Evaluation of the genetics training package.

You now have completed the training. Please provide feedback on the whole experience.

1. **ID number: ……** *The evaluation is done anonymously, but we need ID number to link all the pieces of the evaluation together.*

2. **The manual "A rough guide to Drosophila mating schemes".** *Extra manual available online - to be read in your own time.*

☐ I did not know about it ☐ I have NOT read it ☐ I have read it

If you have read it, please provide feedback using the scale below:

0: can't remember **| 1:** not at all **| 2:** not really **| 3:** mixed results **| 4:** yes **| 5:** very much so

Was the manual clear? ……
Was the manual stimulating? ……
Was the manual challenging? ……
Did it open your eyes for *Drosophila* use as a model organism? ……
Did it help you understand Mendelian rules, balancers and genetic markers? ……
Did it help you understand the transgenic constructs used on this practical? ……
Did it help you understand the principle concept of mating schemes? ……

Any specific comment on what you liked/disliked/how it has been useful?

……
……
……

3. The fly genetics interactive Presentation *PPT presentation scheduled for self study on Tuesday of the first week, 11-12.30.*

☐ I did not know about it ☐ I have NOT studied it ☐ I have studied it

If you have studied the presentation, please provide feedback using the scale below:

0: can't remember **| 1:** not at all **| 2:** not really **| 3:** mixed results **| 4:** yes **| 5:** very much so

- Was the presentation clear? ……
- Was the presentation stimulating? ……
- Was the presentation challenging? ……
- Did the presentation make mating scheme clearer to you? ……
- Did you try to guess the answers to the questions as you went along? …….. (Y/N)
- Did you get most of the time the right answers? …….. (Y/N)
- Did the presentation help you better understand
    - The use of genetics markers? ……
    - The Mendelian laws ……
    - The use of recombination? ……
    - The use of balancers? ……
    - How to use the curly bracket scheme to predict the cross progeny? ……
- Do you think that you would have learnt LESS if you did not read the manual beforehand? ……

Any specific comment on what you liked/disliked/how it has been useful?

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4. The genetics problems. *All the problems in the appendices of the RSM manual.*

0: can't remember **| 1:** not at all **| 2:** not really **| 3:** mixed results **| 4:** yes **| 5:** very much so

- Did the manual and presentation prepare you well for this task? ……
- Did you better understand mating schemes through these problems? ……
- Were the problems easy? ……
- Were the problems stimulating? ……
- Did you receive useful feedback whilst completing these problems? ……
- Were the problems a good way to test your understanding? ……
- Were the problems a good way to improve your understanding? ……
- Do you think that you completed the last task correctly? ……

Any specific comment on what you liked/disliked/how it has been useful?

……

……

……

5. The WHOLE training package.

The aim of the training package is to train students to design mating schemes.

- Do you think that this aim has been achieved? ……
- Do you feel prepared for the online assessment? ……

0: can't remember **| 1:** not at all **| 2:** not really **| 3:** mixed results **| 4:** yes **| 5:** very much so

If you answered 1, 2, or 3. Why not? Are there some concepts that you still do not understand? What else could you have done to be more prepared? What could be improved about the package?

……
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How useful have the items below been in training you to design mating schemes?

- "A rough guide to Drosophila mating schemes" ……
- "FlyGenetics interactive Powerpoint Presentation" ……
- The genetic marker activity ……
- The genetics problems ……
- Feedback/discussion on the genetics problems ……
- Usefulness of all of the above as a package? ……

0: can't remember **| 1:** not at all **| 2:** not really **| 3:** mixed results **| 4:** yes **| 5:** very much so

Self-evaluation after completion of the training.

Categories		Confused	Small mistake	Understood
Nomenclature				
Dominant/recessive markers				
Laws of segregation during meiosis	Segregation of homologous chromosomes in different gametes			
	Independent assortments of chromosomes			
Recombination	How it works			
	No recombination in males			
Balancer	What it is			
Dose response with extra wild type constructs (e.g. w^+ or ry^+)	How to use them as markers			
Going from genotype to phenotype				
Going from phenotype to genotype				
Embryonic lethality	How to take it into account			
Planning crosses	How to start			
	How to predict outcome chromosome by chromosome			
	How to use markers and balancers			
	How to use recombination			
	How to use lethality			
	What is a stable stock			
	How to design the most efficient scheme			

Collated student comments from these forms
(comments mentioned in the manuscript are highlighted)

Positive:

- Manual: very big and very useful, but can't remember everything
- Manual: very clear but hard to remember as there is a lot of information on it. Great lab – really enjoyed it.
- Manual: very useful. PPT: useful. Problems: Nice to have questions to work through
- PPT: was very self-explanatory
- PPT only useful after going through the manual as the manual explains everything.
- PPT: This was the most useful aspect of the training –very clear
- After genetics problems: I think I need to practice more but I do understand the concepts.
- Everything was explained slowly- great

Negative:

- The manual did not provide enough info to help with the hardest genetics problems.
- The manual could be clearer and easier to follow: too much text
- The manual could be explained in simpler terms
- The manual: sometimes too many blocks of text, so hard to isolate key points
- The manual: far too wordy and unclear for a newcomer to this sort of thing, and really not appealing if you have no prior enthusiasm. This makes it a hard to use resource. I read it in its entirety but it is not an experience I'd like to repeat.
- PPT better than the manual but more thorough explanation would be good.
- The feedback received was not useful at all. At one point, I've read the manual, asked a question and still was told to read the manual.
- The manual did not really provide rules for mating schemes. Only has specific examples and more could be useful. Presentation of the experiments was not totally clear – not much details. Also wanted more direct feedback
- Manual: Too much info to digest over the weekend
- Manual: Too much to read – unfair to think we could remember everything
- Maybe test on manual worth 5% before the practical starts
- All package: too much too quickly
- PPT: I think that it may have been more useful if we were run through the presentation rather than us going through it ourselves.
- Did not quite understand how to make parental [stable] stocks and why we chose particular markers.