

Reviewer Report

Title: Chromosome-level genome assembly and annotation of the loquat (*Eriobotrya japonica*) genome

Version: Original Submission **Date: 11/24/2019**

Reviewer name: Jian-Feng Mao, Ph.D.

Reviewer Comments to Author:

Jiang et al. reported the high quality genome assembly and annotation for an important fruit tree, *Eriobotrya japonica*. In my opinion, this study is original, and data analysis have been well planned and conducted. The genomic resources and analysis are valuable for the loquat community and more broader regime of genomics and plant biology. However, there are large spaces for improvement in the English expression. I think editing by a native speaker is necessary.

It could be accepted after minor revision.

Major concern:

Please provide parameters and settings for specific analysis you conducted, especially for the genome assembly part.

Minor comments:

(I am not a native speaker. Here, I pick up specific comments related to generally the language expression)

1. line 11, "It flowered", is it a good expression?
2. line 19-21, please check this sentence, "The Hi-C ,,,, 39.7 Mb". Do you think Hi-C technology could really do assembly?
3. line 22, "analyzed" -> "investigated"
4. line 23, "the other six Rosaceae" -> "six other Rosaceae"
5. line 33, "are classified by" -> "were identified by"
6. line 34, "were" -> "are"
7. line 40, "The top buds become flowers", why do you want to say this?
8. line 41, why do you want to use "flowered"?
9. line 66-67, "Evaluation of the chloroplast of the species ,,, content", why do you want to do that? How did you do that? Is it relevant?
10. line 82, hard to imagine a simple genome, please define it if you want to describe your assembly as a simple one.
11. lines 91-92, "A Hi-C ,,, of the loquat", problematic expression. Do you really think the fresh leaf can do Hi-C? Please carefully check the full paper, for this similar problem.
12. line 94, "by" -> "with".
13. any reference for "smartdenovo"?
14. line 116, "assembled" -> "assembly"
15. no need to use "software" so often.
16. line 173, please define "unifamiles". and any typo there.

17. line 176, if you reported results of gene expansion. Please describe how you did do that?
18. line 209-210, "One-to-one corresponding chromosome", hard to explain this. Please define it or make it clear.
19. line 216, "Discussion" -> "Conclusion"
20. line 258, please carefully check your reference list. A lot bugs.
21. line 345, a new title would be "Picture of a loquat variety, seventh star"
22. Table 1 and 2, could be moved to the supplementary.
23. Replace Table 3 with Table S3.
24. line 384, please define "Uni family"
25. Figure 4, make it clear, by define the items you used or any other means.

Level of Interest

Please indicate how interesting you found the manuscript: Choose an item.

Quality of Written English

Please indicate the quality of language in the manuscript: Choose an item.

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