InWiGrape

"Increasing the efficiency of conservation of wild grapevine genetic resources in Europe"

Wild Vines of Cyprus

5th of July
Split, Croatia

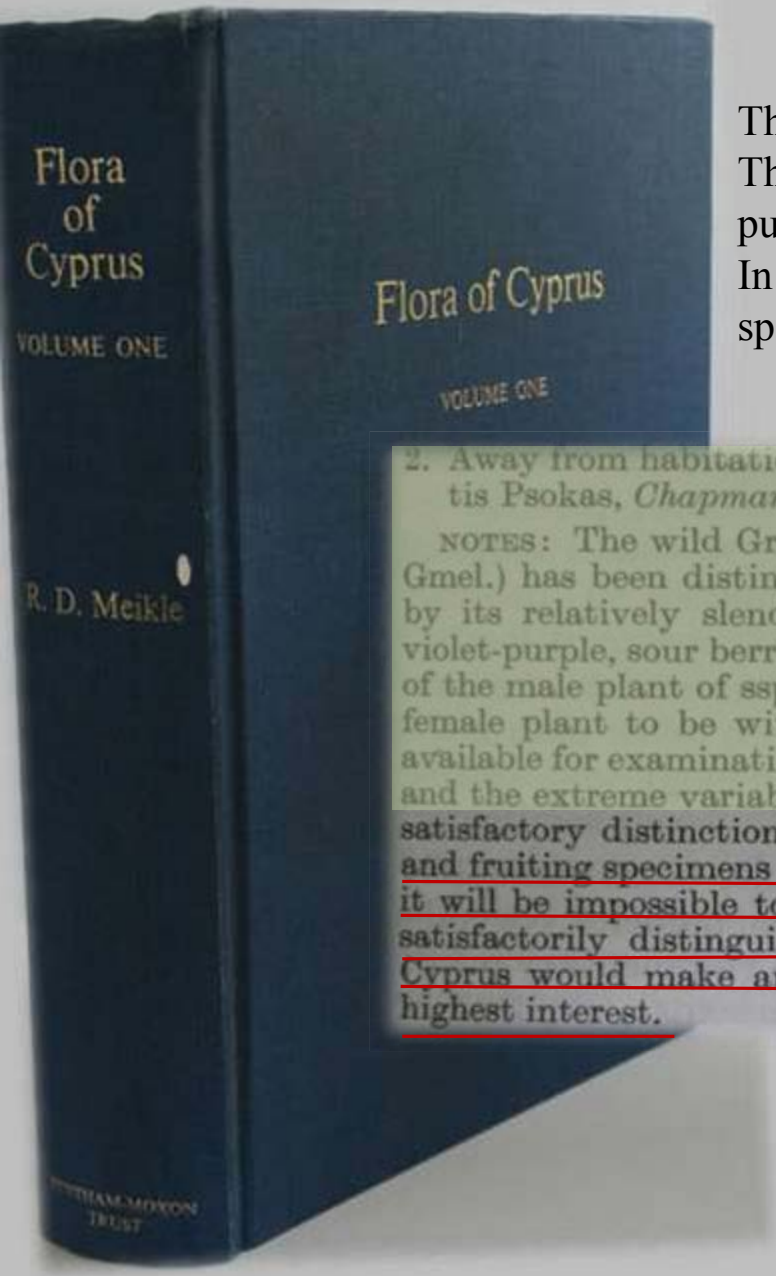
Savvas Savvides
Agricultural Research Institute
Cyprus

Findings of pips and pip inprints in pottery during excavations at several archeological sites prove the existence, collection and use of wild grapes 5000 years B.C.

- At the village of Pyrgos in Lemesos District two jugs were found, that had been used for storing wine — even grape pips were traced!
- At the nearby village of Erimi 18 pots were discovered, twelve of which had been used for wine at some period between 3500 and 3000 B.C .

1932-35 Excavations at Erimi/Bamboula.

S. Savvides
Agricultural Research Institute - Cyprus



There has been no previous research on wild vines in Cyprus.
The only report is from R.D. Meikle a British botanist that published the book "Flora of Cyprus" in 1977.
In his book mentions the existence of wild populations of Vitis not specifying if these are indigenous or subspontanious plants.

2. Away from habitations, and probably indigenous in Tylliria, 1905, *Holmboe*; Stavros tis Psokas, *Chapman* 376; near Ayia, 1962, *Meikle* !

NOTES: The wild Grape (*Vitis vinifera* L. ssp. *sylvestris* (Gmel.) Berger; *V. sylvestris* Gmel.) has been distinguished from the cultivated Grape (*V. vinifera* L. ssp. *vinifera*) by its relatively slender branches, smaller leaves, dioecious inflorescences, smaller, violet-purple, sour berries, and smaller, thick seeds with a short, blunt beak. The leaves of the male plant of ssp. *sylvestris* are said to be normally distinctly lobed, those of the female plant to be without lobes or very obscurely lobed. The amount of material available for examination is too limited to allow for careful scrutiny of these distinctions, and the extreme variability of the cultivated Grape adds to the difficulties of making a satisfactory distinction between the two subspecies. Until a wide range of flowering and fruiting specimens of both wild and cultivated Grapes has been collected in Cyprus, it will be impossible to decide whether indigenous and subspontaneous plants can be satisfactorily distinguished, or to plot the natural distribution of the wild Grape. Cyprus would make an excellent centre for such studies, which should prove of the highest interest.

S. Savvides
Agricultural Research Institute - Cyprus

Collection, Evaluation and Conservation of Wild Vines

Management & Conservation of Grapevine Genetic Resources (2007- 2010)

FA1003- East-West Collaboration for Grapevine Diversity Exploration and Mobilization of Adaptive Traits for Breeding (2010 -2014)

The long-term objective of this project is to preserve and study *in-situ* and *ex-situ* populations of wild vines and to promote their future utilization.

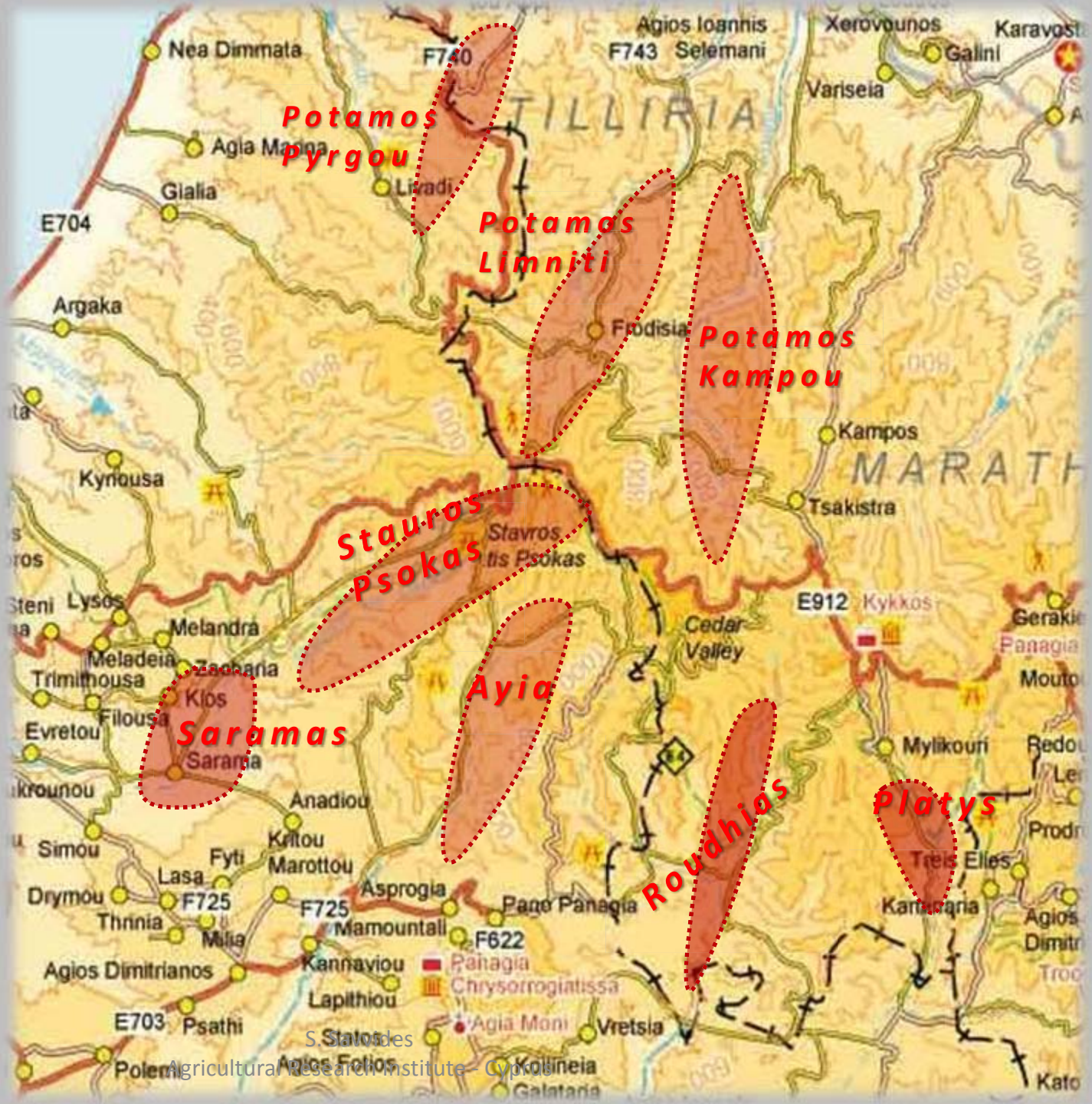
Work in progress involves:

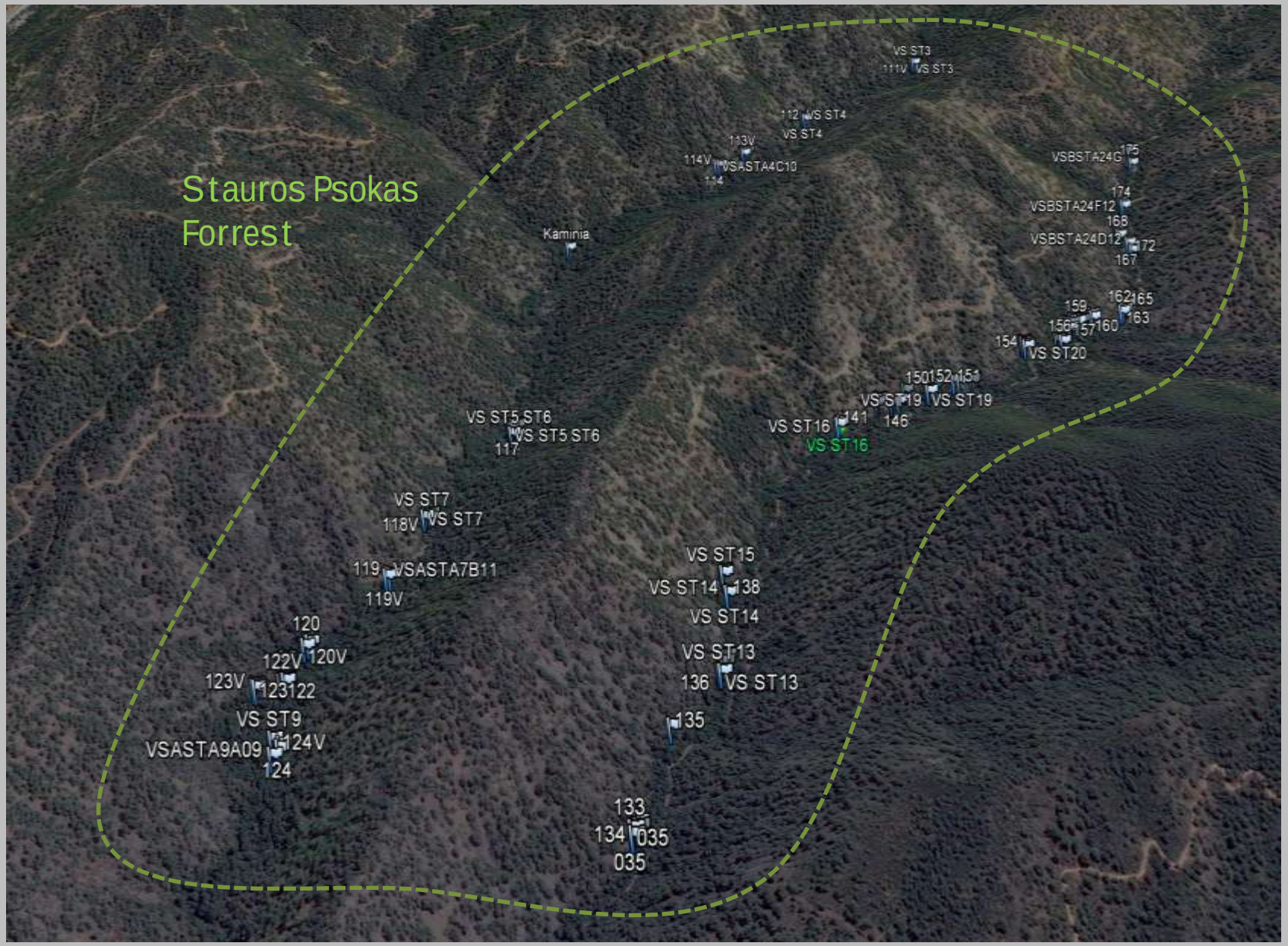
- Search,
- Collection,
- Identification and
- Evaluation of wild vines *in situ* and *ex-situ* .

S. Savvides
Agricultural Research Institute - Cyprus

Until now more than 300 individual wild vines have been marked and collected in river beds of 8 remote forest areas.

- **Potamos Kampou (20)**
- **Potamos Limniti (40)**
- **Potamos Pyrgou (23)**
- **Stauros Psokas (67)**
- **Ayia (23)**
- **Saramas (24)**
- **Platys (9)**
- **Roudhias (30)**





S. Savvides
Agricultural Research Institute - Cyprus

WV: 1

Wild Vines

NEW Number/Code:	VSATIL1A08
OLD Number/Code:	VS1A
Collection No:	1A
GPS Bearing:	35.089358 32.759442
Elevation/Altitude (m):	415
Area:	Tilliria
Location:	Ayia Varvara
Description of Location:	Near the church
Plant climbing on:	Pine
Soil description:	
Height of vine (m):	9
Trunk size (circumference / cm):	12
Type of Flower (M / F / H):	H
Bunch present and description:	Small bunches
Berry Description (size, colour):	Small black

Other Comments:

PHOTOS *in situ*:-

Young shoot (*in situ*)

Young Leaf on Vine FRONT (*in situ*)

Mature Leaf on Vine REAR (*in situ*)

Flower Close Up (*in situ*)

Bunch on Vine (*in situ*)

Berry (*in situ*)

Altitude: 300-750m
Located: River beds and streams
Climb on trees and bushes (up to 12m)

Latin Name	Common Name
Alnus orientalis Decne	Oriental Alder
Quercus coccifera L.subsp **calliprinos** (Webb) Homboe	Kermes Oak, Holly Oak
Quercus alnifolia Poech	Golden Oak
Quercus infectoria Oliv. Subsp. **veneris** (A.Kern.) Meikle	Oak, Cyprus Oak
Platanus orientalis L	Oriental Plane
Acer obtusifolium Sibth.et Sm	Maple
Acer pseudoplatanus L.	Sycamore
Myrtus communis L.	Common Myrtle
Arbutus andrachne L.	Eastern Strawberry Tree
Styrax officinalis L.	Storax
Pinus brutia Ten.	Calabrian Pine

S. Savvides
Agricultural Research Institute - Cyprus

A collection of 150 individuals has been planted at Saittas Experimental Station for:

- Conservation of the genetic material and
- *ex-situ* evaluation

Conservation of the genetic material

- Protection
  - Human activities
  - Environmental disasters
  - Phylloxyra invasion
- Future use for vine improvement
  - Resistance to pests and diseases
  - Resistance to environmental conditions



Ex-situ evaluation

- **Phenotypical** characteristics
  - Ampelographic description (young shoots, mature leaves, bunches and berries etc)
  - Collection of seeds




- **Phenological** characteristics
  - BBCH scale
  - Time of ripening




S. Savvides
Agricultural Research Institute - Cyprus

S. Savvides
Agricultural Research Institute - Cyprus