



STATUS OF THE NATIONAL ALLIUM COLLECTION - GREECE

Dr. Catherine Margaret Cook

Greek Gene Bank

Institute of Plant Breeding and Genetic Resources,
Hellenic Agricultural Organisation, Thessaloniki

*Seventh Meeting of the Allium Working
Group, 11-12 October 2022, Skierniewice,
Poland*

Number of accessions in the Greek collection(s) []

Species/Crop	Ex situ	Field	Cryo	Vitro	Total
Garlic (<i>Allium sativum</i> L.)	73				73
Shallot (<i>Allium ascalonicum</i> L.)	0				0
Common onion (<i>Allium cepa</i> L.)	106				106
Chive (<i>Allium schoneoprasum</i> L.)	0				0
Leek (<i>Allium porrum</i> L.)	87				87
Spring onion (<i>Allium fistulosum</i> L.)	3				3
Wild Alliums	113				113
TOTAL	382				382

Safety duplication percentage

Species/Crop	%
Garlic (<i>Allium sativum</i> L.)	0
Shallot (<i>Allium ascalonicum</i> L.)	-
Common onion (<i>Allium cepa</i> L.)	0
Chive (<i>Allium schoneoprasum</i> L.)	-
Leek (<i>Allium porrum</i> L.)	0
Spring onion (<i>Allium fistulosum</i> L.)	0
TOTAL	0

Comments:

Structure of the most important collection (common onion) by country of origin

Country of origin	Number of accessions	Country of origin	Number of accessions
A Greece	106	E	
B		F	
C		G	
D		H	

Comments:

Biology status of the most important collection(s) [common onion] and ability to flower (garlic)

Biological status	Number of accessions
Wild	-
Advanced or improved cultivar	-
Breeding/research material	-
Traditional cultivar/landrace	106

Ability to flower	Number of accessions
Bolting garlic	-
Non bolting	-
Semibolting	-

Comments:

Status of documentation

- Descriptors used: Morphological according to IPGRI
- Documentation system (software): Microsoft Excel spread sheet
- % characterized: 62%
- C&E data to EURISCO: NO
- Pictures available: YES (Not available online)

Acquisitions

- Any plans to fill gaps: YES, but collecting missions are dependent on funding and staff availability
- Acquisition strategy: Direct collection from farmers – traditional cultivars (landraces) and also crop wild relatives from different geographical regions of Greece. Deposition of samples in the Greek Gene Bank

Use of the collection

- Availability of material (% available and under what terms – SMTA, MTA): A license must be given by the Ministry of Rural Development and Food for the distribution of the material.
- Cooperation with users (breeders, NGOs, farmers): Small seed samples are available to farmers in the locations of seed acquisition / collection and NGOs. Repatriation. Small samples of seed available for researchers at Research Institutes and Universities in Greece and abroad.
- Ongoing projects: None at present for *Allium* at the GGB

Main problems

- Mainly staffing (particularly support staff) and funding shortages which affect the ability with respect to the regeneration of stored seed samples, testing of seed viability, maintenance of live / field collections, characterization of accessions, collection expeditions, distribution of samples, documentation
- Bureaucracy - the Greek Gene Bank must have the permission of the Ministry of Rural Development and Food to distribute seeds and update and upload information in data bases.



Proposals for collaborative activities within the Working Group

- Open to proposals