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Study of sex determination in eukaryotes 1-billion-years distant from animals and plants

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An international consortium involving Eugénie Pessia and Gabriel Marais (LBBE) has identified the sex determining region in the brown alga *Ectocarpus*. Sex determination has been so far studied essentially in animals and plants covering a small part of the eukaryotic biodiversity. Brown algae are 1 BY distant relatives of those taxa. The study of the *Ectocarpus* sex determining region has revealed similarities but also striking differences compared to sex determining regions of animals and plants. This work has been published as an Article in *Current Biology*:

Ahmed S*, Cock JM*, Pessia E*, Luthringer R, Cormier A, Robuchon M, Sterck L, Peters AF, Dittami SM, Corre E, Valero M, Aury JM, Roze D, Van de Peer Y, Bothwell J, Marais GA, Coelho SM. A Haploid System of Sex Determination in the Brown Alga *Ectocarpus* sp. *Curr Biol*. 2014 Aug 27.

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