

EURISCO Newsletter

August 2016

The EURISCO Newsletter is a series of electronic bulletins that provide feedback to National Focal Points (NFPs) and serve as a dissemination vehicle for NFPs and other partners to put forward their contributions regarding plant genetic resources issues/themes. The new EURISCO Newsletter is the successor of the previous EURISCO e-bulletin. In order to ensure that the EURISCO Catalogue is sustainable and meets the NFPs' and other users' needs, everyone is invited to contribute to this newsletter. Thematic papers, ideas, comments, suggestions and questions are all welcome.

Coverage of EURISCO

In the first seven months of 2016, the number of accessions documented increased by 5,384, reaching a total of 1,842,752 accessions from 43 National Inventories and 376 individual holding institutions by end of July 2016. These accessions represent 6,233 unique genera and 41,649 species, respectively. Details can be found on the EURISCO website.

In 2016, 17 National Inventory datasets have been updated so far, either completely or in parts. The French NFP started to completely rework the French NI dataset; the first 5,078 accessions were integrated.

427,602 records of C&E data from the Netherlands and from Latvia were made publicly available and can be searched. More data are under preparation.

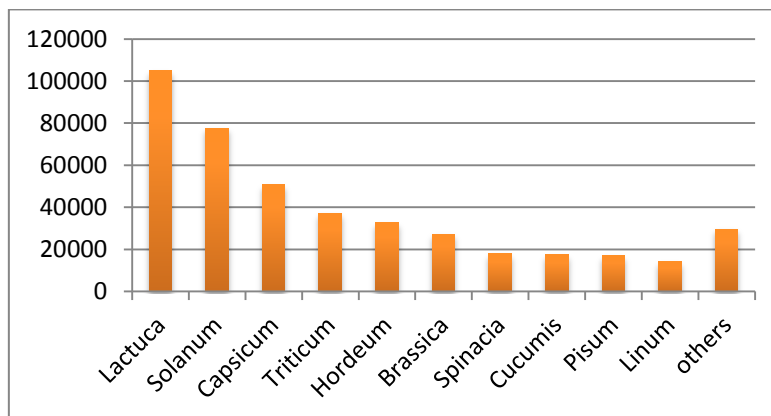


Figure 1: Number of C&E data records grouped by genus.

Training

Starting in 2015, the series of regional EURISCO training workshops was revived. The second training workshop will take place in Angers, France, in October 2016. The preparations for the workshop are in full swing.

A proposal for a third training workshop was approved for funding by the Third Call of the ECPGR Activity Grant Scheme (2016). The workshop will be held in 2017 in Germany. The workshop date will be announced in a timely manner.

During the last ECPGR Steering Committee meeting it was decided that for the remainder of the current ECPGR Phase, EURISCO does not have to apply for grants for the EURISCO training workshops anymore; they will be made part of the budget.

New features

In the last months, a new version of the EURISCO web interface has been implemented and tested. This new interface provides different possibilities for searching characterisation and evaluation data. Searches can be started by genus, experiment, trait, or by the combination of species and trait, respectively. The generated reports are available for download.

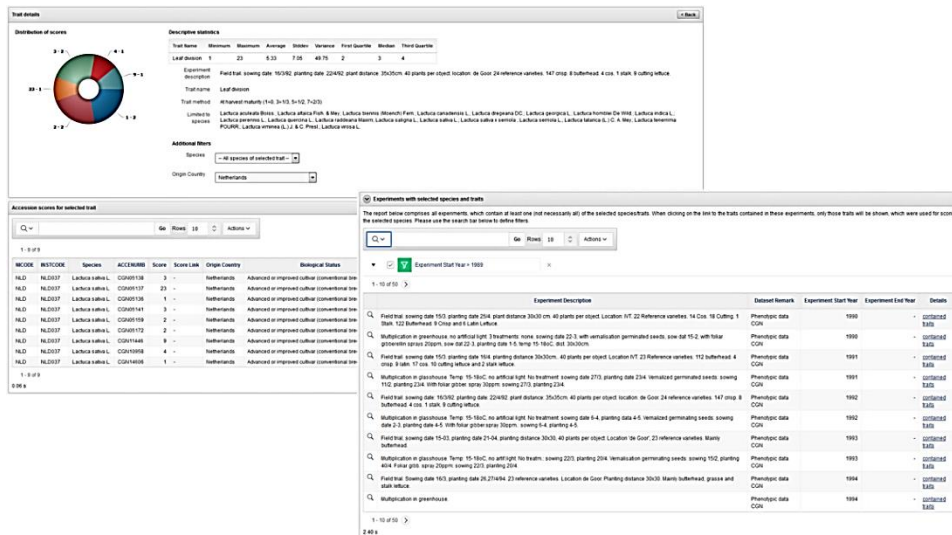


Figure 2: Screenshots from the EURISCO extension for C&E data.

Besides the C&E data search, also the advanced search as well as the export functionalities have been completely reworked.

EURISCO Advisory Committee

The EURISCO Advisory Committee was re-established to monitor the progress of EURISCO and to give advice on its further development. Members were selected under their personal capacity by the Chair of the Doc&Info WG with feedback from the ECPGR Secretariat and the EURISCO Coordinator, and the list was endorsed by the Steering Committee. The Advisory Committee will meet in Angers, France, in October 2016.

Table 1: Members of the EURISCO Advisory Committee.

Name	Organisation
Ms Ludmila Papoušková	Crop Research Institute (CRI), Gene Bank, Prague, Czech Republic
Mr Lorenzo Maggioni	Bioversity International, Rome, Italy
Mr Matija Obreza	Global Crop Diversity Trust, Bonn, Germany
Mr Paul Olson	KWS Saat SE, Einbeck, Germany
Mr Theo J.L. van Hintum (chair)	Centre for Genetic Resources, the Netherlands (CGN), Wageningen University and Research Centre, Wageningen, Netherlands
Mr José María Iriondo Alegria	Area de Biodiversidad y Conservación, Depto. Biología y Geología, Universidad Rey Juan Carlos, Madrid, Spain
Mr Kjell-Åke Lundblad	Nordic Genetic Resource Center, Alnarp, Sweden
Mr Ian D. Thomas	Genetic Resources Unit, Institute of Biological, Environmental and Rural Sciences (IBERS), Aberystwyth University, Aberystwyth, United Kingdom

Dissemination

A poster on EURISCO was presented at the German Plant Breeding Conference, 8–10 March 2016, Bonn, Germany.

EURISCO has been registered as a resource at the elixir Tools and Data Services Registry at <https://bio.tools/>.

The EURISCO coordination provided substantial legwork to the preparation of project proposals (Horizon2020 and others) aiming at acquiring additional funding for developing certain aspects of EURISCO.

The ECPGR Steering Committee encouraged the EURISCO Coordinator with the Doc&Info WG to carry out a users survey.

An activity report for 2015 as well as a workplan for 2016 were published at the beginning of 2016 and are available from the EURISCO website.

For more information, please contact:

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