

Agriculture Consortia Processes and Milestones

What is an agriculture consortium?

Illumina categorizes projects that facilitate food, feed, (bio) fuel, fiber, forestry, and friends (companion animals) as “agriculture.” The Agriculture Consortium program provides a framework for researchers to pool resources to develop biomarker/SNP genotyping or sequencing tools for various species. Confidentiality is maintained throughout the process.

What advantage does a consortium offer?

Each species or research community can have unique needs. Within each community, researchers often have overlapping goals that are best addressed by a combined effort and the development of a single tool (or set of common tools). By this collaborative approach, consortia help reduce the barrier of entry for individual researchers to adopt genetic analysis tools into breeding programs.

<p>Pre-Consortia</p> <p>Estimated time in this phase is variable</p> <p>Gain understanding of community needs</p> <p>Define project expectations</p> <p>Quantify consortium interest level</p> <p>Develop list of potentially interested parties</p> <p>Yes/No to Engagement</p>	<p>Engagement</p> <p>Estimated time variable and dependent upon state of the science</p> <p>Identify SNP sources & content contributors</p> <p>Develop FAQ document on potential content</p> <p>Receive permission letter to share SNPs from content contributor(s)</p> <p>Initiate inquiries to potential sample contributors</p> <p>Establish confidential interest list with potential sample numbers</p> <p>Yes/No to Selling</p>	<p>Selling</p> <p>Estimated time 2–8 weeks, dependent upon whether public or private</p> <p>Determine timeline for chip access</p> <p>Communicate deadline to receive orders</p> <p>Receive samples for QC of synthesis</p> <p>Receive POs to meet pricing requirement</p> <p>Finalize SNP list</p> <p>Yes/No to Production</p>	<p>Production</p> <p>Estimated time 8–14 weeks, dependent upon number of attempted bead types and whether Add-On Content is included</p> <p>Initiate manufacturing</p> <p>Complete product QC</p> <p>Complete volume manufacturing for QC'ed product</p> <p>Ship product</p> <p>Yes/No to Commercialization</p>	<p>Commercialization</p> <p>Estimated time 4–6 weeks, dependent upon complexity of the diversity set of samples for creating the cluster file</p> <p>Commercialization contingent upon a decision by Illumina and agreement of consortium members</p> <p>Receive diversity set of samples for cluster file generation</p> <p>Analyze samples with consortium-developed product</p> <p>Finalize Illumina bead-pool manifest (SNP list) and cluster file</p> <p>Train technical support on product and commercial launch of product</p> <p>Ship Product</p>

The process for creating a new product through a consortium occurs over a series of strategic phases. During each phase, a set of milestones must be met before the process can continue on to the next phase. This ensures the greatest probability for success by enabling consortium members to make well-informed decisions along the path to product development. The product may be a base content or an Add-On Content beadpool (or may include both).

