## EURISCO, the European Search Portal for Plant Genetic Resources

Status quo & planned developments

EURISCO training workshop, 12th to 14th September 2017, Gatersleben



# INTRODUCTION AND BACKGROUND





#### **Background**

#### What is EURISCO?

- European information system for plant genetic resources
- Search catalogue for ex situ collections
- Accession-level information system

#### Purpose

- Provides passport data and phenotypic data about plant germplasm accessions maintained in Europe
- Assists in meeting national obligations
  - Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO)
  - Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD)
  - International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture (ITPGRFA)



https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/8/81/Europe\_countries\_map\_2.png





#### Development

- Started in 1999 (EU project EPGRIS)
- 43 countries involved (Nordic Countries → NordGen)
- National collections represented by National Inventories (NIs)
- Network of National Focal Points (NFPs) links NIs ↔ EURISCO

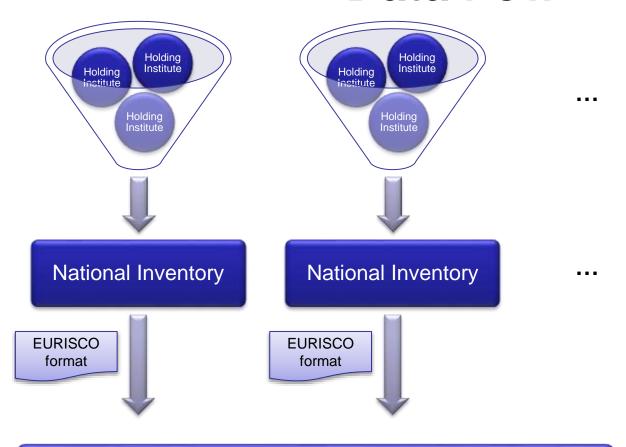


https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/8/81/Europe\_countries\_map\_2.png





#### **Data flow**



380 germplasm collections

43 member countries

#### **EURISCO**

ex situ PGR data

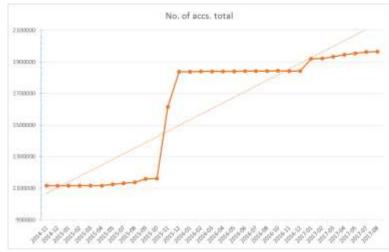




#### **Contents of EURISCO**

- 1,964,939 accessions
- 6,315 genera (including synonyms, spelling variants)
- 42,942 species names

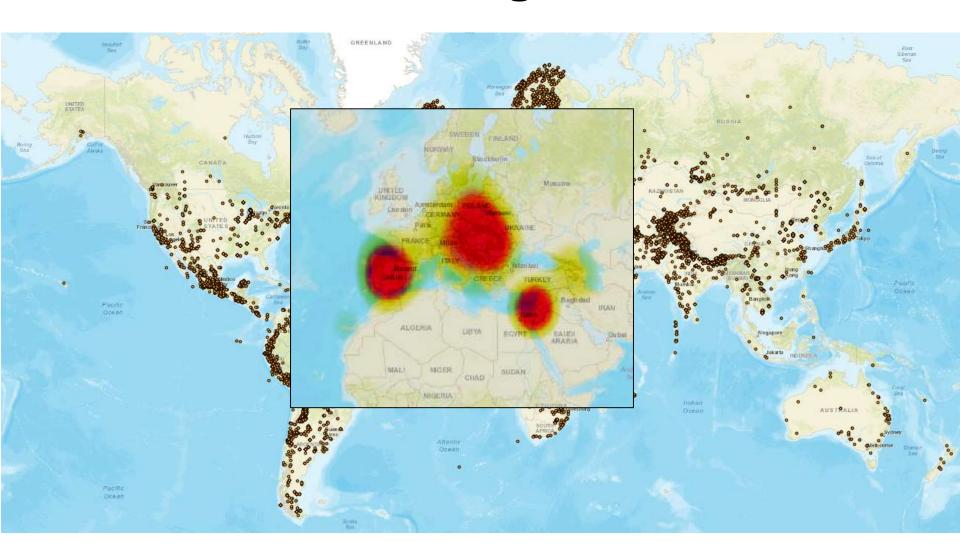
   (unique combinations genus + species, including synonyms)
- 413,614 MLS accessions
- 32,791 AEGIS accessions







## **Collecting sites**







## **Taxonomic composition**

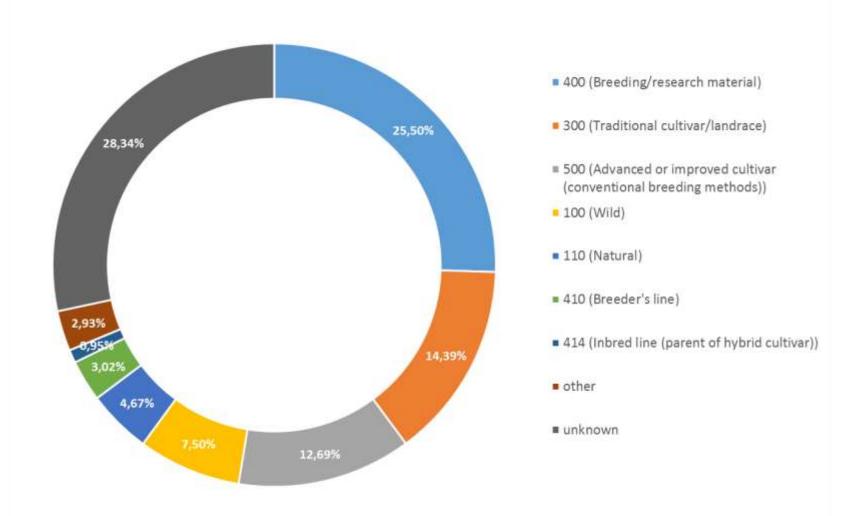
Genus	Species	No. accs.	Total
Arabidopsis	thaliana	681,983	682,191
•	others	208	
Triticum aestivum		136,646	188,648
(wheat)	durum	16,299	
	turgidum	9,502	
	monococcum	3,427	
	spelta	3,090	
	others	19,684	
Hordeum	vulgare	104,328	123,942
(barley)	spontaneum	8,336	
	others	11,278	
Zea	mays	62,474	62,607
(maize)	others	133	
Phaseolus	vulgaris	46,781	52,322
(garden bean)	coccineus	3,048	
	others	2,493	

Genus	Species	No. accs.	Total
Solanum	lycopersicum	18,858	51,118
(tomato, potato,	tuberosum	14,780	
eggplant, etc.)	andigenum	2,814	
	melongena	2,088	
	others	12,578	
Avena	sativa	33,234	41,279
(oat)	sterilis	2,156	
	byzantina	1,958	
	others	3,931	
Malus	domestica	24,113	31,533
(apple)	others	7,420	
Pisum	sativum	27,309	30,354
(pea)	others	3,045	
Vitis	vinifera	26,079	30,022
(grape)	others	3,943	
others	<u> </u>		670,923
		Total	1,964,939





#### **Biological status**







## Data quality in EURISCO

- 790,936 accessions with collecting information
  - 105,284 different collecting sites
  - But only 202,587 accessions with coordinates (10% of all accessions; 26% of accessions with collecting information)
- 1,196,297 accessions with donor information
- 1,072,517 accessions with country of origin
  - 24 different geographic regions





#### **EURISCO HOSTED BY IPK**





#### **New EURISCO hosting**

- On behalf of the European Cooperative Programme for Plant Genetic Resources (ECPGR)
  - Available online since 2003
    - Bioversity International, Rome, Italy
  - Since April 2014:
    - EURISCO hosted by IPK Gatersleben, Germany
    - New development from scratch



Weise et al. (2017) Nucleic Acids Research, 45(D1):D1003-D1008.





#### Challenges and decisions

- Challenges faced:
  - Outdated systems
  - Insufficient technical documentation
  - High costs for transfer of as-is status
- Decisions:
  - → No transfer of existing solutions
  - → New development from scratch





#### **Technical tasks**

- Analysis of the former web application
- Reengineering of database schema for web application
- Import (and cleansing) of current data set
  - Migration path MySQL → Oracle RDBMS

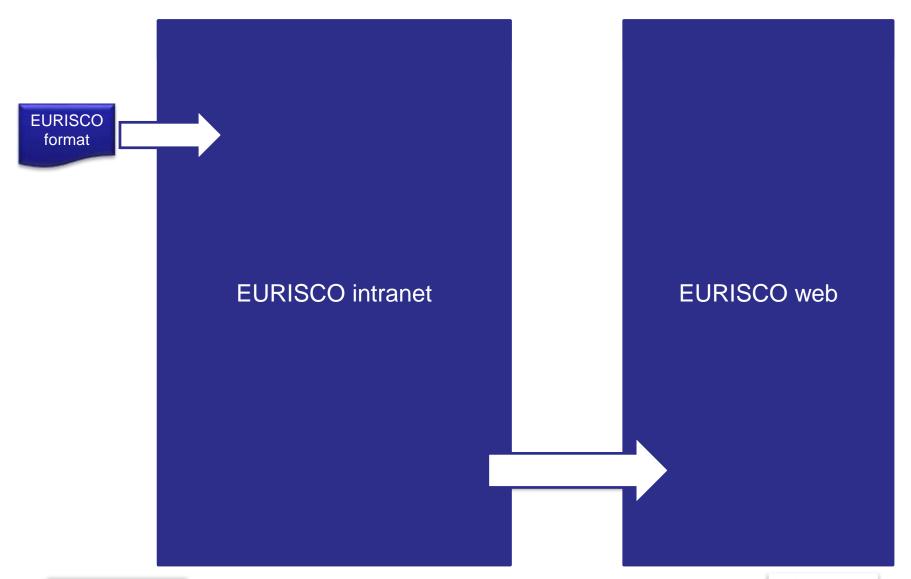


- New web application for searching EURISCO data
  - PL/SQL for functionality; APEX for rendering
  - First release with basic functionality published 09/2014
  - Continuously improved
- New web application for updating NI data
  - PL/SQL for functionality; APEX for rendering





#### **New architecture: Overview**







#### New architecture: DB schema features

#### EURISCO intranet

- 50 tables
- 483 indexes
- 99 triggers
- 10 PL/SQL packages
- 118 function and procedures
- 27 Java classes

- EURISCO web
  - 40 tables
  - 27 materialised views
  - 584 indexes
  - 6 PL/SQL packages
  - 26 function and procedures
  - In-memory features





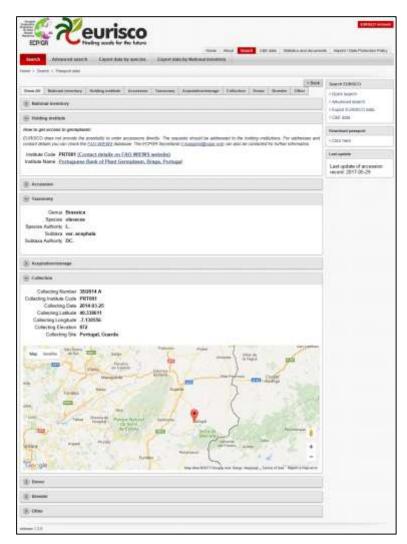
#### **EURISCO WEB**





#### Passport data in EURISCO

- Four standard searches:
  - Taxonomy
  - Accession
  - Biological status
  - Collecting site
- Advanced search
- Different user-specific export features







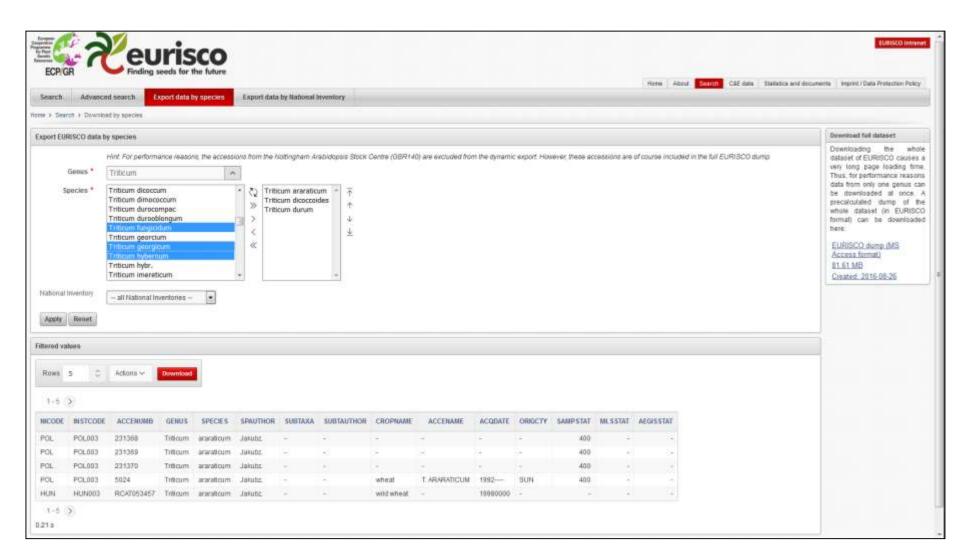
#### **Advanced search form**

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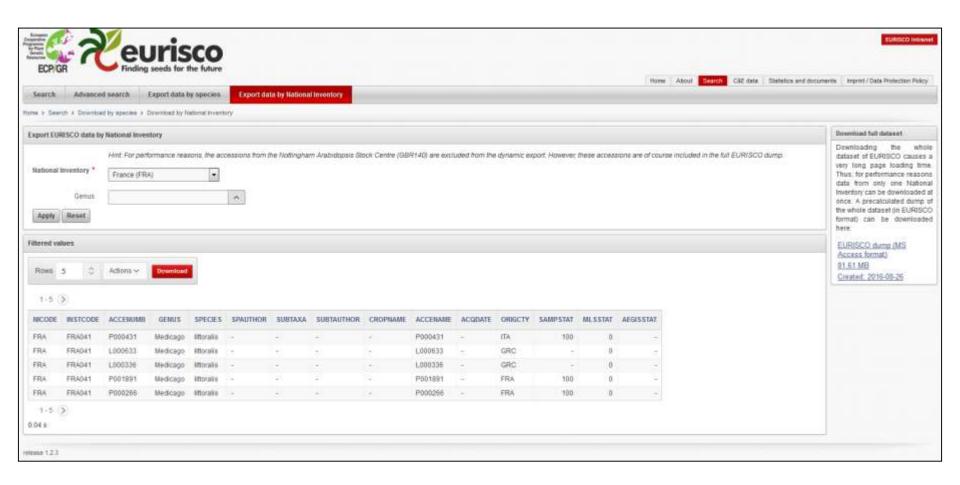
### User specific export – by species







### User specific export – by NI







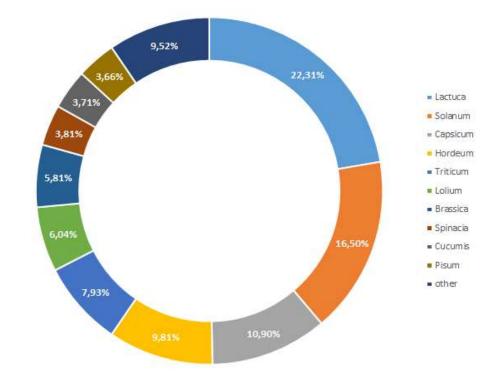
# CHARACTERISATION & EVALUATION DATA





#### **C&E data in EURISCO**

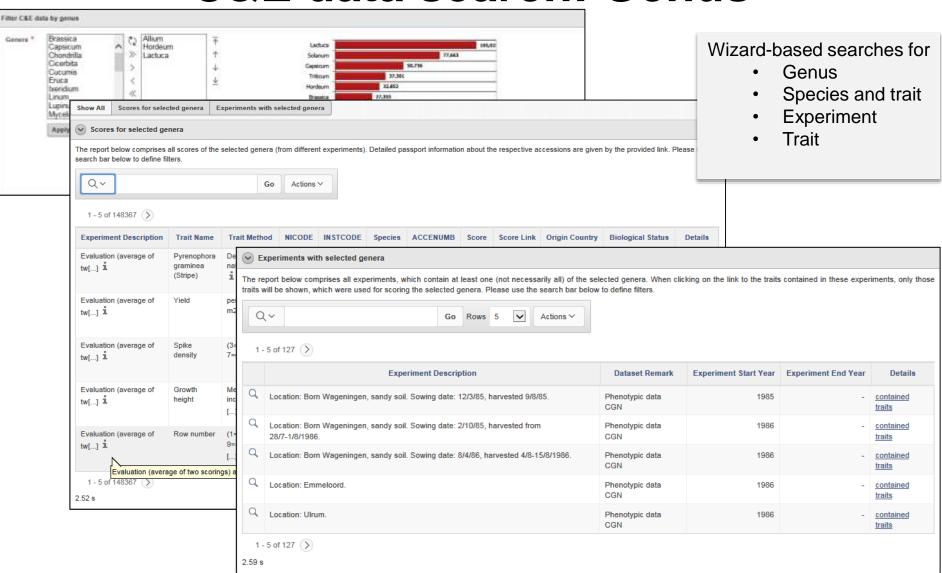
- Extension available since summer 2016
- Currently, 470,659 records of data from four countries
  - Germany
  - Latvia
  - The Netherlands
  - United Kingdom







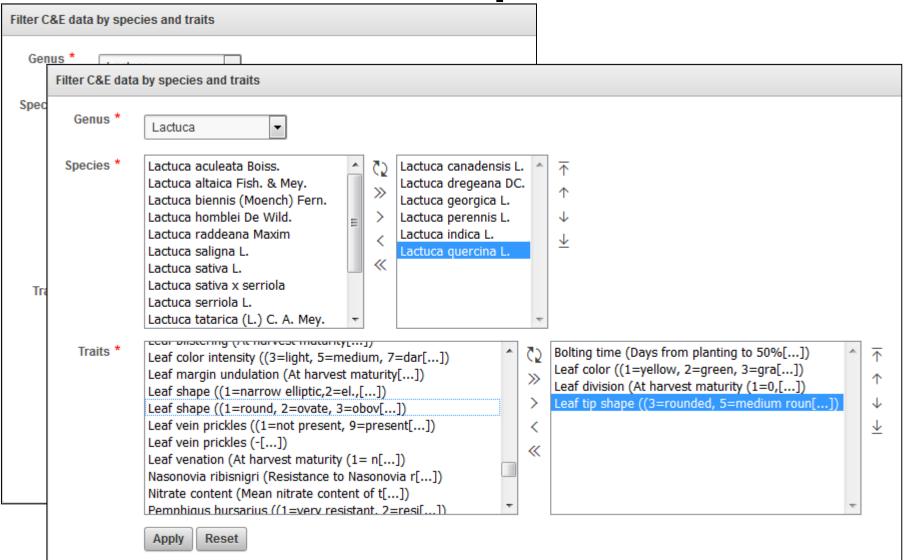
#### **C&E** data search: Genus







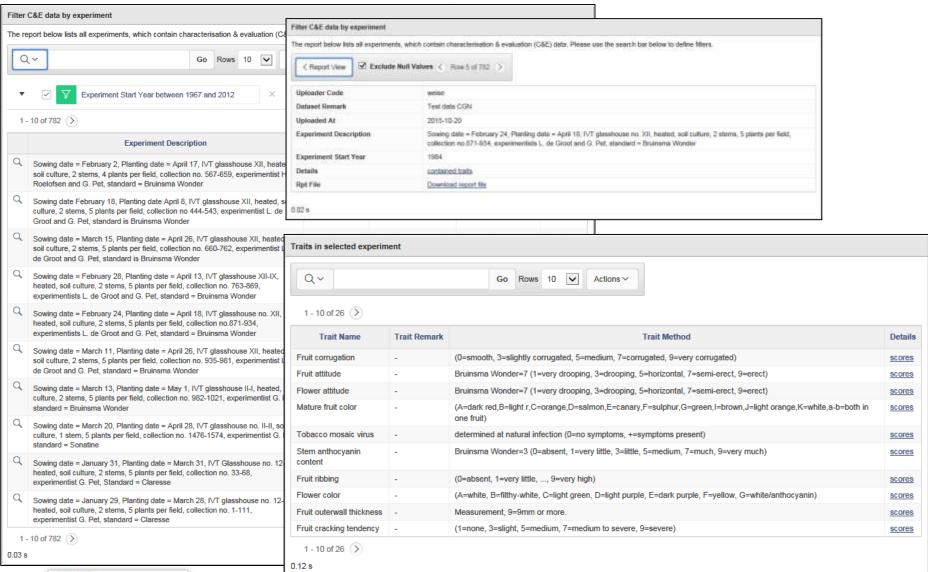
#### C&E data search: Species and trait







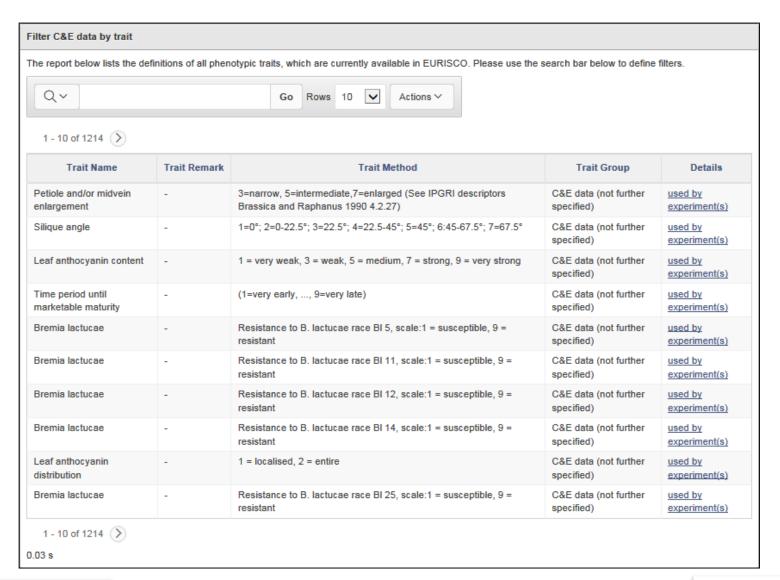
### **C&E** data search: Experiment







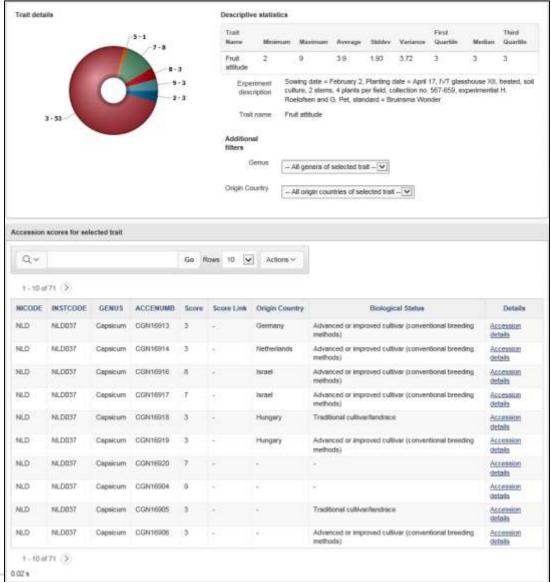
#### **C&E** data search: Trait







#### **C&E** data search: C&E scores







## **AEGIS**





#### **AEGIS**

- AEGIS A European Genebank Integrated System
- ECPGR initiative for improving the coordination of
  - Conservation and management of PGRFA
  - Access to PGRFA

#### Aims:

- Conservation of genetically unique and important accessions
- Making materials available for breeding and research
- Safe long-term conservation (with common agreed standards)
- Reduction of redundancy
- Clarification of responsibilities for conservation

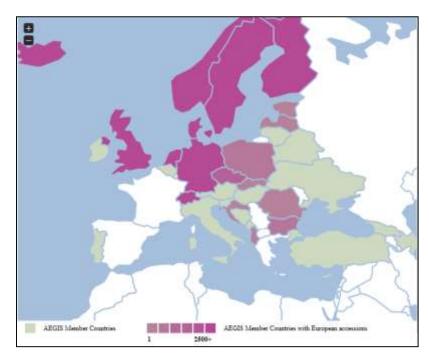




#### **AEGIS data in EURISCO**

- No physical collection → "virtual" genebank
- AEGIS accessions labelled in EURISCO
  - Including tracking of AEGIS status
- 32,791 AEGIS accessions
- 34 member countries

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as of 2017-08-25



#### **EURISCO INTRANET**





#### **EURISCO** intranet

- Upload component for National Inventory Focal Points
- Standardised data exchange formats
  - Passport data
  - Phenotypic (characterisation and evaluation) data
- Details will follow during the hands-on sessions





#### **FUTURE OF EURISCO**





#### More data

- Inclusion of additional passport data
  - Support and encouragement of National Focal Points
  - Participation in project proposals

- Inclusion of additional C&E data
  - Currently in prototype phase
  - Request to all National Focal Points to provide available C&E data to EURISCO
  - Participation in ECPGR-funded activities, which foresee the provision of C&E data to EURISCO





#### **Better data**

- Increase frequency of updates
  - Avg. age 1.16 years
  - Oldest 10% avg. 4.96 years (van Hintum 2014)
- Increase completeness of information
  - Often limited information about certain accessions
  - Some descriptors only sparsely populated

Increase correctness of information





## Challenges: Sea food?

<b>⊗</b> Taxonomy	
Genus Medicago Species murex	
Acquisition/storage	
Acquisition Source Roadside	
<b>⊘</b> Collection	
Collecting Institute Code  Collecting Date 1987  Collecting Latitude 41.4264  Collecting Longitude -9.0831  Collecting Elevation 635	
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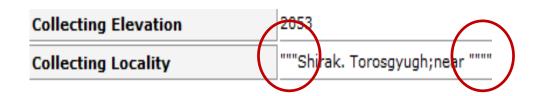


#### **Challenges: Inconsistencies**

#### **Quick Search**



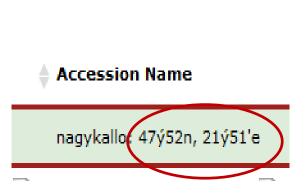




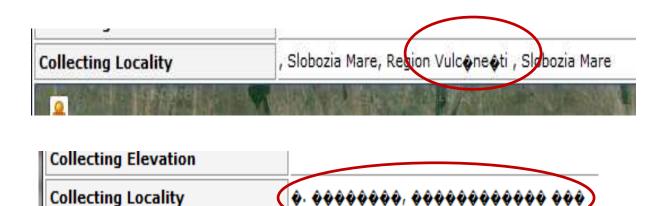




#### **Challenges: Babylonian aspects**











### **Challenges: Taxonomy I**

- Synonyms and misspellings
  - Different (or missing) taxonomic opinions by curators of contributing genebanks
- Aim: Improve taxonomic backbone of EURISCO
  - Management of taxon synonyms

GRIN TAXONOMY for PLANTS

Improvement of checks during import



- Difficulty: EURISCO is not allowed to modify original data
  - → Instead: Feedback on errors to NFPs





### **Challenges: Taxonomy II**

- Genera in EURISCO
  - In total: 6,338 (6,315 when ignoring case)
  - Amongst these

•	with accepted name:	5,261
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mapped onto GRIN taxonomy: 709

not mapped automatically: 368





### **Challenges: Taxonomy III**

- Combinations of genus and species in EURISCO
  - In total: 43,000 (42,942 when ignoring case)
  - Amongst these

with accepted name: 16,791

mapped onto GRIN taxonomy: 2,642

not mapped automatically: 23,567

- → Not satisfactory
- → Gets even worse if considering author names and "infraspecific" level





#### **Challenges: Taxonomy IV**

- Mapping onto "standards" limited
- Different opinions/traditions exist
- Deep classification including infraspecific levels in many genebanks (esp. Eastern Europe)
  - Better distinctiveness
  - Separate names for different combinations of traits







#### **Solution strategy**

- Data provided to EURISCO cannot be curated actively
- Focus on user-friendly search functionality instead
  - Internal mapping onto accepted vocabulary (GRIN, CoL, Mansfeld)
  - Extension of searches onto all available synonyms and name variants
  - "Did you mean...?" functionality

→ Work in progress (project "EURISCO taxonomy")





#### Increase functionality I

- Improve import mechanism for C&E data
  - Additional upload procedure
    - Data upload also by holding institutes
    - Check and approval by NFPs
    - Recently approved by the ECPGR Steering Committee
- Improve public web interface
  - Additional reports and download facilities
  - Extend filter possibilities by additional fields
- Additional means of access
  - Web services (BrAPI implementation)
  - Mobile version





### Increase functionality II

- Extend EURISCO for in situ data
  - Will be documented in EURISCO
  - Sufficient specification needed
  - Data exchange formats need to be agreed

- Migrate to MCPD v2.1
  - Already implemented
  - Last tests running





#### **Projects**

- EURISCO Taxonomy (April 2017 March 2018)
  - BLE funded
  - Improvement of taxonomic backbone of EURISCO
- EUCLEG (September 2017 August 2021)
  - H2020 funded
  - Closing of gaps in EURISCO (protein crops)
- Farmer's Pride (beginning of 2018 [36 months])
  - H2020 funded
  - Development of network of in situ sites and stakeholders
  - Concept for preparation of EURISCO for in situ data





#### DISSEMINATION





#### Spread the word

- Regular training workshops
- Regularly short information in ECPGR bulletin
- EURISCO newsletter twice a year
- Journal article
- EURISCO talks and posters on several conferences
- Presentations on several ECPGR workshops
- ECPGR Grant Scheme activities





# THANK YOU FOR YOUR ATTENTION



