Inversion in the published genetic map of linkage group VII

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In the course of cloning the dim-2 gene of Neurospora crassa we found that the published map of LG VII has an inversion of a segment extending from for to un-10. Direct physical mapping confirmed that the gene order in this region should be we-1, for, frq, oli, un-10.

In preparation to clone the dim-2 gene (Foss et al. 1993 Science 262:1737-1741) of Neurospora crassa, we mapped this gene to the right arm of linkage group VII (LGVII) between wc-1 and arg-10. To map the dim-2 gene more precisely, three other crosses were performed (Table 1). We used strains with genetic markers wc-1, frq and for on LGVII and initially relied on a published genetic map (Figure 1a) to interpret our results. Data from the cross between un-10 and wc-1 dim-2 strains suggested that dim-2 is left of un-10 and between wc-1 and un-10; about half of the recombinants (21/36) in the wc-1 to un-10 interval were dim-2 (Table 1, cross 1). In two additional crosses in which one of the parents carried either a for or a frq mutation, however, we could not find dim-2 recombinant progeny of the genotype wc-1 dim-2 for and wc-1 dim-2 frq (Table 1, crosses 2 and 3); other markers in these crosses segregated as expected from the published genetic map (data not shown). Therefore, dim-2 appeared to be tightly linked to both for and frq. This result was unexpected since frq and for were reported to be to the right of un-10 by approximately 9 and 12 map units, respectively (Figure 1a). To explain our genetic data we considered the possibility that the segment including un-10, oli, frq and for is inverted (Figure 1b). This orientation accounted for all our data and was subsequently confirmed by physical mapping (data not shown). Results of chromosomal walks from wc-1 and un-10 showed that for is proximal to wc-1 followed by frq, oli, dim-2 and un-10 (Kouzminova and Selker, unpublished). Thus we suggest that the order of the genes for, frq, oli and un-10 is as shown in Figure 1b.

Table 1. Map data.

Cross	Zygote genotype	Genotype and number of recombinant progeny analyzed for dim-2	Genotype and number of dim-2 recombinant progeny	
1 *	$\frac{+}{wc-1}$ $\frac{+}{dim-2}$ $\frac{+}{+}$	wc-1* un-10* 36	wc-1° dim-2° un-10° wc-1° dim-2 un-10°	21 15
2 ^b	$\frac{+ \qquad for \ (+)}{wc-1} \div (dim-2)^d$	random progeny 100	wc-l for dim-2* wc-l* for dim-2	4 2
3 '	$\frac{+ \qquad frq::hph \ (+)}{wc-1} + (dim-2)^d$	wc-J frq::hph 10	wc-1 frq::hph dim-2* wc-1 frq::hph dim-2	10 0

Recombinant progeny were selected on minimal medium at 34°C to select against un-10 progeny. The wc-1 mutation was scored under constant light at 34°C.

b Progeny were scored without selection.

Progeny were selected on plates supplemented with hygromycin and scored for we-I under constant light at 34°C.

^d Parentheses indicate that the position of dim-2 relative to either for or frq could not be determined from the cross.

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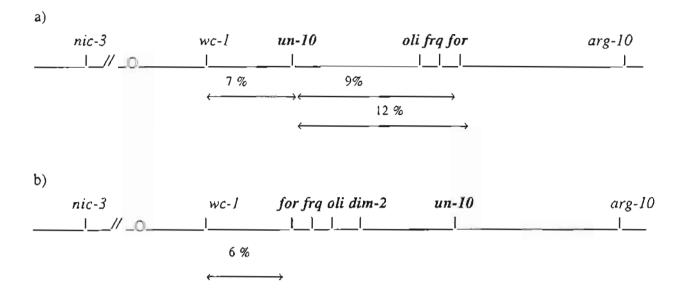


Figure 1. (a) Previous map and percentages of recombination between some genetic markers on LGVII (Perkins et al. 1982 Microbiol Reviews, 46:426-570). (b) Revised genetic map based on our findings. Genetic distance between wc-l and for was calculated from the cross 2 data (Table 1), the centromeric region is indicated by the circle on the left and genes in the disputed region are in bold.