

Client confidentiality and data release policy (2015)

We are bound by the UK's Data Protection Act 1998 and respect the confidentiality of our clients. It is a requirement of our research council, however, that our data is made publicly available in some form. We also appreciate that the lines provided by us take time to develop, to produce results and to publish those results.

The following conditions will hold on all conventional TILLING orders from July 1 2015 (agreements with individuals prior to this date still hold); all data on exome captured and re-sequenced lines will be released and openly accessible as follows:

1. All data (the nature of the gene and the mutations found, but no personal information) will be placed on our database which is searchable via our website one year after dispatch of the seed.
2. The originator/client linked to the information will not be released unless the work is published. For published mutants, the citation will be put against the gene.
3. If anyone requests a line bearing a specific mutation, we will contact the originator in the first instance to discuss with them how to proceed; we feel this is especially important if the data is unpublished. Most journals now request published materials to be made available by the corresponding author and this will be the default.
5. We will not release the details of the originator of a TILL without their permission.
6. If a new client requests a TILL of a gene already in progress, we will contact them and let them know their options: await release of data; contact originator of TILL on their behalf, maintaining client confidentiality; re-TILL.