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Sea beet, *Beta maritima* L., has the closest phylogenetic relationship with sugarbeet (*B. vulgaris* L.) when compared to any other beet species. The two *Beta* plants are being proposed to combine into one species, simply by reclassifying sea beet as *B. vulgaris* subsp. *maritima* L. or *B. vulgaris* var. *maritima* L. Hybridization crosses between the two species are, thus, easily achievable via exchange of pollination bags. The sugarbeet root-knot nematode resistance, which was identified from rare occurring sea beet sources, has been transferred to sugarbeet through such approach. In the progeny population, phenotypic expression of certain undesirable sea beet characteristics remained. Nonetheless, the sprangled root structure and annual bolting traits have become less intense and sucrose content heightened as additional breeding efforts were built in. Further selection and improvement is underway to develop sugarbeet genotypes with high levels of root-knot nematode resistance and productivity.