

FlyBase: genes and gene models

Rachel A. Drysdale*, Madeline A. Crosby¹ and The FlyBase Consortium

Department of Genetics, University of Cambridge, Cambridge CB2 3EH, UK and ¹The Biological Laboratories, Harvard University, 16 Divinity Avenue, Cambridge, MA 02138, USA

Received September 15, 2004; Revised and Accepted September 28, 2004

ABSTRACT

FlyBase (<http://flybase.org>) is the primary repository of genetic and molecular data of the insect family Drosophilidae. For the most extensively studied species, *Drosophila melanogaster*, a wide range of data are presented in integrated formats. Data types include mutant phenotypes, molecular characterization of mutant alleles and aberrations, cytological maps, wild-type expression patterns, anatomical images, transgenic constructs and insertions, sequence-level gene models and molecular classification of gene product functions. There is a growing body of data for other *Drosophila* species; this is expected to increase dramatically over the next year, with the completion of draft-quality genomic sequences of an additional 11 *Drosophila* species.

SCOPE OF FLYBASE

FlyBase includes information about the structure and function of genes and gene products of the *Drosophila* genome (1). Although the primary species represented is that workhorse of classic genetics, *Drosophila melanogaster*, the database currently includes records for genes of more than 400 other *Drosophila* species, and will house genomic information for the 11 additional species included in the *Drosophila* comparative genomics sequencing effort. Phenotypic and genetic interaction information about mutants, and wild-type gene and enhancer-trap expression patterns are linked to strains in the *Drosophila* Stock Centers, from which extensive collections of mutant and wild-type strains are available. Mutant phenotypes (2) and gene expression patterns are described using controlled vocabularies, including anatomical terms linked to illustrations in the Anatomy section of FlyBase. Data concerning chromosome aberrations, natural transposons,

genetically engineered constructs and transgene insertions are presented with hyperlinks to affected genes and resulting mutant alleles.

An overview of the classes of data found in FlyBase may be seen on the homepage (<http://flybase.org>; for further description see Supplementary Figure 1). Features recently added to FlyBase include an External Database Links section in Gene reports, expanded Batch query options and an extensive *Drosophila* Resources compilation (<http://flybase.bio.indiana.edu/allied-data/resources.html>), which provides a comprehensive list of links to both network resources (e.g. sequence analysis tools) and material resources (e.g. clone and microarray suppliers) external to the FlyBase project.

Data are compiled by curators and annotators from sources including the scientific literature, large-scale genome sequencing projects and online resources such as the GenBank (NCBI)/EMBL/DDBJ nucleotide sequence databases and the UniProt (3) protein database. FlyBase curators work with curators of other databases, such as the Gene Ontology (GO) consortium (4) to ensure consistency of annotation across databases. The *D.melanogaster* genome annotation, Release 4.0 at the time of writing (5–7), has been enhanced by hand curation of all gene models (8,9), including integration of error reports submitted by the user community.

Table 1 shows a snapshot of FlyBase content as of September 2004. The remainder of this paper will focus on genes and gene models in FlyBase.

THE GENE REPORT

FlyBase provides several formats of gene report which differ by degree of completeness of data reported within the initial web page, the default being the Synopsis format. The Synopsis report for the *maleless* (*mle*) gene is shown in Figure 1. The Synopsis report displays commonly accessed gene information fields, an Available reports side panel to allow easy access to other report formats, and a text Summary generated

*To whom correspondence should be addressed. Tel: +44 1223 333963; Fax: +44 1223 333992; Email: rd120@gen.cam.ac.uk

The FlyBase Consortium: W. Gelbart, K. Campbell, M. Crosby, D. Emmert, B. Matthews, S. Russo, A. Schroeder, F. Smutniak, P. Zhang, P. Zhou and M. Zytkevich (Biological Laboratories, Harvard University, Cambridge, MA, USA); M. Ashburner, R. Drysdale, A. de Grey, R. Foulger, G. Millburn, D. Sutherland and C. Yamada (Department of Genetics, University of Cambridge, Cambridge, UK); T. Kaufman, K. Matthews, A. DeAngelo, R. K. Cook, D. Gilbert, J. Goodman, G. Grumbling, H. Sheth and V. Strelets (Department of Biology, Indiana University, Bloomington, IN, USA); G. Rubin, M. Gibson, N. Harris, S. Lewis, S. Misra and S. Q. Shu (University of California, Berkeley, CA, USA and Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratories, CA, USA)

The online version of this article has been published under an open access model. Users are entitled to use, reproduce, disseminate, or display the open access version of this article for non-commercial purposes provided that: the original authorship is properly and fully attributed; the Journal and Oxford University Press are attributed as the original place of publication with the correct citation details given; if an article is subsequently reproduced or disseminated not in its entirety but only in part or as a derivative work this must be clearly indicated. For commercial re-use permissions, please contact journals.permissions@oupjournals.org.

Table 1. Number of data records/statements in FlyBase: September 13, 2004

Gene records (<i>D.melanogaster</i>)	28 015
Genes records (species other than <i>D.melanogaster</i>)	10 766
Genes with genome annotations (<i>D.melanogaster</i>)	14 872
Genes with genome annotations, protein coding (<i>D.melanogaster</i>)	14 367
Genes with GO annotations (<i>D.melanogaster</i>)	9643
Genes with GO annotations (other species)	143
Mutant alleles (<i>D.melanogaster</i>)	66 279
Mutant alleles (other species)	5058
Phenotypic data controlled vocabulary statements (<i>D.melanogaster</i>)	142 756
Genetic interaction controlled vocabulary statements (<i>D.melanogaster</i>)	76 580
Natural transposons (<i>D.melanogaster</i>)	145
Natural transposon insertions mapped to euchromatic genome (<i>D.melanogaster</i>)	1571
Genetically engineered transposons (<i>D.melanogaster</i>)	14 075
DNA sequence accession records curated to genes (<i>D.melanogaster</i>)	77 629
DNA sequence accession records curated to genes (other species)	17 912
References	128 602
Stock Center stocks	27 200

automatically from the underlying data. The Abridged report format displays a wider range of information in the initial display than the Synopsis format, but collapses many of the details, such as individual Allele reports, into links in tables. The Full report format is the most comprehensive initial display.

FlyBase also offers Subsection reports selected by data type, for example, alleles of that gene, references that discuss the gene and sequences in the DNA and protein data banks that correspond to the gene. Links to these and other subreports are listed in the Subsections panel of the Synopsis report. Recent additions include the Gene Ontology subreport, the Genetic Interactions subreport and the Constructs & Insertions subreport.

Gene reports now include an External Database Links section (<http://flybase.bio.indiana.edu/allied-data/extdb/External-Links.htm>). This section houses links to databases external to FlyBase, to ease access to information about the gene that falls outside the scope of FlyBase data curation. The databases currently listed in this section include; the BDGP *In Situ* Gene Expression Database (10), *Drosophila melanogaster* Exon Database (<http://proline.bic.nus.edu.sg/dedb>), PANTHER Protein Classification (11,12), Fly GRID Interaction Data (13), Hybrigenics PIMRider interactions (14), Interactive Fly (15), Yale Developmental Gene Expression (16) and NCBI's Gene Expression Omnibus (17). Not all genes have an entry in all these databases. The number of external links in place via this facility exceeds 76 500.

THE GENE ANNOTATION REPORT

Detailed information about the annotated transcripts and other sequence-level data for a particular gene are to be found in the Annotation Report. This may be accessed from the Gene Report page from the link 'Genome Annotation' or by a direct query using the 'Gene Annotations' option in the homepage search box. The Annotation Query Form (<http://flybase.bio.indiana.edu/annot/fbannquery.hform>) allows queries based on

location, gene class, peptide length, mapped expressed sequenced tags (ESTs) or cDNAs, GO terms, or terms within annotation comments.

An example of an Annotation Report is shown in Figure 2. Notable features include a graphic representation of the transcript structures aligned with supporting evidence, information about each transcript and protein product, links to sequence data and information about other data mapped experimentally to the genomic sequence, such as point mutations, aberration breakpoints, rescue fragments and experimentally defined regulatory regions. Accompanying comments describe any unusual characteristics of the gene model, such as atypical splice donor or acceptor, non-AUG translation start, or dicistronic transcript. At the top of the report is a link to the peptide analysis that includes a graphic display of homologous proteins and known InterPro (3) protein motifs.

GENE REGION MAPS: GBROWSE AND APOLLO

A molecular map of the region surrounding a gene may be accessed through the Gene Region Map (GBrowse) link on either the Gene Report page or the Gene Annotation Report. GBrowse (18) is a configurable genome viewer that allows the presentation of both molecularly mapped and cytologically mapped data (<http://www.gmod.org/ggb/gbrowse.shtml>; see Supplementary Figure 2). Annotations or larger genomic regions may also be viewed using the interactive viewing and editing tool, Apollo (19). Apollo is available for Windows, MacOSX or Unix systems and may be downloaded from the Apollo site (<http://www.fruitfly.org/annot/apollo>).

BULK DATA DOWNLOADS

FlyBase offers a variety of routes for bulk data retrieval; a recent addition is the Batch Download Reports by ID facility shown in Figure 3. This tool allows the user to query the genes dataset for many records at once, by valid symbol or by FlyBase identification number. The users can select the output type they wish to retrieve (HTML/Text, Spreadsheet or Database format). For HTML/Text outputs, the user can choose Report Content (from Synopsis, Abridged, Full, Summary, Alleles, Sequences, Reviews, References). For HTML/Text or Spreadsheet outputs, it is possible to filter output by field, using the 'Select fields' function. A related tool, Batch Download Sequences by ID, allows querying for sequences for many genes simultaneously. Options for sequence retrieved are Gene Region, Transcript, Translation, 3'-untranslated region (3'-UTR) and 5'-UTR. Both Batch Download forms can be accessed from the Genes data directory or from the Genome Annotation and Sequences page.

In addition to bulk queries performed over the web interface, FlyBase data files are available for download by ftp from several of our mirror sites, in a text, acode or XML format. Protocols are described in the FlyBase Reference Manual section D (<http://flybase.org/docs/lk/refman/refman-D.html>).

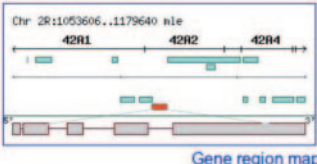
FlyBase Report

Synopsis of Gene *mle*

Symbol <i>mle</i> other Synonyms	Full name <i>maleless</i>	FlyBase ID FBgn0002774
		Date 20 Aug 04

GENOMIC ORGANIZATION

Chromosome arm 2R
Cytogenetic map [42A2](#)
Scaffold [AE003784](#)
Recomb. map 2-55.2



GENE PRODUCT
[Proteins & Transcripts](#)

Polypeptides [mle-P1](#) (1293 aa); [mle-P2](#) (226 aa); [mle-PA](#) (1293 aa); [mle-PB](#) (1109 aa); [mle-PA](#)
Transcripts [mle-RA](#); [mle-RB](#)
Sequence: Format:

GENE ONTOLOGY

Molecular function [double-stranded RNA binding](#); [chromatin binding](#); [helicase activity](#); [RNA helicase activity](#); [DNA helicase activity](#); [ATP-dependent helicase activity](#);
Biological process [dosage compensation](#); [dosage compensation complex assembly \(sensu Insecta\)](#); [dosage compensation by hyperactivation of X chromosome](#)
Cellular component [chromatin](#); [chromosome](#); [dosage compensation complex \(sensu Insecta\)](#); [nucleus](#)

Protein domains [Double-stranded RNA binding \(DsRBD\) domain](#), [DEAD/DEAH box helicase](#), [Helicase C-terminal domain](#), [ATP-dependent helicase](#), [DEAH-box](#), [P-loop containing nucleotide triphosphate hydrolases](#), [dsRNA-binding domain-like](#), [details...](#)

External database links [DEDB Splicing Graph](#) [Fly GRID](#) [Interactive Fly](#) [NCBI GEO](#)

SIMILAR GENES
--

EXPRESSION & PHENOTYPES
Expressed in -- [details...](#)
Mutants affect [abdomen](#), [embryonic/larval heart](#), [macrochaeta](#), [spermatozoon](#), [synapse](#), [wing](#) and 3 others. [details...](#)

Summary

D. melanogaster gene *maleless*, abbreviated as *mle*, is [reported here](#). It encodes a product with [chromatin binding](#) involved in [dosage compensation by hyperactivation of X chromosome](#) which is localized to the chromosome and the polytene chromosome. It has been [sequenced](#) and its [amino acid sequence](#) contains a [double-stranded RNA binding \(DsRBD\) domain](#), a [DEAD/DEAH box helicase](#), a [helicase C-terminal domain](#) and a [ATP-dependent helicase](#), [DEAH-box](#). It has been mapped by recombination to 2-55.2 and cytologically to [42A2](#). It interacts genetically with [para](#), [Sh](#), [Sxl](#), [tipE](#), [eag](#) and 13 other listed genes. There are 45 recorded [alleles](#): 13 in vitro constructs (none available from the public stock centers), 31 classical mutants (2 available from the public stock centers) and 1 wild-type. Loss-of-function mutations have been isolated which affect the [wing](#) and the conditional ts [spermatozoon](#) and are male recessive lethal and male sterile. *mle* is discussed in 227 [references](#) (excluding sequence accessions), dated between 1972 and 2004. These include at least 40 studies of mutant phenotypes, 13 studies of wild-type function and 19 molecular studies. Among findings on *mle* mutants, brain membrane extracts of *mle*^{*nap-ts1*}, assayed at low or high temperatures, have subnormal levels of tetrodotoxin. (However, there is much more information on mutants so that may not be representative.) Among findings on *mle* function, *mle* is involved in dosage compensation in males.

Report format alternatives

[HELP with Synopsis](#)

Available reports

[Synopsis](#)

[Abridged report](#)
[Full report](#)
[Recent updates](#)
[Genome Annotation](#)

Subsections

[Alleles \(45\)](#)
[Expression & Phenotypes \(9\)](#)
[Map locations](#)
[Proteins & Transcripts \(7\)](#)
[Constructs & Insertions \(13\)](#)
[Genetic Interactions \(130\)](#)
[Gene Ontology](#)
[Stocks \(2\)](#)
[References \(232\)](#)
[Similar genes & Sequences \(15\)](#)
[Synonyms \(12\)](#)
[Attributed data \(106\)](#)

Sub-report alternatives

External database links

Auto-generated text summary

Figure 1. FlyBase gene report, highlighting different format and subsection report options, automated gene summaries and the recently added External Database section.

D.MELANOGASTER GENOME RELEASES

The genomic sequence of *D. melanogaster* continues to be refined and expanded (<http://flybase.bio.indiana.edu/annot/release3.html>); the Berkeley Drosophila Genome Project has made public Release 4.0 of the genome sequence (<http://www.fruitfly.org/annot/release4.html>), and is currently finishing Release 5.0. FlyBase makes regular corrections and additions to the gene model annotations based on new data submissions to the sequence databases, user error reports and literature curation. We anticipate that comparative genomic analyses will play an increasing role in annotation assessment and improvement. Annotation updates are indicated by decimal numbers appended to the release number: e.g. Release 4.0 and Release 4.1. The heterochromatic portion of the genome is being analyzed by members of the *Drosophila*

Heterochromatin Genome Project (<http://www.dhgp.org>); the heterochromatin annotations are accessible through FlyBase.

ADDITIONAL DROSOPHILA GENOMES

The National Human Genome Research Institute (NHGRI) has recognized the importance of comparative genomic analysis for the annotation of *D. melanogaster* and for understanding how genomes evolved. Towards this end, the major NHGRI-funded sequencing centers are sequencing 11 additional species of *Drosophila* (*pseudoobscura*, *yakuba*, *simulans*, *virilis*, *ananassae*, *erecta*, *willistoni*, *grimshawi*, *mojavensis*, *persimilis* and *sechellia*); status of projects reported at <http://genome.gov/page.cfm?pageID=10002154>. The genome sequences,

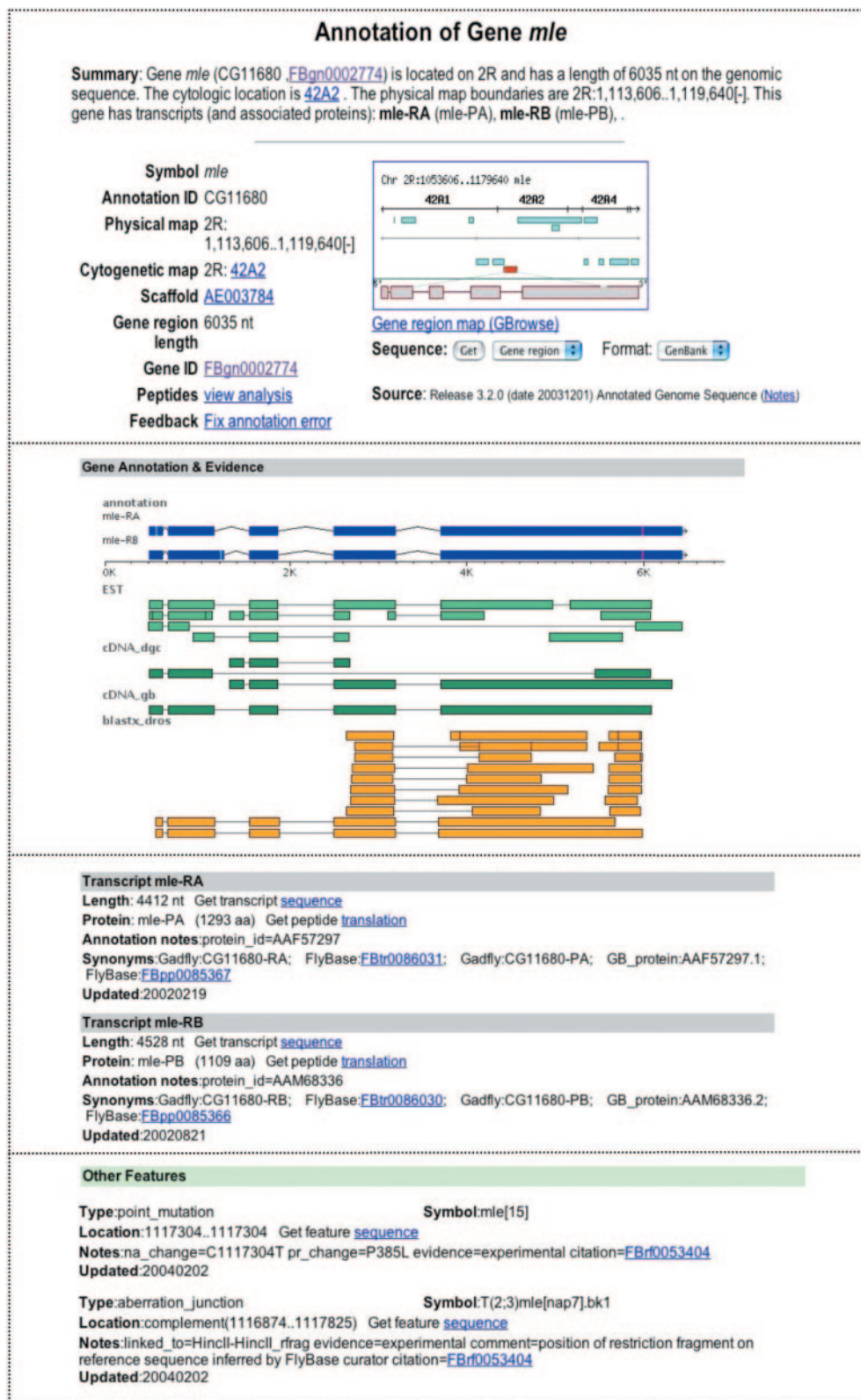


Figure 2. FlyBase annotation report. The panels show sequential extracts from the annotation report. At the top there are links to a Cytogenetic map, the GenBank scaffold sequence accession, and a Peptides 'view analysis' page showing alignments to related proteins and protein domain predictions. The 'Sequence' option allows the user to retrieve sequence for the gene region, transcripts, UTRs or proteins in a choice of formats. The Gene Annotation and Evidence panel shows two alternative transcripts and supporting EST, cDNA and protein (blastx) data. Note that the *mle-RB* transcript is based on data curated from the literature (not represented graphically), and that cDNA data supports an additional alternative transcript (to be added in the next annotation update). Details about the annotated transcripts and protein products are presented, and an 'Other Features' section describes mutational lesions, rescue fragments and other entities mapped onto the sequence level. These features appear on the GBrowse map, which may be accessed from a link at the top of the page.

FlyBase Batch Download by ID [Help](#)

Output Format	Output Options
HTML/Text Selected or Full Data	Document Hypertext : Report content: Synopsis : or Report only Abridged content for Select fields: FNC,GSYM,ID,
Spreadsheet Selected Data Only	Spreadsheet, commas : Report only Abridged content for Select fields:
Database Format Full Data Only	Database ACODE :

Send results to:
 Enter List of IDs: FBgn0010113, FBgn0000535, FBgn0015513, FBgn0000055, FBgn0000411, FBgn0001981, FBgn0001203
 or Upload File of IDs: no file selected

* IDs may be FlyBase IDs, or Drosophila Gene Collection (DGC), or Computed Gene (CG) symbol, or valid FlyBase symbol. For DGC ID, this table [DGC_FBgn.txt](#) is used to convert to FBgn. For CT symbols, this table [ctcg_ids.txt](#) is used to convert to FBgn.

Select report fields for fbgn

CEL - Cellular component
 CLA - Class of gene
 CLOC - Cytogenetic map
 CYA - Associated cytology
 CYC - Notes on cytogenetic map
 DBA - DNA/RNA sequences
 DIS - Discoverer
 DT - Date
 ENZ - Molecular function
FNC - Biological process
 FSQ - Foreign sequence
 GI - Genetic interaction info.
 GLC - Comments on genetic locn.
 GPD - Gene product
 GSYM - Symbol
 ID - FlyBase ID
 ID2 - Secondary ID
 IFL - Interactive Fly
 KLOC - Computed kilobase location
 LOI - Location inferred from insertion in

Figure 3. The FlyBase 'Batch Download Reports by ID' tool. In this example, seven genes are the subject of the query (listed in the 'Enter List of Ids' box), the user has selected 'Document hypertext' as the output format, and is in the process of selecting which data fields to retrieve.

annotations, syntenic relationships and other data from these genome projects will be incorporated into FlyBase, consistent with FlyBase's long-term commitment to maintaining genomic and genetic data on the family Drosophilidae.

THE CHADO DATABASE SCHEMA

FlyBase has been operating since 1992 and is now in the process of developing and populating a new database structure, an integrated implementation of the chado generic genome database schema (<http://www.gmod.org/schema/>). The initial design of the chado schema was undertaken by FlyBase developers at Harvard and Berkeley to fully integrate the finished *D.melanogaster* genome sequence and annotation with the vast body of *Drosophila* genetic and phenotypic data produced over the last 100 years. The chado schema is an open software project and is being developed in cooperation with the GMOD initiative (<http://www.gmod.org>).

REFERENCING FLYBASE

We suggest FlyBase be referenced in publications by citing this publication and the FlyBase web address (<http://flybase.org>).

NOTE ADDED IN PROOF

The initial analysis of the genome sequence of a second *Drosophila* species, *D.pseudoobscura* [Richards, S. *et al.* (2004)

Genome Res., in press] can now be accessed at GenBank and Flybase (<http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/entrez/viewer.fcgi?db=nucleotide&val=40362459> and http://flybase.bio.indiana.edu/cgi-bin/gbrowse_fb/dpse, respectively). It includes 12 197 gene annotations of *D.pseudoobscura* and their inferred orthology/syntenic relationships with their *D.melanogaster* counterparts.

SUPPLEMENTARY MATERIAL

Supplementary Material is available at NAR Online.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

FlyBase is supported by grant P41 HG00739 from the National Human Genome Research Institute, National Institutes of Health, with additional support from the Medical Research Council (London).

REFERENCES

1. The FlyBase Consortium (2003) The FlyBase database of the *Drosophila* genome projects and community literature. *Nucleic Acids Res.*, **31**, 172–175.
2. Drysdale, R. (2001) Phenotypic data in FlyBase. *Brief Bioinformatics*, **2**, 68–80.
3. Apweiler, R., Bairoch, A., Wu, C.H., Barker, W.C., Boeckmann, B., Ferro, S., Gasteiger, E., Huang, H., Lopez, R., Magrane, M. *et al.* (2004) UniProt: the Universal Protein knowledgebase. *Nucleic Acids Res.*, **32** (Database issue), D115–D119.
4. Harris, M.A., Clark, J., Ireland, A., Lomax, J., Ashburner, M., Foulger, R., Eilbeck, K., Lewis, S., Marshall, B., Mungall, C. *et al.* (2004) The Gene

- Ontology (GO) database and informatics resource. *Nucleic Acids Res.*, **32**, D258–D261.
5. Adams,M.D., Celniker,S.E., Holt,R.A., Evans,C.A., Gocayne,J.D., Amanatides,P.G., Scherer,S.E., Li,P.W., Hoskins,R.A., Galle,R.F. *et al.* (2000) The genome sequence of *Drosophila melanogaster*. *Science*, **287**, 2185–2195.
 6. Celniker,S.E., Wheeler,D.A., Kronmiller,B., Carlson,J.W., Halpern,A., Patel,S., Adams,M., Champe,M., Dugan,S.P., Frise,E. *et al.* (2002) Finishing a whole-genome shotgun: release 3 of the *Drosophila melanogaster* euchromatic genome sequence. *Genome Biol.*, **3**, R79.
 7. Hoskins,R.A., Smith,C.D., Carlson,J.W., de Carvalho,A.B., Halpern,A., Kaminker,J.S., Kennedy,C., Mungall,C.J., Sullivan,B.A., Sutton,G.G. *et al.* (2002) Heterochromatic sequences in a *Drosophila* whole-genome shotgun assembly. *Genome Biol.*, **3**, R85.
 8. Misra,S., Crosby,M.A., Mungall,C.J., Matthews,B.B., Campbell,K.S., Hradecky,P., Huang,Y., Kaminker,J.S., Millburn,G.H., Prochnik,S.E., Smith,C.D., Tupy,J.L. *et al.* (2002) Annotation of the *Drosophila melanogaster* euchromatic genome: a systematic review. *Genome Biol.*, **3**, R83.
 9. Kaminker,J.S., Bergman,C.M., Kronmiller,B., Carlson,J., Svirskas,R., Patel,S., Frise,E., Wheeler,D.A., Lewis,S.E., Rubin,G.M. *et al.* (2002) The transposable elements of the *Drosophila melanogaster* euchromatin: a genomics perspective. *Genome Biol.*, **3**, R84.
 10. Tomancak,P., Beaton,A., Weiszmman,R., Kwan,E., Shu,S., Lewis,S.E., Richards,S., Ashburner,M., Hartenstein,V., Celniker,S.E. *et al.* (2002) Systematic determination of patterns of gene expression during *Drosophila* embryogenesis. *Genome Biol.*, **3**, R88.
 11. Mi,H., Vandergriff,J., Campbell,M., Narechania,A., Majoros,W., Lewis,S., Thomas,P.D. and Ashburner,M. (2003) Assessment of genome-wide protein function classification for *Drosophila melanogaster*. *Genome Res.*, **13**, 2118–2128.
 12. Thomas,P.D., Campbell,M.J., Kejariwal,A., Mi,H., Karlak,B., Daverman,R., Diemer,K., Muruganujan,A. and Narechania,A. (2003) PANTHER: a library of protein families and subfamilies indexed by function. *Genome Res.*, **13**, 2129–2141.
 13. Breitkreutz,B.J., Stark,C. and Tyers,M. (2003) The GRID: the General Repository for Interaction Datasets. *Genome Biol.*, **4**, R23.
 14. Colland,F., Jacq,X., Trouplin,V., Mouglin,C., Groizeleau,C., Hamburger,A., Meil,A., Wojcik,J., Legrain,P. and Gauthier,J.M. (2004) Functional proteomics mapping of a human signaling pathway. *Genome Res.*, **14**, 1324–1332.
 15. Brody,T. (1999) The Interactive Fly: gene networks, development and the Internet. *Trends Genet.*, **15**, 333–334.
 16. Arbeitman,M.N., Furlong,E.E., Imam,F., Johnson,E., Null,B.H., Baker,B.S., Krasnow,M.A., Scott,M.P., Davis,R.W. and White,K.P. (2002) Gene expression during the life cycle of *Drosophila melanogaster*. *Science*, **297**, 2270–2275.
 17. Edgar,R., Domrachev,M. and Lash,A.E. (2002) Gene Expression Omnibus: NCBI gene expression and hybridization array data repository. *Nucleic Acids Res.*, **30**, 207–210.
 18. Stein,L.D., Mungall,C., Shu,S., Caudy,M., Mangone,M., Day,A., Nickerson,E., Stajich,J.E., Harris,T.W., Arva,A. *et al.* (2002) The generic genome browser: a building block for a model organism system database. *Genome Res.*, **12**, 1599–1610.
 19. Lewis,S.E., Searle,S.M., Harris,N., Gibson,M., Lyer,V., Richter,J., Wiel,C., Bayraktaroglu,L., Birney,E., Crosby,M.A. *et al.* (2002) Apollo: a sequence annotation editor. *Genome Biol.*, **3**, R82.