100 Dates!
Whole genome sequencing of 100 date varieties

What is 100 Dates!? 
- 100 Dates! is a DNA sequencing project led by NYU Abu Dhabi scientists.
- Goal is to sequence the genomes of 100 date varieties.
- Data will provide essential information for many biotechnology applications and for answering outstanding questions about date palm domestication.
- Data will be publicly available through an interactive online database.

Which genes control which traits? 
- Date varieties differ in many traits important to consumers and date growers (e.g., yield and disease resistance) alike.
- 100 Dates! will help identify the genes that control these traits using established methods to "map" traits to the genes that control them.

Where were dates first cultivated? 
- The center of origin of date domestication has been controversial.
- Varieties from the center of origin should harbor the most genetic diversity.
- If dates were first cultivated in Mesopotamia, we expect varieties from Iraq to harbor more genetic variation as a group than varieties from other regions.

Who is the wild ancestor? 
- Early farmers began harvesting wild dates, cultivating the trees for fruit, and selecting for better-tasting varieties.
- What species of date palm were they cultivating?
- By sequencing wild date species, 100 Dates! can determine who is the wild ancestor.

How do I learn more? 
- 100 Dates! is developing rapidly, visit our website frequently at: http://puruggananlab.bio.nyu.edu/100Dates.php
- Join 100 Dates! on facebook for breaking news updates: www.facebook.com/100Dates

UPDATE! 
Genomes for Halawi and Khisab now complete