## **Contents**

Editorial	1
MaizeGDB - Past, Present, and Future. Carolyn J. Lawrence	3
Development and characterization of a core set of SSR markers for fingerprinting analysis of Chinese maize varieties. Feng-Ge Wang, Hong-Li Tian, Jiu-Ran Zhao, Hong-Mei Yi, Lu Wang, Wei Song	7
Comparison of dynamic changes of endogenous hormones between calli derived from mature and immature embryos of maize. Xiaoxia Jia, Hanning Wang, Huiguang Liang, Weiping Kong, Xinhui Zhang, Jinwen Zhang	19
Temporal dynamics of kernel set of tropical sweet maize (Zea mays L) as influenced by genotype and mild drought. Quanjai Rupitak, Peter Stamp, Sansern Jampatong, Surapol Chowchong, Rainer Messmer	25
Early growth of field-grown swiss flint maize landraces. David N Schneider, Niclas M Freitag, Markus Liedgens, Boy Feil, Peter Stamp	33
Genetic diversity assessment and relationship among tropical-yellow endosperm maize inbred lines using SSR markers. Oyenike Adeyemo, Abebe Menkir, Gedil Melaku, Olusesan Omidiji	43
Chemical composition and fatty acid content of white food sorghums grown in different environments. Paola Pontieri, Raffaele Di Fiore, Jacopo Troisi, Scott R Bean, Earl Roemer, Josephine Okot, Pietro Alifano, Domenico Pignone, Luigi Del Giudice, Domenica Rita Massardo	51
Natural genetic variation for root traits among diversity lines of maize (Zea Mays L). Lakshmi Praba Manavalan, Theresa Musket, Henry T Nguyen	5 <b>9</b>
Characterization of maize germplasm: comparison of morphological datasets compiled using different approaches to data recording. John R Law, Steven R Anderson, Elizabeth S Jones, Barry K Nelson, Enver Mulaosmanovic, J Stephen Smith	69
Characterization of the maize b-32 ribosome inactivating protein and its interaction with fungal pathogen development. Chiara Lanzanova, Alessio Torri, Mario Motto, Carlotta Balconi	83
Assesment of genetic diversity and relationships among maize inbred lines developed in Italy.  Alessia Losa, Hans Hartings, Alberto Verderio, Mario Motto	95