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## *Fugu*: the small genome of a puffed-up fish

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## Abstract

The puffer fish *Fugu rubripes* is perhaps better known as a Japanese delicacy, but its gene-rich, relatively small genome makes the puffer fish a suitable vertebrate for comparative mapping.

## Content

The puffer fish *Fugu rubripes* is perhaps better known as a Japanese delicacy, but its gene-rich, relatively small genome makes the puffer fish a suitable vertebrate for comparative mapping. This site contains all the data currently available from the *Fugu* comparative mapping project: its background, aims and origin, and 'everything you ever wanted to know about puffer fish'. Search tools are provided that allow interrogation of the sequence data by keyword or BLAST search, and it is also possible to retrieve specific information on cosmids or clones for both genomic and cDNA sequences.

## Navigation

Links are clear and the data are cross-linked, providing easy movement up, down and across the data tree and making the site straightforward and simple to use. Searching and retrieving data is relatively painless. The front page contains links to the rest of the HGMP-RC, and there are links to cited references in [PubMed](#). A feedback page is provided, but it is not *Fugu* specific and the site is fairly minimalist.

## Reporter's comments

## Timeliness

Unfortunately, no date stamp is provided, making it difficult to determine how up to date the site is.

## Best feature

The site is simple, with no-nonsense access to the available data and no unnecessary images or other web frippery.

## Worst feature

There is little explanation and this site assumes a substantial degree of familiarity from the user. The statistics page, although warning that the links on the page may take some time, returns errors, as do the 'Detailed analysis of BLAST results' links from the 'Clone details' pages. There are no recipes for preparing puffer fish, although details of its poison can be found from links on the site.

## Wish list

A summary table containing the current state of play would be a nice addition to the front page, as would a little more explanation in general. Correction of bad links is needed. Rather than displaying the database information in the browser window, a download option should be offered.

## Related websites

There are quite a number of vertebrate genomic sequence/mapping sites, of which [Zebrafish information network](#) and [Xenopus molecular marker resource](#) are two examples.

## Table of links

[HGMP-RC \*Fugu\* Project](#)

[PubMed](#)

[Zebrafish information network](#)

[Xenopus molecular marker resource](#)

## References

1. HGMP-RC *Fugu* Project.