

## EURISCO Newsletter, No. 3

December 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 eleven months of 2016, the number of accessions documented in EURISCO increased by 5,156, reaching a total of 1,842,538 accessions from 43 National Inventories and 378 individual holding institutions by end of November 2016. These accessions represent 6,233 unique genera and 41,653 species, respectively. The number of AEGIS accessions labelled in EURISCO rose by 682 to 28,901. Details can be found on the EURISCO website.

Until end of November 2016, 23 National Inventory datasets have been updated, either completely or in parts. The French NFP started to completely rework the French NI dataset; the first 5,078 accessions were integrated.

### Usage

Between January and November 2016, the EURISCO web page was visited 17,684 times by 7,317 unique visitors reaching a total of 447,308 hits.

### Training

Starting in 2015, the series of regional EURISCO training workshops was revived. The second training workshop, funded by the ECPGR Activity Grant Scheme (Second Call, 2015), took place in Angers, France, 12 – 14 October 2016. The workshop focussed on participants from the Western European region. It was organised in collaboration with the French National Institute for Agricultural Research (INRA) and brought together 13 participants. Besides passport data upload, the participants were also trained in uploading C&E data, using their own data.

The presentations given during the workshop can be found under <http://www.ecpgr.cgiar.org/working-groups/documentation-information/eurisco-training-workshop-2016/>.

Subsequent to the training workshop, the first meeting of the re-established EURISCO Advisory Committee took place. The presentations given during the Advisory Committee meeting as well as the minutes can be found under <http://www.ecpgr.cgiar.org/about-ecpgr/eurisco-advisory-committee/>.

## **New features**

In 2016, the EURISCO extension for characterisation and evaluation (C&E) data has been made publicly available after extensive tests. C&E data can now be searched for on the EURISCO web interface.

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

Further extensions of the web interface are under development.

## **Dissemination**

A publication about EURISCO was accepted for the 2017 annual database issue of Nucleic Acids Research (DOI: [10.1093/nar/gkw755](https://doi.org/10.1093/nar/gkw755); advance access). It will increase the awareness of EURISCO among a wider audience.

A presentation about the taxonomic composition of EURISCO and on issues on taxonomic data quality was given at the TDWG (Biodiversity Information Standards) 2016 Annual Conference.

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

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:**

Stephan Weise

EURISCO coordinator

c/o Leibniz Institute of Plant Genetics and Crop Plant Research (IPK), Gatersleben, Germany

phone: +49 39482 5-744

email: [eurisco@ipk-gatersleben.de](mailto:eurisco@ipk-gatersleben.de)