

Radiation Hybrid Mapping of the Species Cytoplasm-Specific (*scs^{ae}*) Gene in Wheat

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ABSTRACT

Radiation hybrid (RH) mapping is based on radiation-induced chromosome breakage and analysis of chromosome segment retention or loss using molecular markers. In durum wheat (*Triticum turgidum* L., AABB), an alloplasmic durum line [(1o) durum] has been identified with chromosome 1D of *T. aestivum* L. (AABBDD) carrying the species cytoplasm-specific (*scs^{ae}*) gene. The chromosome 1D of this line segregates as a whole without recombination, precluding the use of conventional genome mapping. A radiation hybrid mapping population was developed from a hemizygous (1o) *scs^{ae}*- line using 35 krad gamma rays. The analysis of 87 individuals of this population with 39 molecular markers mapped on chromosome 1D revealed 88 radiation-induced breaks in this chromosome. This number of chromosome 1D breaks is eight times higher than the number of previously identified breaks and should result in a 10-fold increase in mapping resolution compared to what was previously possible. The analysis of molecular marker retention in our radiation hybrid mapping panel allowed the localization of *scs^{ae}* and 8 linked markers on the long arm of chromosome 1D. This constitutes the first report of using RH mapping to localize a gene in wheat and illustrates that this approach is feasible in a species with a large complex genome.

THE haploid genome of hexaploid wheat (*Triticum aestivum* L.) is $\sim 1.7 \times 10^{10}$ bp, 80% of which is arranged as dispersed repetitive DNA (SMITH *et al.* 1976). The large genome size of hexaploid wheat (AABBDD) and its high frequency of repetitive DNA can be major constraints in the map-based cloning of genes in this species. Classical cytogenetic studies demonstrated that in polyploid wheat a specific chromosome in each of its subgenomes (A, B, or D) could compensate for the loss of a specific chromosome in another (SEARS 1966). This discovery led to the generation of compensating nullisomic-tetrasomic "Chinese Spring" (CS) stocks, where a particular chromosome of one subgenome is replaced with the addition of a homeologous counterpart from one of the other subgenomes. Crosses of a CS nullisomic-tetrasomic stock with tetraploid durum wheat (AABB) followed by repeated backcrossing and selection led to the development of a complete set of D-genome disomic substitution lines of durum (JOPPA and WILLIAMS 1988), where each of the A or B chromosome pair has been replaced by its homeologous D chromosome pair.

Recently, an array of chromosome deletion stocks has been generated in hexaploid wheat using gametocidal (*Gc*) genes (ENDO and GILL 1996). These stocks have

been employed to map 8241 expressed sequence tags (ESTs) in wheat (<http://wheat.pw.usda.gov/NSF>). About 440 deletion stocks for 21 chromosomes of hexaploid wheat are available, providing on average 10 deletions per chromosome arm. Given that the average physical size of a chromosome is ~ 350 Mb (LEE *et al.* 1997), the deletion stocks would define chromosome bins with an average size of 35 Mb (assuming equal distribution of deletion breakpoints). The actual size of chromosomal regions defined by deletion breakpoints is quite variable (GILL *et al.* 1996). The seven terminal deletion stocks for the long arm of chromosome 1D (1DL) define chromosome regions ranging in size from 8 to 141 Mb and the terminal half of 1DL is marked by only two deletion breakpoints defining regions of 90 and 141 Mb, respectively (GILL *et al.* 1996).

Radiation hybrid (RH) maps are developed on the basis of radiation-induced chromosome breakage and a reconstruction of marker order based on coretenation analysis. A high-resolution (100 kb) contiguous map of human chromosomes with $\sim 41,000$ ordered STSs that includes 20,000 unique human genes has been constructed using the RH mapping approach and human-mouse cell hybrid lines (HUDSON *et al.* 1995; SCHULER *et al.* 1996; STEWART *et al.* 1997; DELOUKAS *et al.* 1998). Radiation hybrids with human subchromosome fragments have also been excellent vehicles for the production and characterization of libraries highly enriched in DNA markers and genes for a particular subchromo-

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somal segment (LEDBETTER *et al.* 1990). Following the success of RH mapping in human genome studies, this approach has been used in resolving the order of tightly linked loci in mouse (MCCARTHY *et al.* 1997), pig (HAWKEN *et al.* 1999), dog (VIGNAUX *et al.* 1999), zebrafish (KWOK *et al.* 1999), cat (MURPHY *et al.* 1999), and rat (WATANABE *et al.* 1999).

The duplicated and rearranged nature of plant genomes frequently complicates identification, chromosomal assignment, and eventual manipulation of DNA segments. Separating an individual chromosome or a portion of it from the full complement by its addition to an alien genetic background and subsequent analysis by RH mapping provide a powerful approach for the analyses of these genomes. This potential has been realized in maize for mapping duplicated sequences, gene families, and molecular markers to chromosome segments and for functional genomics analyses using oat-maize chromosome addition lines (ANANIEV *et al.* 1997; RIERA-LIZARAZU *et al.* 2000; KYNAST *et al.* 2002).

The limited use of RH mapping technology in plants is partly due to the difficulty in easily identifying materials that contain different portions of the chromosome of interest. In wheat, a large collection of cytogenetic stocks that can be used in RH mapping exist. We are introducing here a unique material in wheat for generating a RH mapping population to localize the *species cytoplasm-specific* (*scs^{ae}*) gene from *T. aestivum*. An alloplasmic durum wheat line with the cytoplasm of *Aegilops longissima* [(1o) durum] was developed (MAAN 1992; MAAN *et al.* 1999). The compatibility between the nucleus of durum wheat and the cytoplasm of *Ae. longissima* is restored by an *scs* gene, such as *scs^{ti}* from *T. timopheevii* (MAAN 1992). The *scs^{ti}*, a homeologous counterpart of *scs^{ae}*, has been genetically mapped on the long arm of chromosome 1A by restriction fragment length polymorphism (RFLP) analysis (SIMONS *et al.* 2003). The hemizygous (1o) durum line with *scs^{ti}* was crossed with a "Langdon" disomic 1D(1A) substitution line and the resulting male-sterile plants with 1A *scs^{ti}* and 1D *scs^{ae}* or 1A and 1D *scs^{ae}* were crossed as female back to Langdon durum (LDN16) or a durum line with double-ditelosomic 1A chromosome (LDN-dDt1A; 13"+1AS"+1AL"). Plants from the latter cross were cytologically identified and backcrossed to either LDN16 or LDN-dDt1A. Plants without *scs^{ti}* were isolated where all viable progenies received a maternal chromosome 1D with *scs^{ae}* (MAAN *et al.* 1999). Among these viable progenies, plants with 28 chromosomes (13 ring bivalent + 1 rod bivalent) were identified. These plants were male sterile and data indicated that the *scs^{ae}* gene on 1D had improved the nucleo-cytoplasmic incompatibility. Chromosome pairing data indicated that the 1D chromosome segment on which the *scs^{ae}* gene was located also contained a distal portion of the long arm of chromosome 1A (MAAN *et al.* 1999). The molecular cytogenetic analysis of this line suggested that a homeologous recombination event

involving chromosomes 1A and 1D had occurred, resulting in the introgression of *scs^{ae}* (HOSSAIN *et al.* 2004). Crosses of the male-sterile hemizygous (1o) *scs^{ae}*- line with either LDN16 or LDN-dDt1A produce plump viable seeds (with *scs^{ae}*) and shriveled inviable seeds (without *scs^{ae}*). The chromosome 1D segment in the (1o) *scs^{ae}*- line is inherited as a whole without recombination, precluding the use of conventional genetic linkage analysis in locating the *scs^{ae}* gene.

The hybrid sterility and lack of genetic recombination between wheat and alien chromosomes are major obstacles in alien gene transfer in wheat. The isolation and characterization of genes involved in nuclear-cytoplasmic interaction are a crucial step in better understanding and manipulation of this process in crop improvement. The objectives of this study were (1) to explore the influence of radiation on chromosome breakage in wheat and (2) to localize the *scs^{ae}* gene using RH mapping methodology.

MATERIALS AND METHODS

Effective radiation dosage: Seeds from the durum wheat cultivar "Altar 84" and the bread wheat cultivar "Stephens" were equilibrated to ~13% moisture in an airtight desiccator with a solution of 60% glycerol for 5 days (CONGER 1972). One hundred equilibrated seeds from each cultivar were used as a control (0 krad) and for each radiation treatment of 5–80 krad range. For irradiation, seeds were exposed to gamma rays in the irradiator model ACEL GAMMA CELL 220 (Gamma Irradiation Facility, Radiation Center, Oregon State University). Seeds were planted immediately after irradiation and plant viability was determined as the proportion of surviving seedlings (%) from seed treated at different radiation levels.

RH mapping population: Crosses of the male-sterile hemizygous (1o) *scs^{ae}*- line with LDN16 produce plump viable seeds with the *scs^{ae}* locus and shriveled inviable seeds without *scs^{ae}* (Figure 1). One hundred plump seeds were irradiated with 35 krad gamma rays. Treated seeds were grown in pots in a growth room (RH₀) and were crossed again with euplasmic durum line. Eighty-seven plants (RH₁) were grown in the greenhouse from the plump seeds of individual RH₀ plants (Figure 1). Genomic DNA was extracted from 84 plants and analyzed by PCR and Southern hybridization using molecular markers located on the homeologous group 1 chromosomes of wheat.

Selection of molecular markers: Molecular markers used in analyzing the radiation-induced breakages are presented in Figure 2. RFLP markers, prefixed with BCD, CDO, and MWG, were selected on the basis of their physical and genetic locations and orders; these markers had also been previously mapped into different deletion breakpoints of chromosome 1D (GALE *et al.* 1995; VAN DEYNZE *et al.* 1995; MA *et al.* 2000; SANDHU *et al.* 2001). The markers prefixed with BARC are simple sequence repeat (SSR) markers, genetically mapped on chromosome 1D (HUANG and RÖDER 2003). The markers prefixed with BE, BF, and AA are EST markers that were placed into regions of deletion breakpoints of chromosome 1D (<http://wheat.pw.usda.gov/NSF>) but their exact order in each deletion bin is unknown (SORRELLS *et al.* 2003). For EST markers, PCR primers designed from conserved regions and/or EST clones themselves used as RFLP probes were used in this marker retention analysis. Thirty-nine markers were

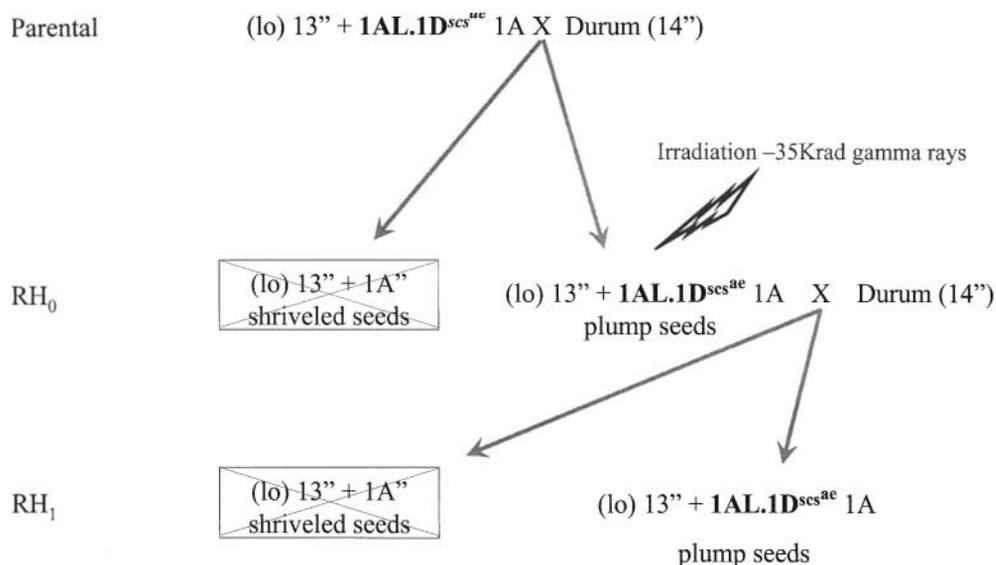


FIGURE 1.—Development of a radiation hybrid mapping population. 1AL.1D^{scs^{ae}} is the chromosome combination in the hemizygous (lo) *scs^{ae}*— line. Only the critical chromosome is identified. Boxed genotypes are shriveled inviable seeds.

identified and analyzed to confirm their presence in the (lo) *scs^{ae}*— line, before use on the RH mapping population.

DNA extraction and RFLP and PCR analysis: Extraction and preparation of genomic DNA, restriction endonuclease digestion, Southern blotting, and hybridization were performed on the basis of published protocols (HOSSAIN *et al.* 2004). All blots were made with 10 µg of genomic DNA, digested with *EcoRI* restriction endonuclease.

In each PCR analysis, 50 ng of genomic DNA from different RH₁ lines was used. The DNA was amplified in a reaction mixture of 25 µl, containing 2.5 µl of 10× PCR buffer, 0.75 µl of MgCl₂, 2.0 µl of dNTPs, 2.5 µl of 10-µM solutions of forward and reverse primers, and 0.5 µl of taq polymerase. The PCR profile for DNA amplification consisted of 1 cycle of 94° for 5 min; 35 cycles of 94° for 1 min, 55° or 58° for 1 min, and 72° for 1 min; followed by incubation at 72° for 10 min before cooling to 4°. The amplified products were separated on a 6% denaturing polyacrylamide agarose gel and visualized by silver staining.

Radiation-induced breakpoints were identified on the basis of absence of the respective 1D band in comparison with the banding profiles of LDN 16, (lo) *scs^{ae}*—, and Langdon chromosome 1D substituted for 1A [LDN-1D(1A)] lines.

Marker retention and statistical analysis: The retention frequency of the 39 markers, used in this study, was expressed as the proportion of instances where a given marker was retained in the population of 87 RH₁ plants that were analyzed. A chi-square test of homogeneity was used to see if marker retention (reflecting radiation-induced chromosome breakage) along chromosome 1D was random.

RESULTS

Determination of effective radiation dose: Radiation dose >40 krad resulted in a dramatic decrease in plant survival (Figure 3) as well as plant vigor. As expected the tolerance of durum wheat to seed irradiation was lower than that observed in common wheat. Survival rate of 85% was observed following treatment at 30 krad (Figure 3). Previous studies indicated that radiation dosages >30 krad generate chromosomal rearrangements with little added mapping information (RIERA-LIZARAZU

et al. 2000). On the basis of these data, 35 krad dosage was chosen as the level at which to irradiate plump seed from the male-sterile hemizygous (lo) *scs^{ae}*— durum line.

Radiation-induced breakages in chromosome 1D of the (lo) *scs^{ae}*— durum line: Fifty-one (60%) of the RH₁ mapping population plants were identified with marker losses (Figure 4), presumably due to radiation-induced chromosome breakages, and the number of markers lost from each ranged from 1 to 6 (Figure 5). Of 39 markers, 27 (69%) identified breakpoints and the number of observed breakpoints ranged from 1 to 11 (Figure 5). The highest number of breakages involved the marker BE499561 located in deletion bin 1DS5-0.70-1.00, followed by BCD200, mapped in deletion bin 1DL4-0.18-0.41. Molecular markers BCD1434, CDO388, BCD98, and MWG68, mapped in the telomeric regions of the short arm of chromosome 1D (1DS5-0.70-1.00), were retained in all lines. Similarly, 8 markers, BE444505, CDO98, BCD338, BCD921, BE490430, BE403322, BE442876, and BE443720, mapped in the region between 1DL4-0.18-0.41 and 1DL2-0.41-1.00, were retained in every individual analyzed.

On the basis of the somatic metaphase chromosome size and the arm ratio of *T. aestivum* chromosomes (GILL 1987), the DNA content of chromosome 1D is estimated at 571 Mb; and the sizes of the short and long arms of this chromosome are calculated to be 211.5 and 359.5 Mb, respectively. The fraction length (FL) value, relative percentage of the arm deleted, has been determined for each of the deletion stocks (GILL 1987) and using these values the DNA contents of the deletion regions have been calculated (GILL *et al.* 1993; ENDO and GILL 1996). The DNA content of 1DL2-0.41-1.00 is estimated to be 212.1 Mb, of 1DL4-0.18-0.41 to be 82.4 Mb, of 1DS5-0.70-1.00 to be 63.5 Mb, and of 1DS1-0.59-0.70 to be 23.3 Mb. In the (lo) *scs^{ae}*— line, the telomeric region of 1DL2-0.41-1.00, identified by eight markers (Figure 2,

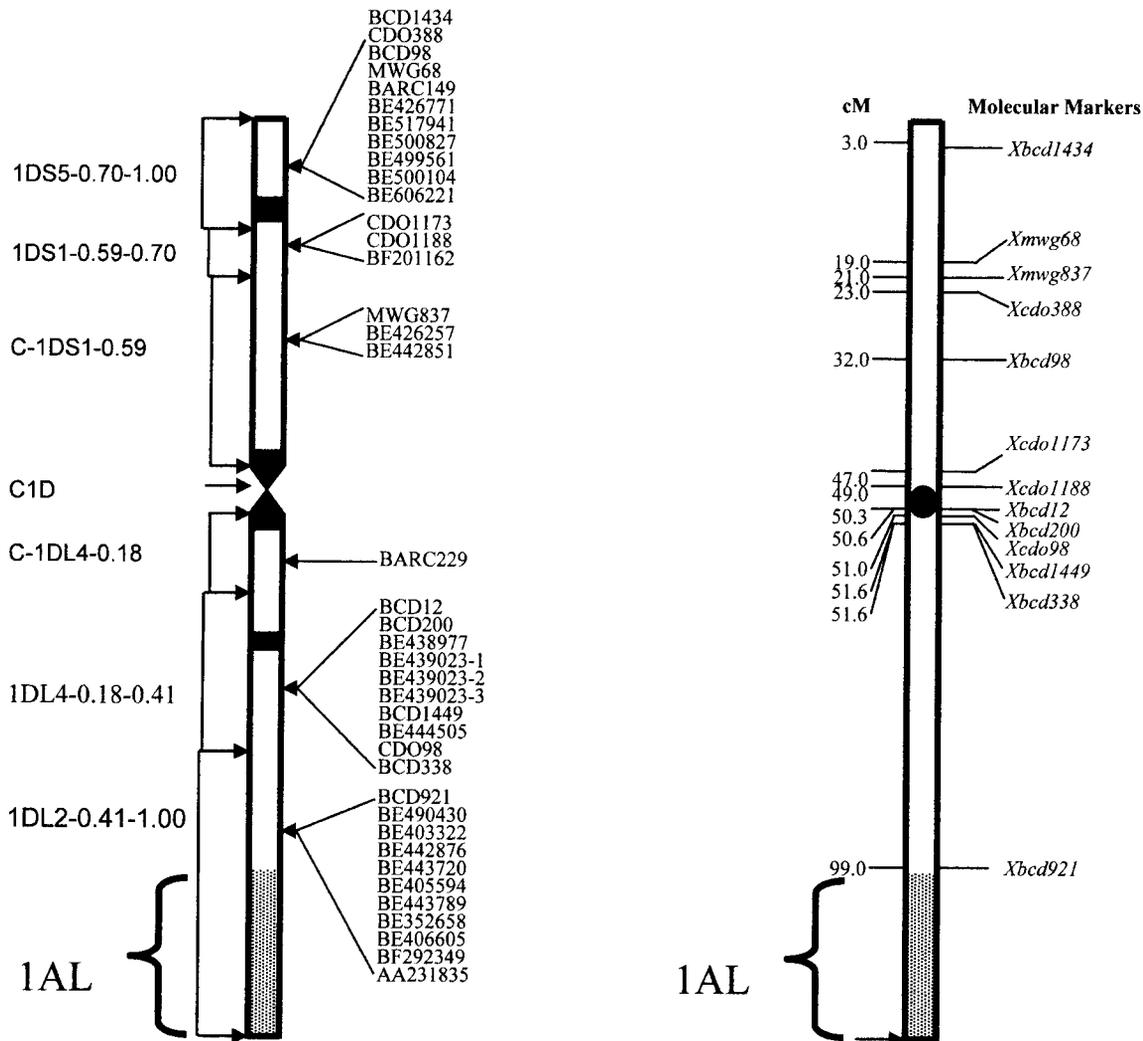


FIGURE 2.—Molecular markers used in analyzing radiation-induced breakage with their map positions on chromosome 1D. On the left side, deletion bins as described by ENDO and GILL (1996) are presented with the proportion of the respective arm deleted. The terminal end of chromosome 1D in plants used for this study is derived from 1AL through a homeologous recombination event (HOSSAIN *et al.* 2004).

shaded area), is missing and is replaced by the telomeric region of 1AL (HOSSAIN *et al.* 2004). If the markers are evenly distributed in this region, together with the

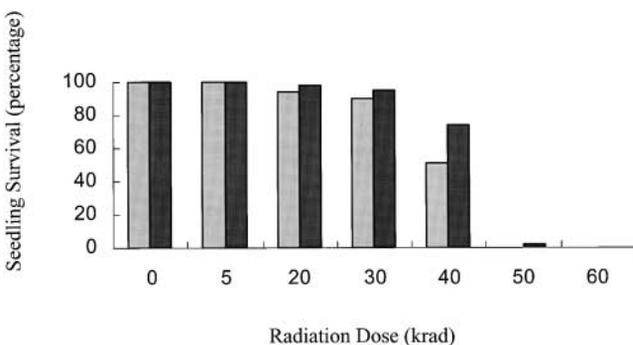


FIGURE 3.—Proportion of surviving seedlings from irradiated seeds of durum cultivar, “Altar” (gray bars), and bread wheat cultivar, “Stephens” (black bars), treated with different levels of radiation.

missing markers, the average size accounted for by each marker is 13.3 Mb. The missing telomeric region in the (lo) *scs^{ae}*— durum line is estimated to be 106.1 Mb. Therefore, the estimated size of the 1D chromosome carrying the *scs^{ae}* gene, assuming even distribution of markers in this region, is 464.8 Mb (excluding the missing telomeric region of 1DL). In this experiment 88 breakages were identified. Thus, the average distance between radiation-induced breaks for chromosome 1D is estimated to be ~5.3 Mb.

Localization of the *scs^{ae}* gene: Induction of chromosome breaks by irradiation and subsequent analysis with mapped DNA-based markers allow the identification of radiation-induced breaks in a given genomic region. Whenever a marker is detected the chromosomal fragment carrying that particular marker in the genome has been retained after irradiation. The converse suggests the loss of a given chromosome piece. Of 84 individuals, 33 (40%) retained all the DNA markers tested. The

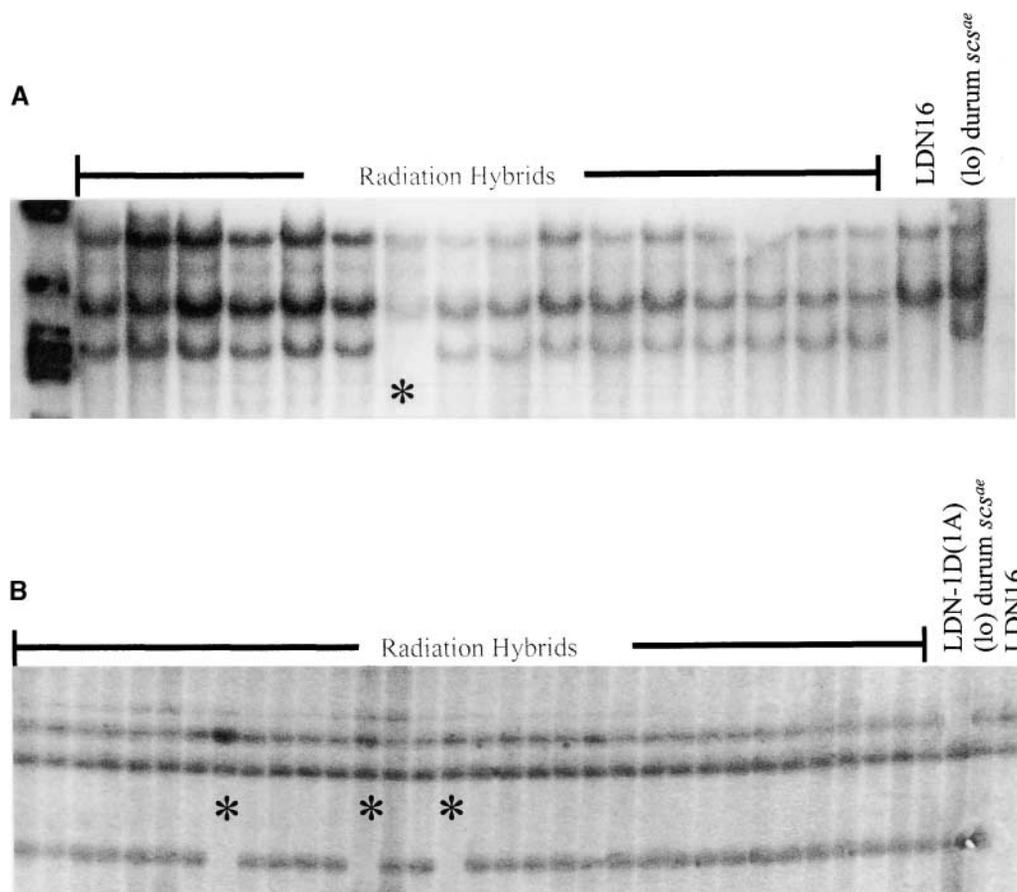


FIGURE 4.—Identification of lines with radiation-induced chromosome breakages (* indicates line with chromosome breaks). (A) Radiation-induced break identified by the DNA marker, CDO1188 mapped in 1DS1. (B) Radiation-induced breaks identified by the EST-derived marker BE406605, mapped in 1DL2.

marker retention frequencies on an individual basis for the entire population ranged from 87 to 100% (Figure 6). A chi-square homogeneity test indicated that the marker retention or loss along the length of chromosome 1D was heterogeneous. This indicates the preferential retention or loss of certain segments along this chromosome.

Two regions were retained in all individuals of the mapping population (100% retention frequency); one was identified with 4 molecular markers in the telomeric regions of the short arm of chromosome 1D and the other was identified with 8 molecular markers in the long arm of chromosome 1D (Figure 6). The remaining 27 markers tested and flanking regions were affected by irradiation and radiation-induced breakages were identified (Figure 6). The plants with a broken chromosome produced plump seeds (contained *scs^{ae}*) even after missing the genomic region surrounding these 27 markers. Thus, the genomic region identified by these 27 markers must not contain the *scs^{ae}* gene.

DISCUSSION

The success of a RH mapping project depends on the level of radiation-induced breakage of chromosomes and the ability to recover subchromosome fragments. An additional consideration is the ability to detect chromosome breaks with available markers. We

have material of an alloplasmic durum line with the A and B genome chromosomes where a portion of the 1D chromosome carrying *scs^{ae}* from hexaploid wheat has been introgressed. Radiation induces breakage over the entire genome of this line and except for breakages in the 1D portion, all other breakages are masked due to addition of complementary A and B genome chromosome after crossing the irradiated RH₀ plants with LDN16. Using DNA-based markers for chromosome 1D, we have successfully identified the critical breakages (Figures 5 and 6).

In our study, we used 39 DNA-based markers in analyzing radiation-induced breakages in a mapping population of 87 individuals. Twenty-seven of these markers identified breakages in chromosome 1D (Figure 5) and the average number of breakages per marker was >3. Using the *Gc* system, a series of 436 homozygous terminal deletions in hexaploid wheat have been isolated (ENDO and GILL 1996) and used for mapping genes and gene-rich areas in the genome (GILL *et al.* 1996; FARIS *et al.* 2000; SANDHU *et al.* 2001). Using the *Gc* system five deletion stocks for the short arm and six for the long arm of chromosome 1D have been isolated (ENDO and GILL 1996). In our study, using gamma rays we have identified 88 individual breakages for chromosome 1D, which is eight times higher than the number of breakages identified in the *Gc* system. Thus, radiation treatment is an effective alternative in creating break-

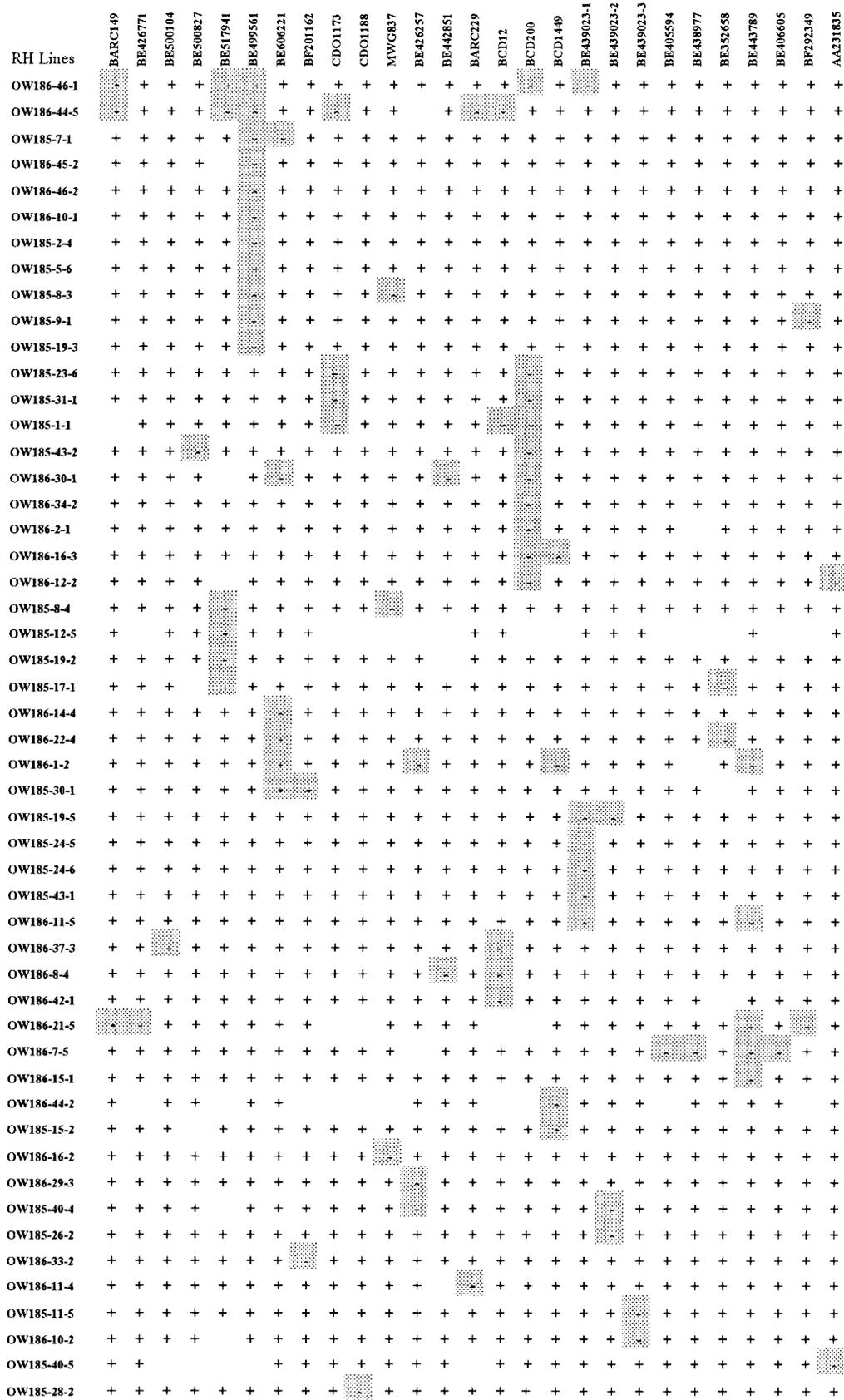


FIGURE 5.—Radiation-induced breaks in the chromosome 1D segment of the (lo) *scs^{ae}* line. The markers are arranged on the basis of their location within deletion bins and the fewest possible breaks as indicated by chromosome segment retention/loss. Shaded squares indicate the absence of a DNA segment containing an individual marker.

identified a BAC clone ctg1228 of 171.0 kb anchored with the marker BCD386 (<http://wheatdb.ucdavis.edu:8080/wheatdb/index.jsp>). On the basis of the metaphase DNA content, arm ratio, and physical and genetic size of the wheat genome, the identified flanking regions of *scs^{ae}* could be in the range of 8.3 Mb.

The function of nuclear genes involved in a compatible nuclear-cytoplasmic (NC) interaction in wheat cultivars remains unknown but prevalence of these genes indicates that they may contribute to the adaptation and yield potential of modern cultivars. The localization of *scs^{ae}* in this study could have a large impact toward understanding the genetic mechanism involved in these interactions. The eventual identification of a small segment of DNA carrying this gene using flanking markers and BAC clones will help in functional analysis of NC-interacting genes, which is crucial for wider use of alien germplasm and more efficient introgression. The potential of radiation in chromosomal fragmentation in wheat is illustrated by this study. Use of radiation and subsequent characterization of RH lines allow development of a subchromosomal mapping population particularly from the D-genome chromosomes using durum as the host. Given the extensive collection of wheat cytogenetic stocks, this methodology can be applied to any chromosome of particular interest. This approach will help in mapping genes with higher resolution than is possible using existing deletion stocks and might also lead to positional cloning of important genes. Because radiation hybrid mapping involves assays for the presence or absence of a given marker, monomorphic markers such as STSs and ESTs can be quickly and efficiently mapped. This system is particularly amenable to automation and high-throughput formats. Thus, we believe that radiation hybrid mapping will play an important role in the difficult task of mapping an ever-increasing number of wheat ESTs (500,000; <http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/dbEST/>). In summary, the successful application of RH mapping has aided in understanding and development of new technologies for the mapping, manipulation, and isolation of agronomically relevant traits that affect the productivity of wheat.

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