yes, I submitted data more than once		16.5%	114
	answered question		**690**
	skipped question		**0**

13. Would your willingness to submit your data to TAIR be affected if TAIR was no longer able to freely share your data with all researchers?

		Response Percent	Response Count
I would be much less likely to submit data		**38.0%**	**262**
I would be somewhat less likely to submit data		28.3%	195
No effect on whether I would submit data		15.5%	107
I would be more likely to submit data		3.5%	24
Don't know		14.8%	102
	answered question		**690**
	skipped question		**0**

14. Have you ever had a TAIR user account or ordered stocks through TAIR?

	yes	no	not sure	Response Count
I have registered at TAIR and have (or once had) a TAIR username and password	**64.8% (210)**	30.6% (99)	4.6% (15)	324
I have used TAIR to order seed or DNA stocks at least once	**79.5% (248)**	17.6% (55)	2.9% (9)	312
			answered question	341
			skipped question	349

15. General suggestions and feedback on TAIR priorities and/or future bioinformatics needs of the plant biology community:

	Response Count
	153
answered question	153
skipped question	537