

# Improving salinity tolerance in rice, progress in QTL mapping and marker assisted backcrossing

**Abdelbagi M. Ismail**  
**IRRI**

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## Speeding the Development of Salt-tolerant Rice Varieties through Marker-assisted Selection and their Dissemination in Salt-affected Areas of Bangladesh

### Partners:

#### IRRI

Mike Thomson

Thelma Paris

Dave Mackill

Abdel Ismail

#### Bangladesh:

- Bangladesh Rice Research Institute (BRRI): **M. A. Salam**
- Dhaka University (DU): **Zeba Seraj**
- Bangladesh Institute of Nuclear Agriculture (BINA): **Mirza M. Islam**

# Building on progress made by the GCP Project G3005.02

## Revitalizing Marginal Lands: Discovery of Genes for Tolerance of Saline and P-Deficient Soils to Enhance and Sustain Productivity



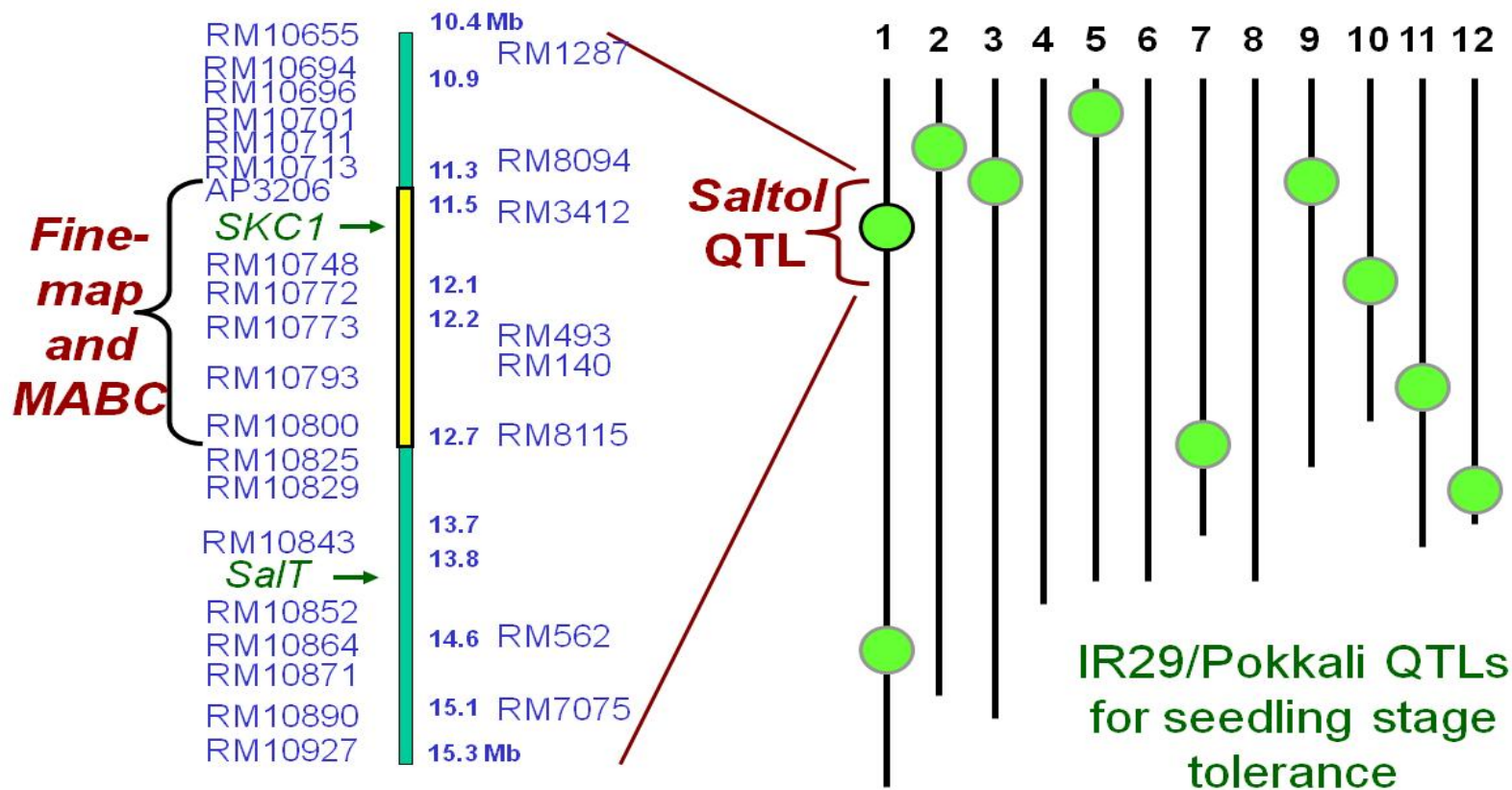
- **Salt stress currently affects more than 22 m ha in S & SE Asia, about one million ha in Bangladesh**
- **Disproportionately affect resource poor farmers with fewer livelihood options**
- **Rice productivity in these areas is low but can be increased by at least 2 t ha<sup>-1</sup>**
- **Coexistence of multiple stresses necessitates the need for novel approaches:**
  - Higher levels of tolerance
  - Combining tolerances of multiple stresses
  - More efficient and cheaper marker systems for MABC
- **Progress make in fine-mapping a major QTLS (*SaltoI*) associated with tolerance through (CGP-P2)**

# Project Activities

- Introgression of salt-tolerance QTL, *Saltol*, into popular varieties
- Evaluate introgression lines in farmers' fields
- Assess the impact of introgression lines and other tolerant varieties in farmers' fields
- Strengthen the capacity of national research institutions in MABC

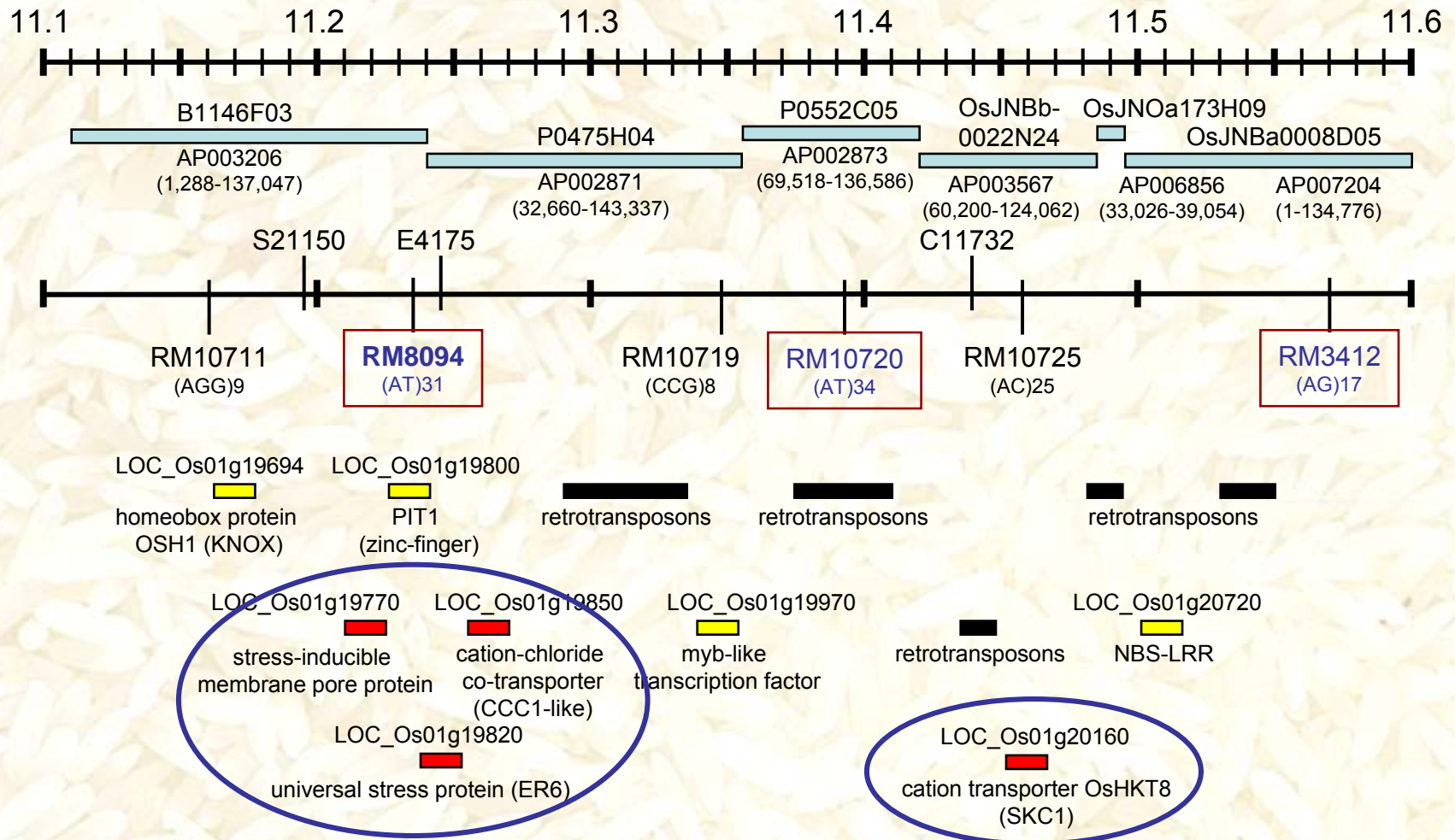
# 1. Introgression of salinity-tolerance QTLs into popular varieties

- **IR29/Pokkali RIL population**
  - Multiple QTLs identified for seedling stage tolerance, Na<sup>+</sup> exclusion and Na<sup>+</sup>/K<sup>+</sup> ratio
- **Saltol QTL on chromosome 1**
  - Major QTL (R<sup>2</sup> = 45%) Confirmed with SSRs
  - Tolerant RILs FL378 and FL478 identified

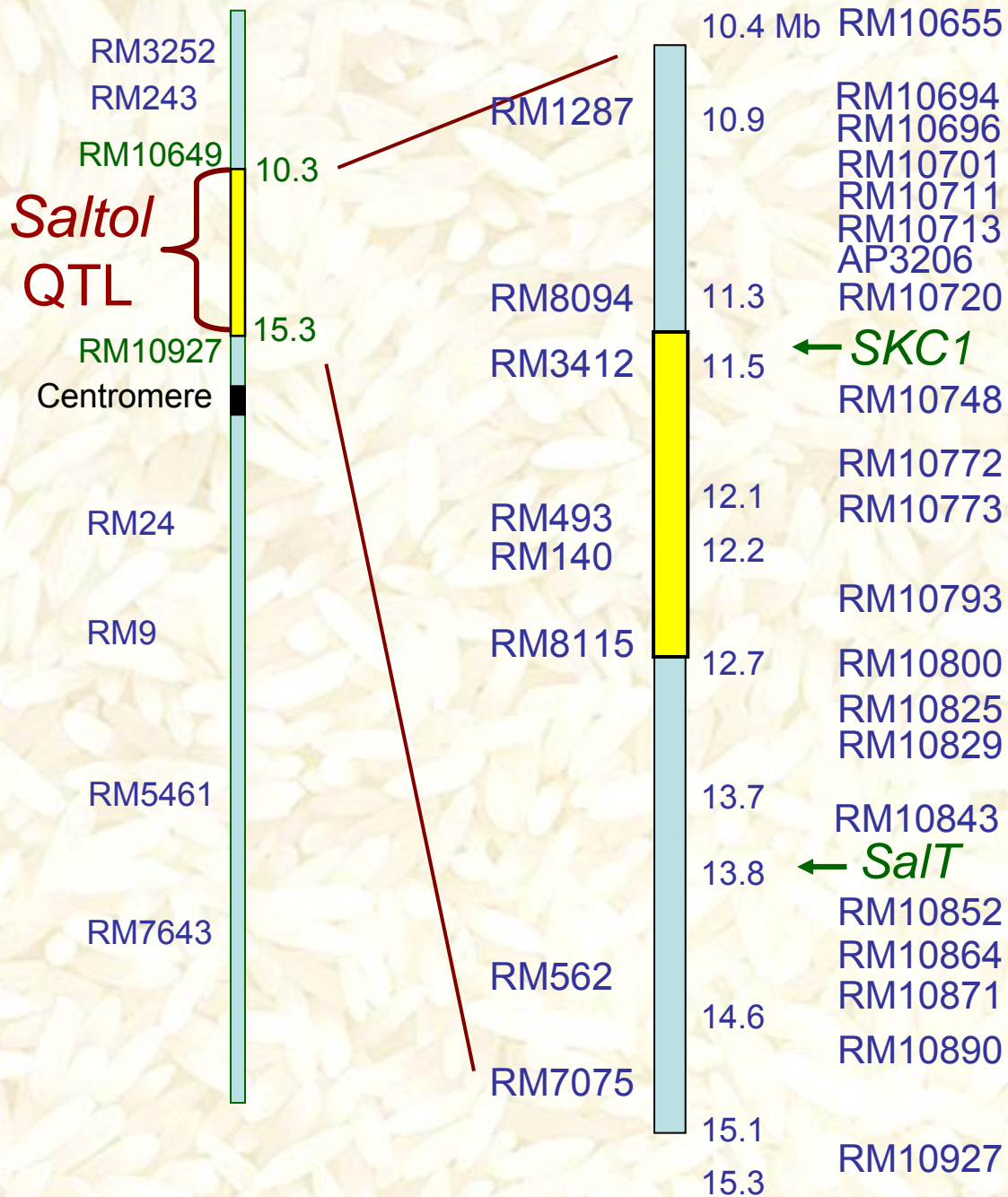


# 1.1. Develop & validate a MABC system for introgression of *Saltol*

## Physical map of *Saltol* region (11.1-11.6 Mb on chr 1)



Chromosome 1

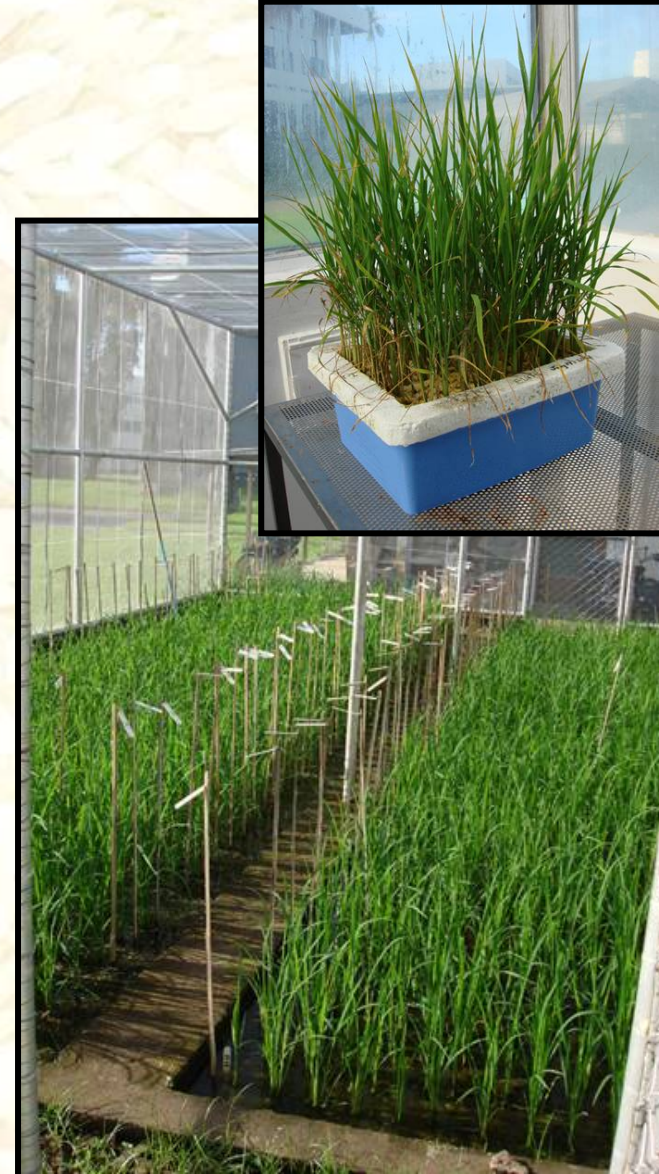


**Fine-mapping  
Saltol**

30 SSRs and  
gene-based  
markers across  
the *Saltol* region

## 1.2. Introgression of *Saltol* into BRRRI dhan 28 and BR11

- **Goal:** Rapidly and precisely transfer *Saltol* QTL to popular varieties
- **MABC system:**
  - Foreground markers
  - Recombinant markers
  - Background markers
- **Populations initiated:**
  - FL478 and FL378 tolerant donors
  - **BRRRI dhan28, BR11, IR64, Swarna, Samba Mahsuri**



# BR28-Saltol (BC<sub>3</sub>F<sub>2</sub>)



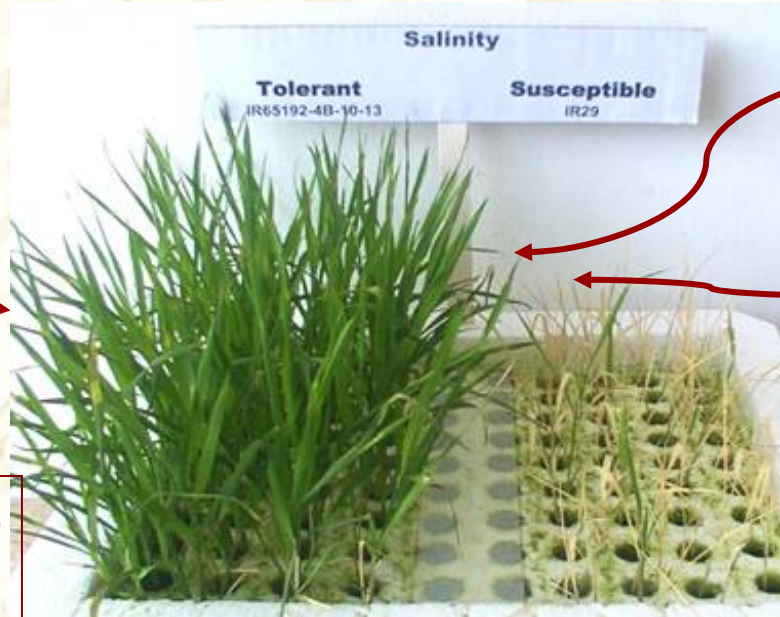
**BR28**

**BR28-Saltol**

# Responses of BR28-*Saltol* and BR28 to salt stress (3 reps, 5 sub-samples/rep)

Genotype	SES score		% Survival		Concentration (mmol/g dwt)		Na-K ratio
	Exp 1	Exp 2	Exp 1	Exp 1	[Na <sup>+</sup> ]	[K <sup>+</sup> ]	
<b>BR28-<i>Saltol</i></b>	<b>4.2</b>	<b>5.3</b>	<b>93.5</b>	<b>58.3</b>	<b>0.015</b>	<b>0.492</b>	<b>0.018</b>
<b>BR28</b>	<b>7.0</b>	<b>9.0</b>	<b>63.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.123</b>	<b>0.490</b>	<b>0.148</b>
IR29	8.3	9.0	59.8	0.0	0.196	0.462	0.250
FL 478	3.3	4.3	100.0	91.7	0.008	0.443	0.011
Significance	***	-	-	-	***	***	-
LSD <sub>0.05</sub>	0.69	-	-	-	0.0018	0.008	-

# Mechanisms of salinity tolerance: Seedling Stage



High vigor

Upregulation of antioxidants

Regulation of uptake (Na<sup>+</sup> exclusion)

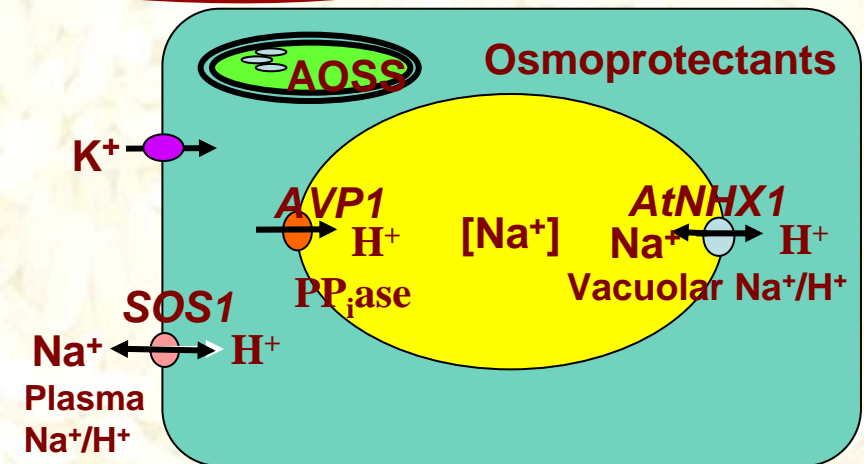
Sequestering Na<sup>+</sup> in vacuoles (tissue tolerance)

Controlled Na<sup>+</sup> transport between roots and shoots

Protective metabolites

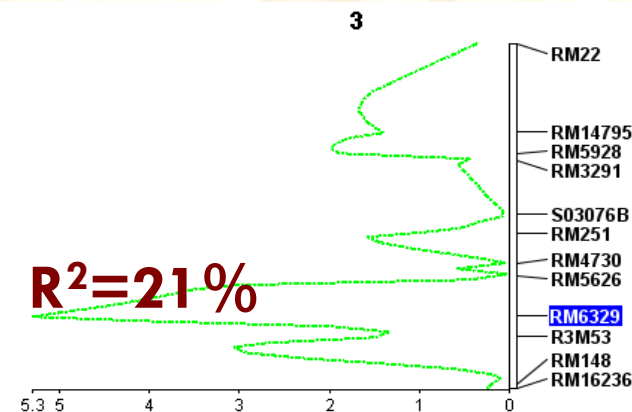
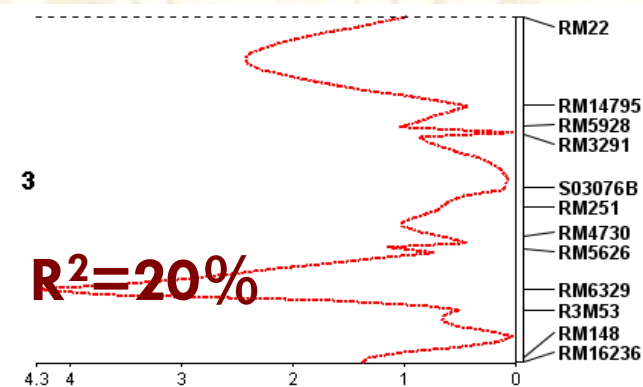
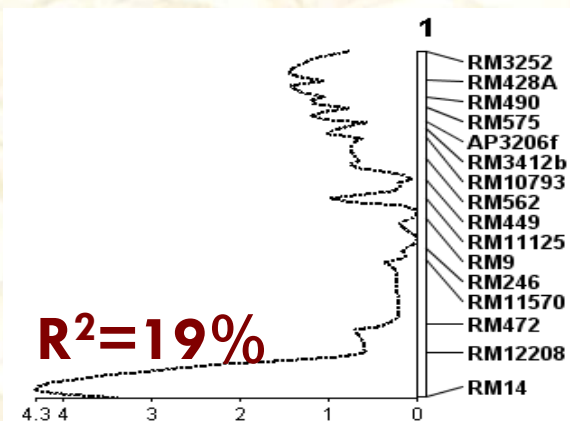
Responsive stomata

Compartmentation into older tissue



# 1.3. Mapping of additional QTLs for further targeting through MABC

- Non-Salto Pokkali QTLs (Chr 2, 9, 12)
- FL478 / Azucena tolerance QTLs (Chr 1, 3, 6)



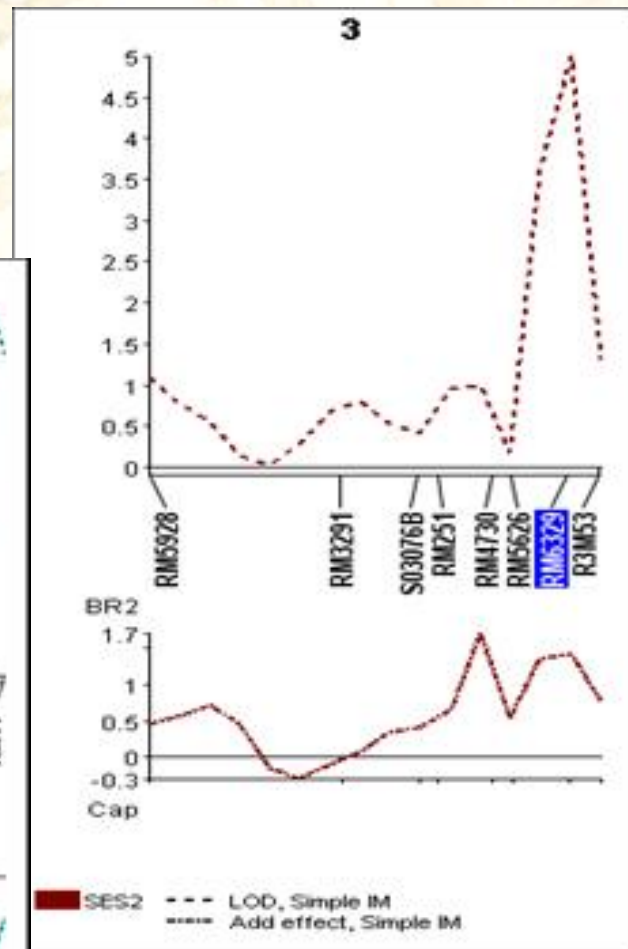
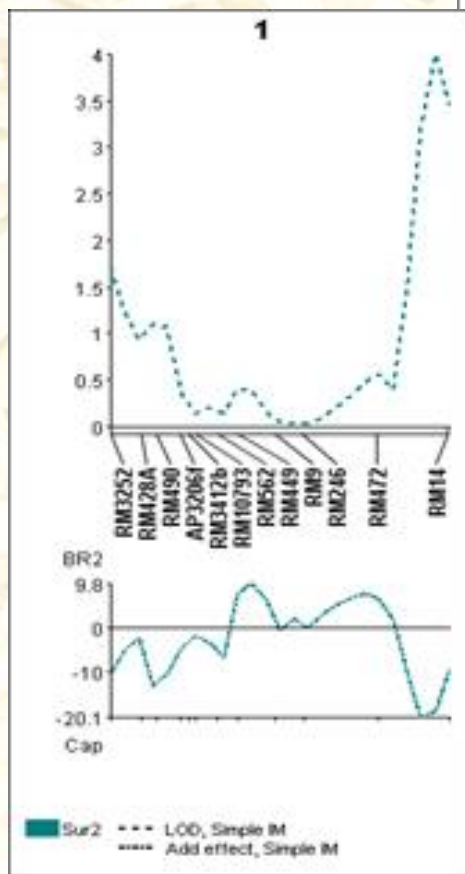
■ NaKR    - - - - LOD, Composite IM (LS)

■ Na    - - - - LOD, Composite IM (LS)

■ SES    - - - - LOD, Composite IM (LS)

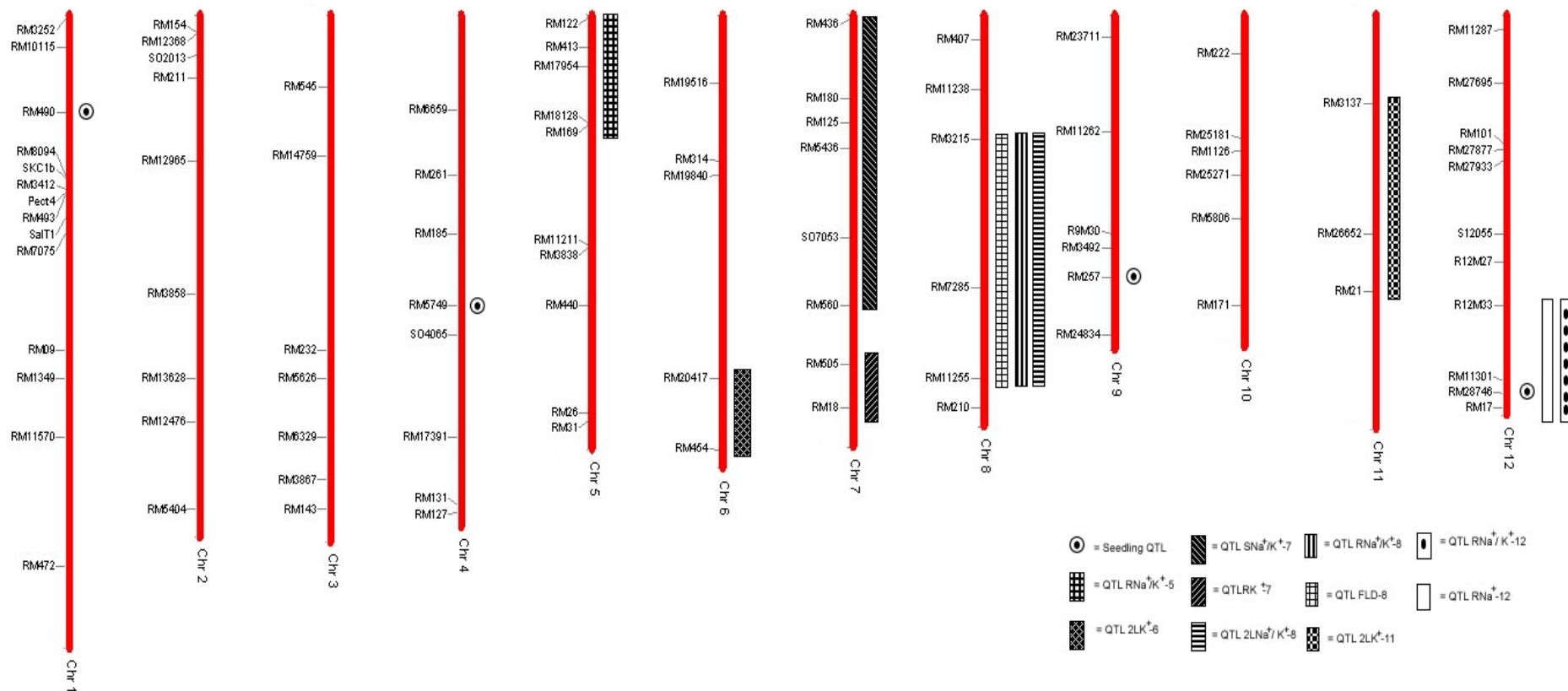
## ➤ BRRRI dhan29/Casule QTLs

- Capsule is a highly salt tolerant landrace from Bangladesh
- Some QTL have similar locations with those from Pokkali
- New QTLs on long arm of chr. 1 (distinct from *Salto*) and on chr. 3



Survival under salt stress

# Boilam / BRRI dhan27 (Ch 7,8,12)



**Seedling and reproductive stage**

## 2. Seed production and evaluation of *Saltol* lines in farmers' fields

- Seeds of BR28-*Saltol* Shipped from IRRI to Bangladesh
- Field testing will start in the dry season of 2009-2010
- Seeds of BR11-*Saltol* is being produced in Bangladesh for field evaluation during the wet season of 2010



# 4. Capacity building for BRRI, BINA & DU

1. A MAS Laboratory completed at BRRI through Capacity Building á la Carte (SP5)

2. Two workshops on MABC at BRRI and IRRI

IRRI (24/11-5/12,) and BRRI (Nov 18-27) diverse topics with hands-on lab training

3. Workshop on Participatory research, seed health and management, & socio-economic data analysis in Bangladesh (Oct-Nov)

4. Degree training: One PhD completed, two ongoing

5. Short visits: 5 participants from India, Bangladesh, Indonesia (SP5)



Course Schedule

**Marker-Assisted Selection (MAS) in Rice:**  
*Theory, Practice, and Application*

24 November - 5 December 2008



# Data format and release

- Available data include: genotyping data for (Gel images, Excel summaries); and phenotyping data
- Forms sent to partners to organize their data for deposition in the GCP registry

## Link with other projects

- Building on achievements of Project 2 (SP2)
- Challenge program on Water and Food
- BMZ-funded project on gene discovery and developing efficient genotyping systems

# Product delivery and impact on users **IRRI**

## **Delivery:**

- Participatory variety selection Networks
- IRRI networks (CURC, INGER, Breeding networks)

## **Impact:**

- Evaluation and farmers feedback is being solicited every season
- Evaluation of *Saltol* lines will start next year in farmers' fields



# Impact in farmers fields: genetic tolerance & proper management:

IRRI



## ➤ **Characterize and pyramid multiple QTLs**

- Combine multiple QTLs for salinity
- QTLs for stresses that are co-existing (*Saltol+Sub1*, *Saltol + Zn def. tolerance*; *Saltol+Pup1*))

## ➤ **Identify additional “novel” QTLs**

- Use different salt tolerant donors
- Target reproductive stage tolerance

## ➤ **Test new markers and technologies**

- Develop markers that are easier to use
- Increase efficiency using high-throughput SNP genotyping