



Cannabis Genomic Research Initiative



Dr. Daniela Vergara is an evolutionary biologist researching *Cannabis* genomics at the University of Colorado Boulder. In addition to her multiple publications in *Cannabis*, she founded and directs a non-profit organization, the Agricultural Genomics Foundation (AGF; AgriculturalGenomics.org). AGF's aim is to make *Cannabis* science available to a broad public. Vergara is also part of the scientific company Steep Hill, Inc. who are a global leader in *Cannabis* science and lab testing.

Dr. Vergara's latest scientific publications include the comparison of the federal *Cannabis* to that produced by the private market, showing that the government's *Cannabis* lacked potency and variation. These results were featured in news platforms such as *The Atlantic*, *Science* and *FiveThirtyEight*. Some of her other scientific publications are a compilation on the existing genomic tools available for *Cannabis* research that was featured in *Science*, and the maternally inherited genomes (chloroplast and mitochondria). Vergara has authored these publications advised by Dr. Nolan Kane whose group at CU Boulder she joined in 2013. These publications are a product of collaborations between graduate and undergraduate students, and scientists from the *Cannabis* Industry.



Through AGF, Vergara educates the public about science, *Cannabis*, evolutionary biology, and genomics. AGF also supports the *Cannabis* Genomic Research Initiative (CGRI; CannabisGenomics.org), group that Drs. Vergara and Kane founded to explore the *Cannabis* genome.

At Steep Hill, Inc. Vergara is developing a commercial service that will determine the relationship between *Cannabis* varieties.

Besides being a reviewer for multiple scientific journals such as *Molecular Ecology* and the *Biological Journal of the Linnean Society*, Vergara has also been an expert witness in legal *Cannabis* testimonies.

Currently, Dr. Vergara is exploring the genes related to the production of CBD and THC, and is associating this important physical trait to the genome.

Most of Vergara's research has been funded by private individuals who believe in her cause with donations to AGF that holds a 501(C)3 status.

To get updates of her research, follow Dr. Vergara on twitter ([@CannaGenomics](https://twitter.com/CannaGenomics)).