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Plant duplications

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In the 15 December [Science](#), Vision *et al.* find that four large-scale duplication events, followed by gene loss, have shaped the *Arabidopsis* genome (*Science* 2000, **290**:2114-2116). The duplication events are identified by first delineating 103 duplicated blocks containing seven or more genes. These duplicates are then assigned an age based on the sequence divergence between copies. The duplicates fall into four main age groups, all dating to the Mesozoic era (65 to 245 million years ago), which was a period when the angiosperms were diversifying. This analysis will help the process of lining up homeologous regions in other plant species.

References

1. *Science*, [<http://www.sciencemag.org/>]