

1 **Using Haplotype and QTL Analysis to Fix Favorable Alleles in Diploid Potato Breeding**

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11 **Core Ideas**

12 1. Partially inbred, diploid potato lines were developed for transitioning to an inbred-hybrid
13 breeding system.

14 2. Multi-generational linkage analysis was used to track and fix favorable alleles without
15 haplotype-specific markers.

16 3. Signatures of gametic and zygotic selection were detected by maximum likelihood.

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20 Abbreviations: BC, backcross; *CDF1*, *Cycling DOF Factor 1*; DH, dihaploid; *Sli*, *S-locus*

21 inhibitor; SI, self-incompatibility; TPS, true potato seed

22 **Abstract**

23 At present, the potato of international commerce is autotetraploid, and the complexity of this
24 genetic system creates limitations for breeding. Diploid potato breeding has long been used for
25 population improvement, and thanks to improved understanding of the genetics of gametophytic
26 self-incompatibility, there is now sustained interest in the development of uniform F₁ hybrid
27 varieties based on inbred parents. We report here on the use of haplotype and QTL analysis in a
28 modified backcrossing (BC) scheme, using primary dihaploids of *S.tuberosum* as the recurrent
29 parental background. In Cycle 1 we selected XD3-36, a self-fertile F₂ clone homozygous for the
30 self-compatibility gene *Sli*. Signatures of gametic and zygotic selection were observed at
31 multiple loci in the F₂ generation, including *Sli*. In the BC₁ cycle, an F₁ population derived from
32 XD3-36 showed a bimodal response for vine maturity, which led to the identification of late vs.
33 early alleles in XD3-36 for the gene *StCDF1* (*Cycling DOF Factor 1*). Greenhouse phenotypes
34 and haplotype analysis were used to select a vigorous and self-fertile F₂ individual with 43%
35 homozygosity, including for *Sli* and the early-maturing allele *StCDF1.3*. Partially inbred lines
36 from the BC₁ and BC₂ cycles have been used to initiate new cycles of selection, with the goal of
37 reaching higher homozygosity while maintaining plant vigor, fertility, and yield.

38 **Introduction**

39 In the 20th century, worldwide production and breeding of potato (*Solanum tuberosum* L.)
40 was focused on autotetraploid ($2n=4x=48$) germplasm. During this time, there was also
41 significant "pre-breeding" at the diploid level, primarily to facilitate the use of wild and
42 cultivated germplasm from the Andean region of South America, where the potato was first
43 domesticated. The culmination of diploid breeding was the transfer of beneficial alleles into
44 tetraploid germplasm through $2x-4x$ crosses (i.e., unilateral sexual polyploidization), rather than
45 clonal selection for variety release (Hougas & Peloquin, 1958; Chase, 1963) Inbreeding
46 depression was well known in diploid potato (de Jong & Rowe, 1971), and tetraploidy offered
47 more opportunities for complementation; this was called selection for "maximum heterozygosity"
48 (Bingham, 1980). Based on this prevailing wisdom, 20th century efforts to develop potato
49 cultivars that can be propagated sexually (i.e., by "true" potato seed, TPS) utilized tetraploid
50 rather than diploid germplasm (Golmirzaie et al., 1994).

51 *S. tuberosum* Group Andigenum diploids and many wild species exhibit gametic self-
52 incompatibility (SI), in which S-RNase expressed in the pistil inhibits the growth of self-pollen
53 tubes (Kubo et al., 2010). For nonself pollen, the S-RNase is targeted for degradation by F-box
54 proteins, creating sexual compatibility. Despite the widespread presence of SI in diploid potato,
55 self-compatible clones have been recognized and studied (Cipar, 1964; Olsder & Hermesen, 1976).
56 Hosaka and Hanneman (1998) mapped the genetic locus underlying this self-compatibility,
57 named *Sli* for S-locus inhibitor, to potato chromosome 12; by contrast, the potato S-locus is on
58 chromosome 1. Map-based cloning has shown *Sli* encodes an F-box protein (Eggers et al., 2021;
59 Ma et al., 2021).

60 Genetic understanding of self-compatibility has led to a paradigm shift in diploid potato
61 breeding, commonly described as "Potato 2.0" (Stokstad, 2019). No longer limited to population
62 improvement, diploids are being used to create inbred lines and F₁ hybrid varieties that may
63 eventually replace tetraploids (Phumichai et al., 2005; Lindhout et al., 2011). A diploid, inbred-
64 hybrid breeding system offers many advantages to the current breeding system in potato: it takes
65 less time to fix favorable alleles; marker-assisted backcrossing is possible; there is greater
66 genetic variance for selection; and heterosis can be exploited systematically (Jansky et al., 2016).
67 As mentioned already, inbreeding depression is a significant obstacle to realizing these goals, but
68 compared to previous generations of breeders, genomics and computational tools are now

69 available to expedite the identification and elimination of deleterious alleles (Zhang et al., 2019,
70 2021).

71 The University of Wisconsin-Madison potato breeding program was initiated in the 1930's
72 and has released a number of commercially successful tetraploid varieties during its history,
73 particularly for the round white, potato chip market. Between 2016 and 2018, elite clones from
74 the program were crossed as female parents with the haploid inducer IVP101 (Hutten et al., 1993)
75 to generate dihaploid (diploid haploid, DH) founders for breeding. After screening hundreds of
76 dihaploids under greenhouse conditions for vigor and female fertility, a handful have been used
77 in a generalized backcrossing scheme (Fig. 1), to introduce *Sli* and other desirable traits into a
78 more elite background. We report here on the outcomes of this breeding effort. A distinguishing
79 feature of our approach has been the use of multi-generational linkage analysis to track identical-
80 by-descent (IBD) haplotypes from the founders (Zheng et al., 2015). This allowed us to make
81 rapid progress for fixation of *Sli* and early maturity at *CDF1* (*Cycling DOF Factor 1*;
82 Kloosterman et al., 2013), even in the absence of haplotype-specific markers.

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84

85 **Materials and Methods**

86 *Nomenclature*

87 Germplasm created during this research was named following the convention that a dash
88 indicates generations separated by one meiosis during inbreeding, e.g., [Cross]-[F1]-[F2]-[F3].
89 Dihaploid progeny of tetraploid clones are labeled [Clone]-DH[ID]. The founder US-W4
90 (Peloquin & Hougas, 1960) does not follow this convention because it is legacy germplasm. The
91 prefix “W2x” indicates “Wisconsin diploid” germplasm.

92

93 *Phenotyping*

94 Unreplicated greenhouse experiments were conducted at the Walnut Street facility at the
95 University of Wisconsin-Madison (Madison, WI). True potato seeds (TPS) were soaked for 24 h
96 in 1500 ppm Gibberellic Acid to break dormancy before sowing in flats. Seedlings were
97 transplanted into 3.8L pots approximately 28 days after planting (DAP). Environmental
98 conditions were a 16h day/8h night photoperiod, with daytime temperatures 18–22°C and
99 nighttime temperatures 16–20°C. Five traits were measured: pollen shed, vine maturity, stolon

100 production, tuber yield, and seed (TPS) yield. Pollen shed was scored as a binary trait based on
101 visual observation after self-pollinating at least 10 flowers per plant. Vine maturity was visually
102 rated on a scale of 1 (early) to 9 (late) at 144 DAP. Stolon production was visually rated on a
103 scale of 1 (few) to 5 (abundant) at harvest 150 DAP. Tuber yield was the total tuber weight (g)
104 per plant. Seed yield was the number of seeds per plant.

105 Field evaluation of the BC₁F₁ population occurred at the UW-Madison Hancock
106 Agricultural Research Station (HARS) (Hancock, WI) in 2019. A partially replicated, incomplete
107 block design was used, with a single plot for 89 progeny and two plots for 9 progeny and both
108 parents. Eight seed pieces per plot were planted April 30 and harvested 122 DAP, two weeks
109 after vine desiccation with diquat. Fertilization, irrigation, and pest management followed
110 standard practice (Bussan et al., 2015). Vine maturity was visually rated using the same 1–9
111 scale at 100 DAP. Yield was calculated on a per plant basis by dividing the plot weight by the
112 stand count. Size A tubers (diameter > 4.8 cm) were separated using a chain grader to report the
113 A-size proportion on a weight basis.

114 Ten tubers were stored at 7°C, 95% RH for 3 mo before measuring post-harvest quality
115 traits. Specific gravity was measured based on underwater weight (Wang et al., 2017). Fry color
116 was measured on 1 mm chip slices, fried for 2 min and 10 s at 360F. Chips were crushed before
117 measuring reflectance on the Hunter Lightness scale (L) with a HunterLab D25NC colorimeter
118 (Reston, VA).

119 Five tubers were stored at 12°C, 95% RH for 10 weeks before the start of a 16-week
120 experiment to measure tuber dormancy. Every 2 weeks, tubers were individually scored using a
121 3-point scale for the length of sprouts: 0 = none, 0.5 = less than 2mm, and 1 = above 2mm. The
122 average of the five tubers was the dormancy score for each plot, and the relative area under the
123 sprout vs. time curve (AUC) was calculated on a 0-1 scale.

124

125 ***Genotyping***

126 Two different platforms were used to obtain genome-wide markers in this project. For
127 tracking IBD haplotypes across the breeding cycles, we used version 3 of the potato SNP array
128 (Felcher et al., 2012; Vos et al., 2015), which generated 10,322 markers. As part of an
129 experimental project on genotyping-by-sequencing (GBS) in potato, the BC₁F₁ population was
130 genotyped at the University of Minnesota Genomics Center (UMGC) with a two-enzyme (MspI

131 + PstI) protocol (Poland et al., 2012). Approximately 130M reads were obtained with the
132 Illumina NextSeq 1x150 bp platform, and variant discovery was performed by the genotyping
133 service provider using FreeBayes (Garrison & Marth, 2012) and the DMv4.03 reference genome
134 (Potato Genome Sequencing Consortium, 2011; Sharma et al., 2013). Variant filtering was
135 performed using custom R scripts (R Core Team, 2022). Only bi-allelic SNPs with a minimum
136 sample depth of 10 reads, less than 10% missing data, and minor allele frequency > 0.05 were
137 retained, yielding 7673 markers. Genotype calls were made using R package *updog* with the “f1”
138 model to account for allelic bias and overdispersion (Gerard et al., 2018).

139 KASP genotyping with marker *Sli_898* (Clot et al., 2020; Kaiser et al., 2021) was used to
140 confirm *Sli* genotypes inferred from the haplotype analysis. The protocol of Kaiser et al. (2021)
141 was followed using the KASP v4.0 2x standard ROX Master Mix (LGC Genomics, Beverly, MA)
142 and detection with the Bio-Rad CFX96 equipment.

143 Whole-genome sequencing of the BC₁F₂ individual W2x001-22-45 utilized the NovaSeq
144 2x150 flow cell (University of Minnesota), with a yield of 376M paired reads. Reads were
145 aligned with BWA-MEM (Li, 2013) to the *CDF1.1_scaffold1389* and *CDF1.3_scaffold390*
146 alleles from the Atlantic reference genome (Hoopes et al., 2022) and then filtered to remove
147 alignments with fewer than 10 bp on both sides of the transposon insertion site (Caraza-Harter &
148 Endelman, 2022). Only alignments to the *CDF1.3* reference were detected, confirming
149 homozygosity for this allele.

150

151 ***Genetic analysis***

152 Multi-generational tracking of IBD haplotypes was conducted using the SNP array marker
153 data and the software RABBIT (Zheng et al. 2015; 2018), with marker order based on the
154 DMv6.1 reference genome (Pham et al., 2020). First, we analyzed the Cycle 1 genotypes, using
155 the RABBIT MagicImpute function to phase US-W4 and M19 as outbred founders. This analysis
156 generated a phased genotype for their F₁ offspring XD3, which was then used as one of three
157 founders—the others being Lelah-DH12 and W13069-DH26 (Fig. 1)—to analyze all three
158 breeding cycles together (Files S2 and S3). Based on the haplotype reconstruction of XD3 in
159 terms of M19 and US-W4, all individuals were reconstructed in terms of 6 founder haplotypes:
160 M19, US-W4, Lelah-DH12.1, Lelah-DH12.2, W13069-DH26.1, W13069-DH26.1, where “.1”

161 and “.2” refer to the two haplotypes in an outbred diploid. The maximum posterior genotypes are
162 in File S4.

163 Signatures of gametic and zygotic selection in the Cycle 1 F₂ population were detected using
164 maximum likelihood (ML). Two models of gametic selection were considered, based on whether
165 one (gametic1) or both (gametic2) sexes experience selection. The selection coefficient s
166 quantifies the strength of selection, with positive (negative) values representing selection against
167 the A (B) allele. Two models of zygotic selection were considered, based on whether one or both
168 homozygotes experience selection. Under the zygotic1 model, positive (negative) values of s
169 represent selection against AA (BB). Under the zygotic2 model, positive (negative) values of s
170 represent selection against (for) the homozygotes. By specifying that s equals the sum of the
171 absolute deviations between the expected (without selection) and observed frequencies, we
172 derived the expected frequency p of the three possible genotypes (AA, AB, BB) for the four
173 selection models (Table 1). If N_{AA} , N_{AB} , N_{BB} represent the observed counts of each genotype, the
174 log-likelihood (LL) of this outcome is $N_{AA} \log p_{AA} + N_{AB} \log p_{AB} + N_{BB} \log p_{BB}$. R function
175 *optimize* was used to identify the ML solution for s for each model, and the model with the
176 highest LL was selected for each marker (File S5). The likelihood ratio (i.e., Wilks) test was used
177 to compute the p-value for the null hypothesis of no selection: $s = 0$. A Bonferroni-corrected
178 significance threshold of $0.05/m$ was used for detection, where m is the total number of markers.

179 QTL mapping was conducted for the BC₁F₁ W2x001 population with R package diaQTL
180 (Amadeu et al., 2021). The recommended settings from the package tutorial were used for the
181 number of iterations, and the discovery threshold for the single QTL scan was based on a
182 genome-wide significance level $\alpha = 0.05$. Phasing of the outbred parents and haplotype
183 reconstruction of 132 progeny were performed using *PolyOrigin* (Zheng et al., 2021; File S6
184 contains the input marker data), with the following parameters: *isphysmap=true*, *recomrate=1.25*,
185 *refineorder=false*, *refinemap=true*. *PolyOrigin* did not produce sensible results for chromosome
186 11 because it was completely homozygous in one parent, so RABBIT was used instead. The
187 genotype probability input file for diaQTL (File S7) was generated from the *PolyOrigin* and
188 RABBIT outputs using the functions *convert_polyorigin* and *convert_rabbit*, respectively, in the
189 diaQTL package.

190 The phenotypes for QTL mapping (File S8) come from the unreplicated greenhouse and
191 partially replicated field experiments described above. For traits in the field trial, fixed effect
192 estimates for genotype (g_i) were used as the response variable, based on Eq. 1:

$$193 \quad y_{ij} = \mu + g_i + b_j + \varepsilon_{ij} \quad [1]$$

194 In Eq.1, y_{ij} is the response for genotype i in block j , μ is the population mean, b_j is the fixed
195 effect for block, and ε_{ij} is the residual with variance σ_ε^2 . Variance components were estimated
196 using ASReml-R (Butler et al., 2018). Eq. 1 was also used to estimate broad-sense heritability
197 (H^2) on a plot basis by treating the genotype effect as random with variance σ_g^2 :

$$198 \quad H^2 = \frac{\sigma_g^2}{\sigma_g^2 + \sigma_\varepsilon^2} \quad [2]$$

199

200

201 **Results**

202 *Cycle 1*

203 Cycle 1 was initiated with the goal of identifying a fertile F_2 clone homozygous for *Sli*, to be
204 used as the male parent in a generalized backcrossing scheme with *S. tuberosum* dihaploids
205 (Fig. 1). The grandparents of the F_2 population were an “heirloom” *S. tuberosum* dihaploid US-
206 W4 (Peloquin & Hougas, 1960) and an inbred clone M19 from the wild species *S. chacoense*
207 (Fulladolsa et al., 2019). At that time (2018), it was believed that introgression of *Sli* from *S.*
208 *chacoense* into *S. tuberosum* was necessary, and thus our strategy was to identify self-fertile F_2
209 clones homozygous for the M19 haplotype in the vicinity of the published location of *Sli* on
210 chromosome 12. To our surprise, there were no offspring homozygous for M19 in this region
211 (Fig. 2). The ratio of US-W4 homozygotes to heterozygotes was approximately 1:1, which is
212 consistent with self-fertilization only by pollen containing *Sli* on the US-W4 haplotype. This
213 interpretation was corroborated by Clot et al. (2020), who identified kmers linked to *Sli* and
214 reported their presence in US-W4, along with many other *S. tuberosum* clones.

215 Several other genomic regions displayed signatures of selection in the Cycle 1 F_2 population
216 (Fig. 2). Maximum likelihood was used to categorize distorted segregation into one of four
217 possible selection models: gametic selection on one sex (gametic1), gametic selection on both
218 sexes (gametic2), zygotic selection on one homozygote (zygotic1), and zygotic selection on both

219 homozygotes (zygotic2). Zygotic selection against both homozygotes was the most common
220 inference, although in some regions multiple selection models were significant (Table S1).

221 The F₂ individual, XD3-36, was selected as a male parent for the first backcross (BC₁) cycle
222 based on its desirable combination of traits: good tuber yield (not recorded), seed production
223 (340 seeds), and homozygosity for *Sli*. The *Sli* genotype was originally inferred based on
224 haplotype analysis (Fig. 3) and later confirmed using KASP markers developed by Clot et al.
225 (2020).

226

227 **Cycle BC₁**

228 Several BC₁F₁ populations were created from different dihaploid mothers, but population
229 W2x001 from Lelah-DH12 was singled out for more intensive study. Visual ratings for vine
230 maturity and stolon production were correlated and exhibited bimodal distributions (Fig. S1).
231 There were 29 plants with abundant pollen shed, and 16 produced fruit upon selfing. The number
232 of seeds among the self-fertile plants was skewed, with a range of 15 to 662 and median 119 (Fig.
233 S1). Tuber yield ranged from 0 to 973g per plant, with a median of 370g. Tuber yield was
234 significantly higher, by 245g ($p = 6 \times 10^{-9}$), for the plants with pollen shed.

235 There were enough greenhouse tubers for 98 F₁ progeny to conduct a partially replicated,
236 clonal field trial in 2019. A number of agronomic and quality traits were measured, with broad-
237 sense heritability on a plot basis between 0.56 (total yield) and 0.86 (tuber dormancy; Table 2).
238 Unlike the greenhouse study, the distribution for vine maturity was not bimodal. Total yield per
239 plant ranged from 0.19 to 1.41 kg (median 0.73), compared to 0.47 and 0.27 kg for the parents
240 Lelah-DH12 and XD3-36, respectively. Specific gravity and fry color lightness, which are
241 important traits for the potato chip market, were measured after 3 mo of storage. Spec. gravity
242 ranged from 1.050 to 1.114 (median 1.082), and fry color ranged from 33.2 to 59.3 (median
243 48.9). Higher values of spec. gravity and fry color were positively correlated with each other ($r =$
244 0.59) and negatively correlated with tuber size ($r = -0.52$ and -0.42 , respectively; Fig. S2).

245 Genotyping-by-sequencing of the F₁ population for QTL analysis led to creation of a genetic
246 map with 7497 markers and 1553 cM. For vine maturity, stolon production, and tuber dormancy,
247 a QTL in the vicinity of *CDF1* on potato chromosome 5 was detected, which explained 53, 34,
248 and 23% of the variance for those three traits, respectively (Table 3). The estimated parental
249 haplotype effects indicated the *CDF1* allele inherited from M19 was significantly earlier than the

250 allele from US-W4 (Table 3, Fig. 4). There was no significant difference between the two
251 haplotypes from Lelah-DH12 at *CDF1*, which suggests they carry the same allele. A binary trait
252 locus, or BTL, was detected for pollen shed on chromosome 11, explaining 43% of the variance.
253 The parental haplotype effects indicate this BTL is the result of allelic differences in Lelah-
254 DH12, with the favorable allele for fertility on haplotype Lelah-DH12.1. Additional QTL for
255 vine maturity on chromosome 1 and tuber dormancy on chromosome 7 explained 15-19%.

256 Based on the number of selfed seeds and tuber yields of the F₁ progeny, 17 F₂ families from
257 W2x001 were selected for greenhouse evaluation. One of the best families, in terms of plant
258 vigor and female self-fertility, was derived from W2x001-22. Haplotype analysis of the F₂
259 population revealed no homozygotes of the Lelah-DH12 haplotype at the *Sli* locus (Fig. S3),
260 which indicates this haplotype in W2x001-22 did not carry *Sli*. To achieve homozygosity for
261 early maturity and *Sli*, we selected F₂ progeny homozygous for the US-W4 haplotype at *Sli* and
262 homozygous for the M19 haplotype at *CDF1*. One particular F₂ individual, W2x001-22-45, met
263 these criteria and had good tuber yield and self-fertility (Fig. 3 and 5). Homozygosity varied by
264 chromosome from a low of 2% on chr01 to 99.9% on chr04, with a genome-wide average of 43%
265 (Table 4 and Fig. S4).

266 Whole-genome sequencing of W2x001-22-45 was used to determine which *CDF1* allele is
267 present. As expected, only one allele was detected: *CDF1.3*, which is the earliest known allele
268 and encodes a truncated protein without the FKF1 binding domain (Kloosterman et al., 2013).

269

270 **Cycle BC₂**

271 Cycle BC₂ was initiated by using two superior BC₁F₁ individuals, W2x001-22 and W2x001-
272 84, as pollen donors to fertilize *S. tuberosum* dihaploids. Both selfing and sib-mating of BC₂F₁
273 individuals were used for inbreeding, and one F₂ population derived from sib-mating W2x082-14
274 and W2x082-20 had particularly good characteristics (Fig. 1). Haplotype analysis in the F₂
275 generation enabled genetic selection for homozygosity at *CDF1* and *Sli* (Fig. 3) and phenotypic
276 selection for tuber and (selfed) F₃ seed yield. The top F₃ population derived from the F₂
277 individual W2x082-(14/20)-13, which was later determined to be only 11% homozygous—well
278 below the expected value of 25% for a sib-mated F₂. Tuber yield and homozygosity were
279 inversely related ($r = -0.40$, $p < 0.05$) in the F₃ population (Fig. S5), while seed and tuber yields
280 were positively correlated ($r = 0.55$, $p < 0.05$). Our top F₃ selection, W2x082-(14/20)-13-2 (Fig.

281 S6), had a bimodal distribution for homozygosity across the 12 chromosomes, with 4
282 chromosomes above 85% and 6 below 15% (Table 4). The genome-wide average of 43%
283 homozygosity for W2x082-(14/20)-13-2 was comparable to the top selection in the BC₁F₂
284 generation, W2x001-22-45.

285

286

287 **Discussion**

288 A potential challenge with the development of inbred-hybrid varieties in potato is
289 competition between the sexual and asexual reproductive organs as sinks for assimilates
290 (Almekinders & Struik, 1996). The potato tuberization pathway is the result of
291 neofunctionalization of the flowering pathway, with the phloem-mobile signal for tuberization
292 SP6A homologous to the florigen signal SP3D (Navarro et al., 2011; Abelenda et al., 2014).
293 Both proteins are regulated by CDF1, and the two processes typically occur contemporaneously.
294 To promote flowering, it is common practice in potato breeding to plant mother tubers on a brick
295 for crossing, so that the soil can be washed away after the roots are established and daughter
296 tubers removed (Thijn, 1954). However, not all genotypes respond to this treatment (Plantenga et
297 al., 2019), and we observed a *positive* correlation between seed and tuber yield in both the BC₁F₁
298 and BC₂F₃ generations (Figures S2 and S5). Since both traits are likely to benefit from increased
299 plant vigor, this may be expected when there is inbreeding depression. More research is needed
300 to understand the conditions under which flowering and tuberization are antagonistic.

301 One of our goals during inbreeding was to select for homozygosity of the haplotype
302 containing an early maturing allele at *CDF1*. It was only years later that we determined the allele
303 was *CDF1.3* from whole-genome sequencing. Ramírez Gonzales et al. (2021) also generated
304 diploids homozygous for *CDF1.3*, reporting they were “extremely weak with a stunted growth
305 habit.” This observation was rationalized based on their discovery that the transposon insertion in
306 *CDF1.3* disrupts the long non-coding RNA *StFLORE*, which is anti-sense to the *CDF1* transcript
307 and helps to regulate stomatal opening. We did not observe a deleterious phenotype associated
308 with homozygosity of *CDF1.3* in either the BC₁ or BC₂ cycle, so further research is needed to
309 understand whether this is due to compensatory alleles in our germplasm. The W2x001-22-45
310 clone has been deposited with the US Potato Genebank (accession id ‘BS 451’) for other
311 breeders and researchers to use.

312 Historically, the conventional wisdom in potato breeding was that diploid germplasm was
313 useful for population improvement but not for the release of commercial varieties, primarily
314 because of limitations for tuber size and yield. Following a decade of breeding for inbred
315 diploids, a yield gap between diploid F₁ hybrids and tetraploids was still evident in the
316 publication by Stockem et al. (2020). This result is not too surprising given the significant
317 inbreeding depression observed in potato (de Jong & Rowe, 1971; Zhang et al., 2019). In the
318 case of maize, it took multiple decades before commercially viable F₁ hybrids were developed
319 (Duvick, 2005), and a higher density of deleterious alleles is expected for cultivated potato
320 compared to maize (Hardigan et al., 2017; Hoopes et al., 2022). On the bright side, the current
321 study and Zhang et al. (2021) have shown that genetics and genomics can be used to guide and
322 accelerate inbreeding. We remain optimistic that inbred-hybrid varieties will eventually replace
323 tetraploid clones.
324

325 **Supplemental Material**

- 326 File S1. Supplemental Table and Figures.
327 File S2. Marker genotype data for RABBIT.
328 File S3. Pedigree data for RABBIT.
329 File S4. RABBIT haplotype reconstruction results.
330 File S5. R function to detect signatures of selection in F₂ populations.
331 File S6. Marker genotype data for W2x001 for PolyOrigin.
332 File S7. Genotype probabilities for W2x001 for diaQTL.
333 File S8. Phenotype data for W2x001 for diaQTL.
334

335 **Author Contributions**

- 336 LS: Investigation, Formal analysis, Writing – original draft, review and editing. JBE:
337 Supervision, Investigation, Formal analysis, Writing – review and editing.
338

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343 KASP reagents. Financial support was provided by the USDA National Institute of Food
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345

346 **Data Availability**

- 347 SNP marker and phenotype data are provided as supplemental files. Whole-genome sequence
348 data for W2x001-22-45 is available from the NCBI Sequence Read Archive under BioProject ID
349 PRJNA898285 (<https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/bioproject/898285>).

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525

526 **TABLES**

527

528 **Table 1.** Genotype frequencies under gametic and zygotic models of selection in F_2 populations.

Genotype	gametic1	gametic2	zygotic1	zygotic2
AA	$\frac{1}{2}\left(\frac{1}{2} - \frac{s}{2}\right)$	$\frac{1}{4}(1 - s)^2$	$\frac{1}{4} - f(s)$	$\frac{1}{4} - \frac{s}{4}$
AB	$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{2}(1 - s)(1 + s)$	$\frac{1}{2} + \frac{ s }{3}$	$\frac{1}{2} + \frac{s}{2}$
BB	$\frac{1}{2}\left(\frac{1}{2} + \frac{s}{2}\right)$	$\frac{1}{4}(1 + s)^2$	$\frac{1}{4} - f(-s)$	$\frac{1}{4} - \frac{s}{4}$

529 In zygotic1, the function $f(s) = \begin{cases} s/2, & s > 0 \\ s/6, & s < 0 \end{cases}$

530 **Table 2.** Broad-sense heritability estimates (plot basis) from the field trial of the W2x001 BC₁F₁
531 population.

532

Trait	H ²
Vine Maturity	0.65
Tuber Yield	0.56
Tuber Size (% A)	0.67
Tuber Appearance	0.66
Specific Gravity	0.74
Fry Color	0.61
Tuber Dormancy	0.86

533

534

535 **Table 3.** Quantitative trait loci (QTL) for the W2x001 BC₁F₁ population.
536

Trait	-ΔDIC [†]	QTL Peak Chr@DMv4.03 bp (90% CI)	PVE (%)	Parental Haplotype Effects			
				Lelah-DH12		XD3-36	
				1	2	M19	US-W4
Vine Maturity (GH)	20	Chr1@37522047 (10416011... 61505229)	15	0.12	-0.55	3.21*	-2.78*
	100.6	Chr5@4252354 (3050680... 5363804)	53	0.5	-0.27	-2.64*	2.42*
Stolon Production (GH)	52.2	Chr5@4540110 (3372444...5363804)	34	0.1	-0.23	-0.71*	0.85*
Pollen Shed (GH)	52.6	Chr11@7240547 (6240263... 9222720)	43	1.34*	-0.85	-0.32	-0.17
Tuber Dormancy (Field)	22.8	Chr5@5723591 (3372444... 7661341)	23	0	0.01	-0.08*	0.07
	17.4	Chr7@3038086 (438555...6065903)	19	-0.07*	0.07*	0.01	0

537 † Change in the Deviance Information Criterion. Discovery threshold was 14.1.

538 * Allelic effects are significantly different from 0 at $\alpha = 0.1$

539

540 **Table 4.** Homozygosity percentages (based on DMv6.1 bp) for partially inbred clones from the
541 modified backcrossing scheme.
542

Chr	XD3-36 Cycle 1	W2x001-22-45 Cycle BC ₁	W2x082-(14/20)-13 Cycle BC ₂	W2x082-(14/20)-13-2 Cycle BC ₂
1	75.1	2.2	0.0	0.0
2	72.5	63.7	0.9	36.4
3	0.0	50.1	6.5	72.6
4	73.5	99.9	2.5	88.8
5	73.8	22.1	93.3	96.5
6	17.0	22.1	0.0	99.2
7	4.2	7.6	0.0	0.0
8	7.1	71.6	0.0	9.2
9	3.4	16.3	6.3	12.8
10	7.0	74.2	10.8	92.7
11	100.0	75.5	0.0	1.8
12	13.8	13.4	8.1	11.9
Average	37.3	43.2	10.7	43.5

543

544 **FIGURE CAPTIONS**

545

546 **Figure 1.** Breeding scheme to develop partially inbred lines fixed for favorable alleles at key loci.
547 Standard nomenclature is used: [Cross]-[F1]-[F2]-[F3]. When sib-mating of two individuals was
548 used instead of selfing, the naming convention was (ID1/ID2).

549

550 **Figure 2.** Signatures of selection in the F₂ generation of Cycle 1. (Top) Homozygote frequencies.
551 (Bottom) Hypothesis testing for zygotic and gametic selection at significance level $\alpha = 0.05$, with
552 Bonferroni correction for multiple testing.

553

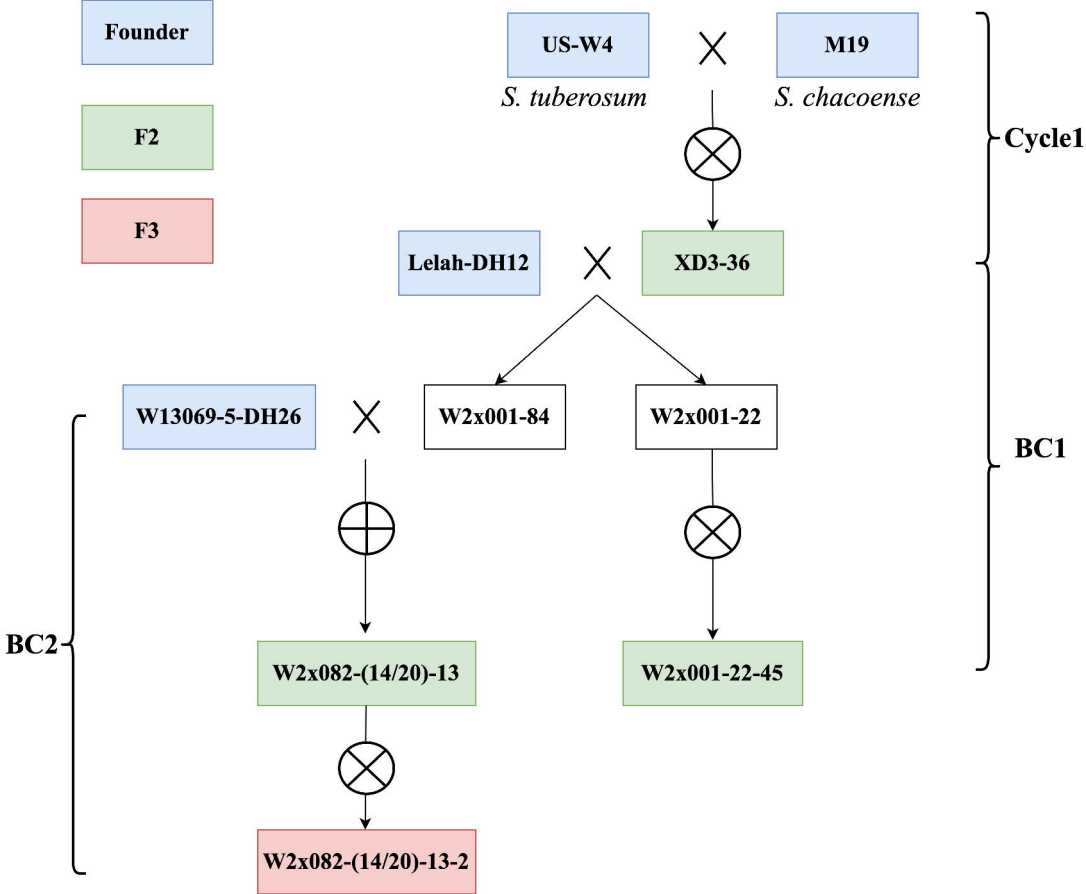
554 **Figure 3.** Haplotype reconstruction of key genotypes for chromosome 5, 11 and 12. White
555 dashed lines represent the location of *CDF1* on chromosome 5, the fertility QTL on chromosome
556 11, and *Sli* on chromosome 12. All 12 chromosomes shown in Figure S4.

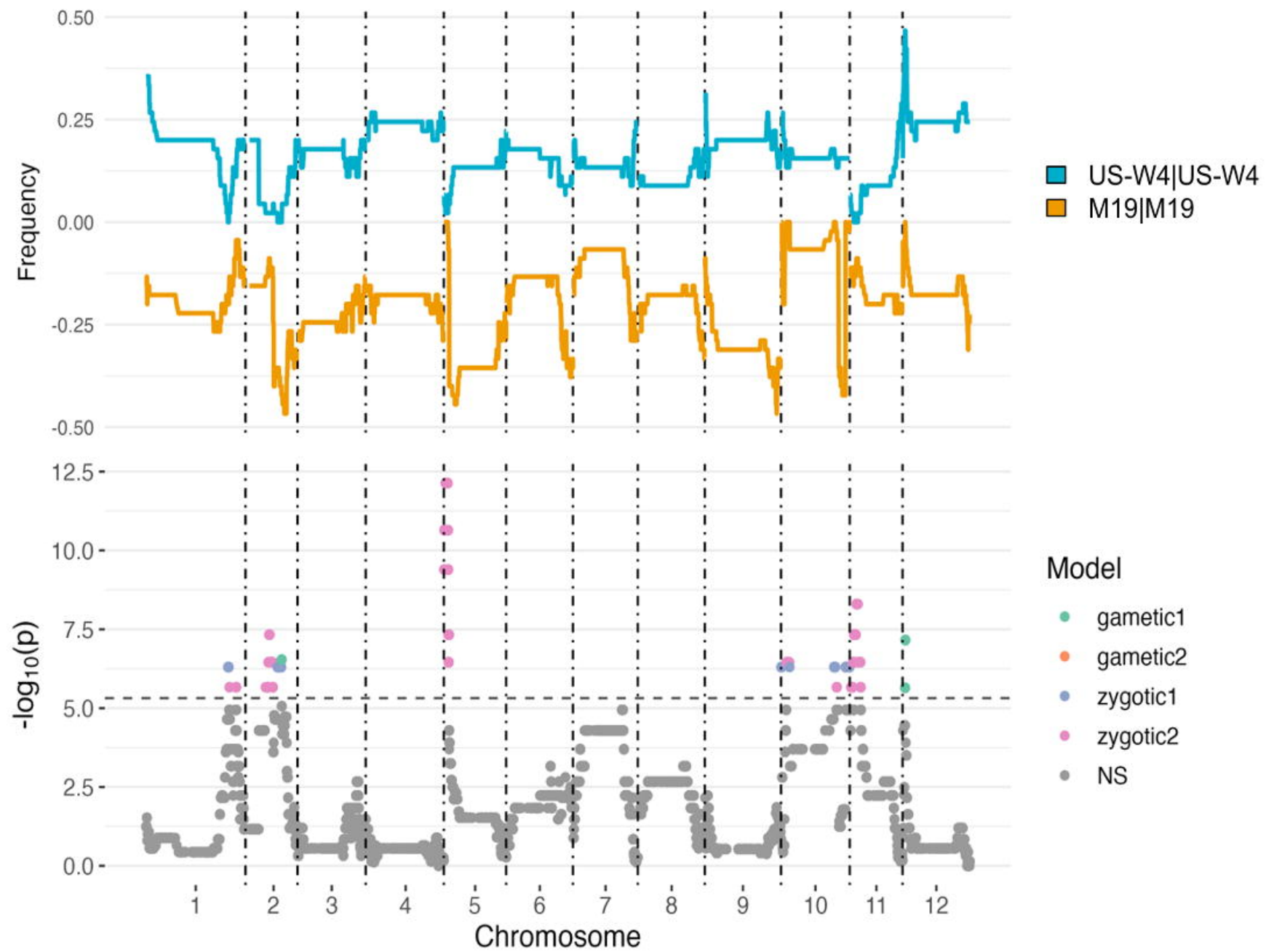
557

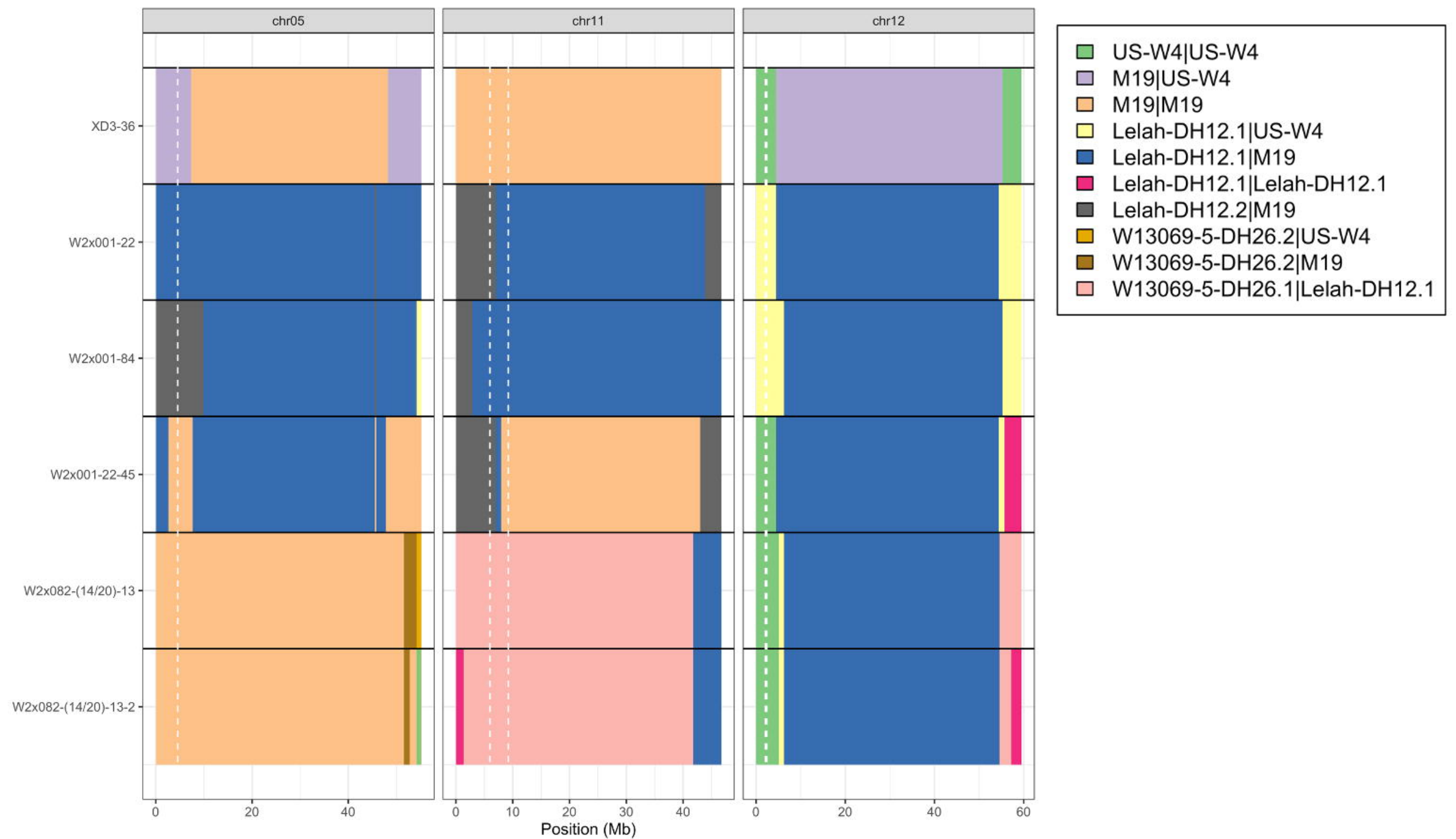
558 **Figure 4.** Genetic mapping of greenhouse vine maturity in the BC₁F₁ population. (Left) Single
559 QTL genome scan. (Right) Parental haplotype effects for the QTL on chromosome 5. Higher
560 trait values represent later maturity.

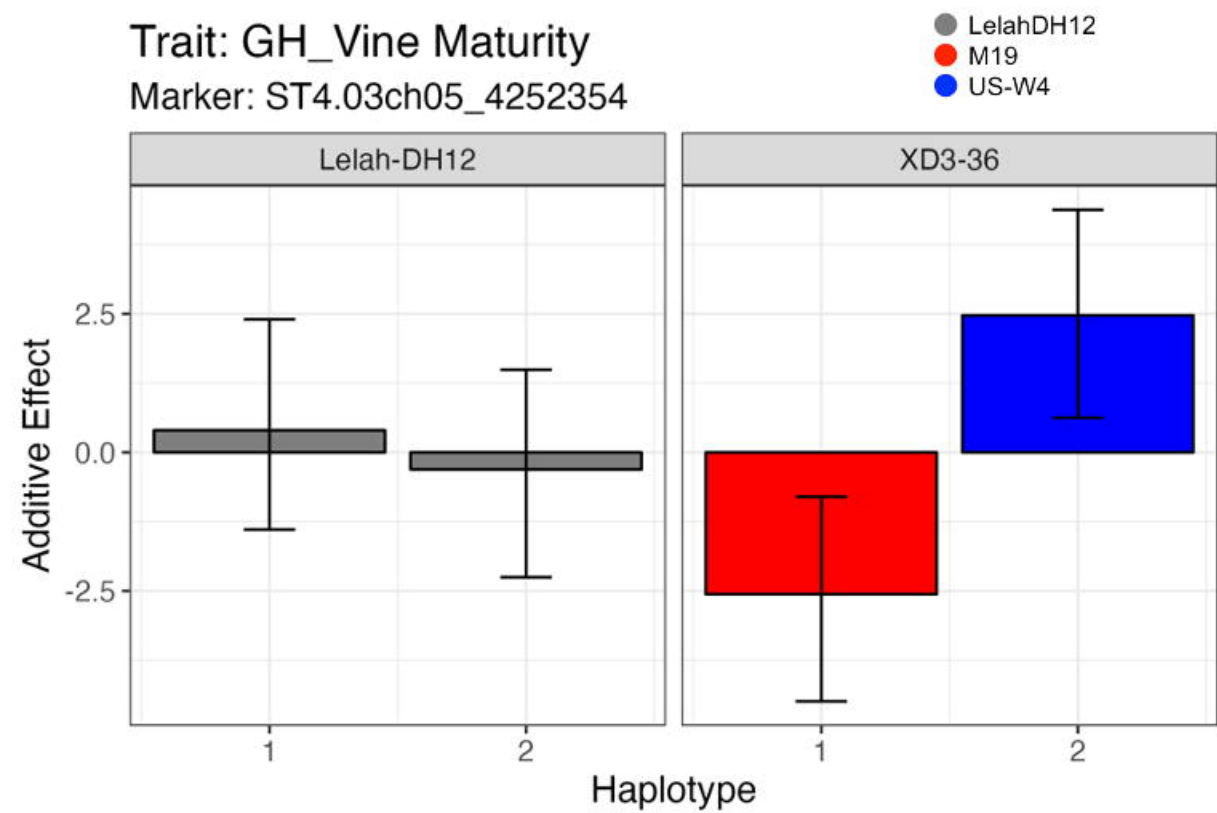
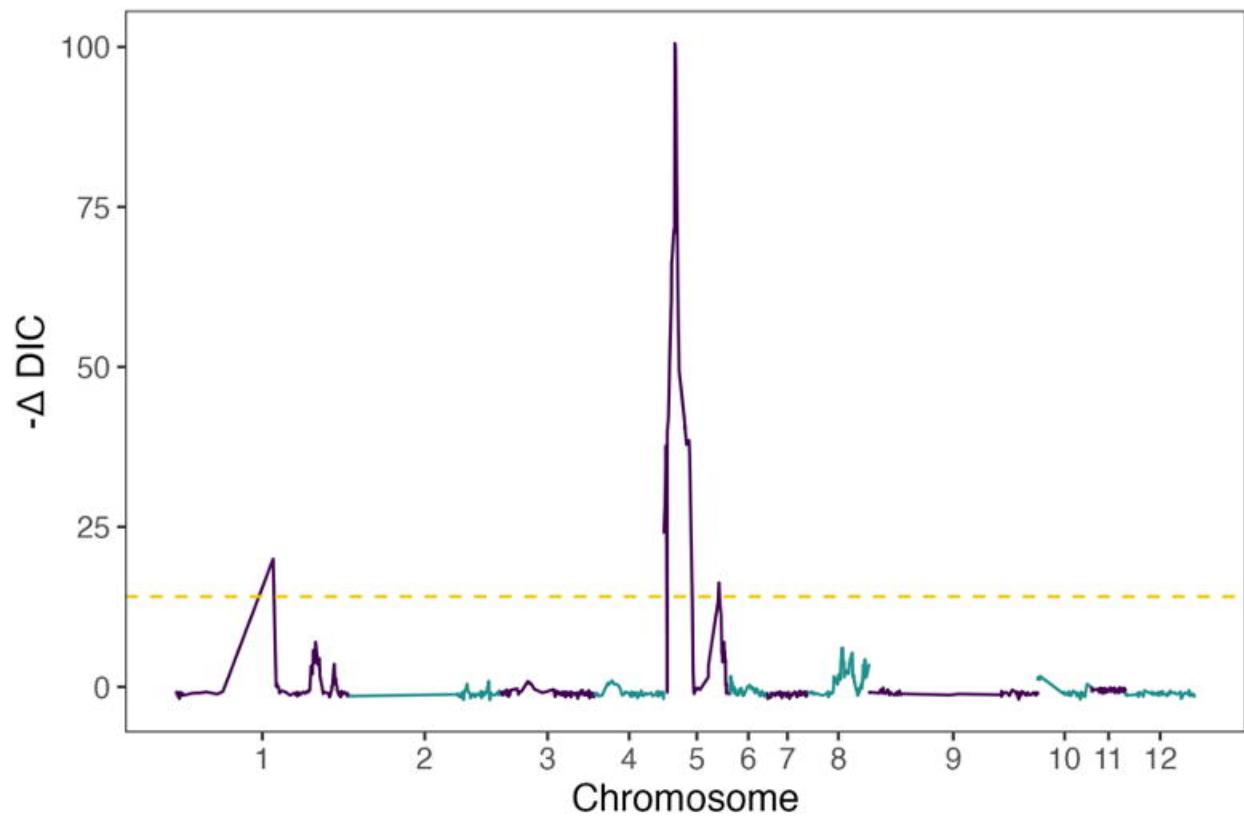
561

562 **Figure 5.** The BC₁F₂ individual W2x001-22-45, which was selected based on vigor, self-fertility,
563 and tuber yield in greenhouse experiments. It is homozygous for *Sli* and *CDF1.3*.









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