

Professor Andrew Paterson heads the Univ. Georgia Plant Genome Mapping Laboratory ([www.plantgenome.uga.edu](http://www.plantgenome.uga.edu)), and was the founder and leader of the international team that produced the first and highest quality cotton genome sequence to date. He earned his B.S. (Summa Cum Laude) in Plant Science from the University of Delaware, and M.S. and Ph.D. degrees in Plant Genetics from Cornell University, carrying out postdoctoral studies with Steven Tanksley at Cornell. From 1989-1991 he worked at the E. I. DuPont Company in crop biotechnology, also serving as an adjunct faculty member at the University of Delaware. In 1991, he joined the faculty of Texas A&M University, where he was appointed to the Christine Richardson Endowed Professorship in 1996. He moved to the University of Georgia in 1999, where he is now a 'Regents Professor', the highest title offered by the University System of Georgia, and is jointly appointed in three Departments (Crop and Soil Science, Plant Biology, and Genetics) of two Colleges (Agriculture, Arts and Sciences), and is a member of several additional centers and institutes. His 330+ scientific publications and 5 books elucidate dimensions of plant biology relevant toward a more bio-based economy, balancing increased food security with expanded bioenergy supplies while mitigating the challenges of a looming worldwide water crisis. As of this writing his work had been cited 32,831 times, with 15,685 citations since 2010, h-index of 89 and i10-index of 258 (Per Google Scholar). His team strives to improve human lives through increased fundamental knowledge, with impacts ranging from on-farm benefits such as the first peanut and cotton cultivars developed using DNA markers to insights into plant evolution and crop productivity, and including new tools for improving many crops. His research into plant genome organization and analysis has yielded basic insights into the evolutionary history of angiosperms, and its application has contributed to genetic analysis of agriculturally important traits in many leading crops, particularly cotton. Professor Paterson has been the recipient of the Crop Science Society of America "Young Crop Scientist of the Year" award (1996), the Cotton, Inc. Cotton Biotechnology award (2002 and 2012), UGA College of Agriculture D. W. Brooks Award for Excellence in Research (2005), National Cotton Council Cotton Genetics Research Award (2008), a Guggenheim Foundation Fellowship in Plant Sciences (2007-8), the Lamar Dodd Creative Research Award (the highest offered by Univ. GA) in 2009, and the Distinguished Agriscience Scientist Award of the Christopher Columbus Fellowship Foundation and American Farm Bureau (one of two in the USA: 2011). He became a Fellow of AAAS in 2008, and was the 2012 International Cotton Advisory Committee (ICAC) Researcher of the Year. Professor Paterson has served on eight editorial boards, and is currently an associate editor of Genetics, G3, Theoretical and Applied Genetics, and Tropical Plant Biology. He is a past chair of the International Cotton Genome Initiative (ICGI) and has served continuously as an ICGI officer since its first election.