

## The grain legume collection in Estonia<sup>1</sup>

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The mandate of the Estonian PGR programme is to conserve germplasm mainly of Estonian origin. Therefore only a small collection of approx 250 accessions of grain legumes is maintained in the genebank. The main species conserved is *Pisum sativum* (80%), followed by *Phaseolus* and *Vicia faba*. About half of the collection is accessions of advanced cultivars, the other half accessions of breeding lines.

Passport data, germination and storage information of all accessions are maintained in data management system SESTO (hosted by NordGen) via which data in EURISCO is updated regularly.

Characterization and evaluation of field pea varieties of Estonian origin have been carried out in 2010-2012. Evaluation was carried out in accordance to the Pea Descriptor List obtained from the Latvian Genetic Resource Centre.

Field trials for the description of garden pea accessions started in 2013.

Foreign accessions of soybean, field pea, lens and chick pea requested from different genebanks have been tested in field experiments for research and breeding purposes. During the favourable years with warm summers (e.g. 2010 and 2011) they yielded well.

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