



# The Italian National Germplasm Database -PlantA-Res

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*PlantA-Res* is the Italian online portal dedicated to activities concerning the safeguard and sustainable utilization of Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture (PGRFA) in Italy, according to the International FAO Treaty for PGRFA.



In 2004, the Ministry of Agriculture, Alimentation and Forestry Policy (MiPAAF), after the ratification of the <u>ITPGRFA</u> and in response to this launched an open-ended <u>Research Project</u> named "<u>Plant Genetic Resources/FAO International Treaty</u>"</u> (RGV/FAO), specifically targeted at the implementation of the objectives outlined in the Treaty, for the access to plant genetic material and related information and the fair and equitable sharing of benefits arising from their utilization.

<u>CRA - Fruit Tree Research Centre (Rome)</u> was entrusted with the <u>scientific</u> <u>coordination</u> of this project which includes a total of 32 Partners (30 of them are CRA Research Centres/Units):



Research activities are aimed at the collection, conservation, characterization, documentation and utilization of more than 100 crops essential for Italian agriculture, 26 of which are currently included in the Multilateral System of the ITPGRFA.





"Home page";

"The Project";

"Documents" (international and national)

"The Database";

"The Network" of Plant Genetic Resources;

"The News" section which reports on events, PGRs newsletter

and other relevant publications;

"Contact us" with information about participants.





## AIMS:

- Establish a common platform on PGRFA conserved in Italy and share the information at national and international level (e.g. EURISCO, WIEWS)
- Facilitate access to information on the accessions maintained in different collections.
  - Promote utilization of the material by providing information concerning the evaluation of agronomical, qualitative, technological and ornamental aspects of these accessions.







It currently includes 241 genera for a total of **48.872** accessions, grouped in 10 categories:

Categories	Species n.	Accessions n.
Cereals	68	17.626
Vegetables	101	2.768
Grapevine	21	3.764
Olive	2	883
Forage crops	187	7.580
Industrial species	82	2.724
Aromatic/Medicinal spp.	166	280
Ornamental species	225	596
Forest species (*)	36	3.744
Fruits, Nuts and Citrus	171	8.907

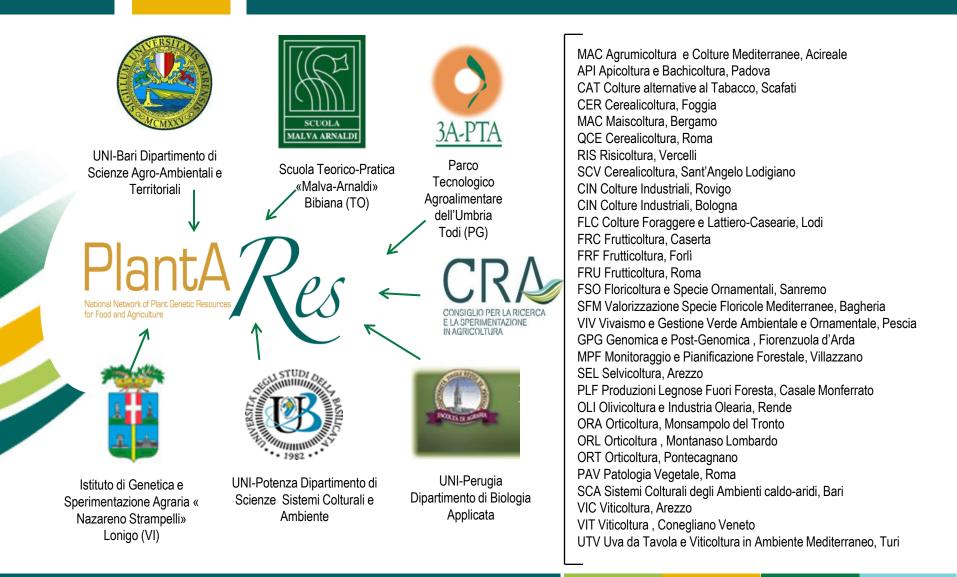
(\*) not included in EURISCO





## **Participants**

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### **Passport Descriptors**

#### (FAO/IPGRI MCPD + 4 additional descriptors •)



HOLDING INSTITUTE	COLLECTING SITE
InstCode	Collsite
IDENTIFICATION AND TAXONOMY	Latitude
AcceName	Longitude
Genus	Elevation
Species + SpAuthor	ADVANCED MATERIAL
SubTaxon + Sub TAuthor	BredCode/ BredDescr
Syn (Taxonomic synonyms)	Ancest
CropName + CropName ENG	DonorCode/ DonorDescr
OrigCtry	DonorNumb
SampStat	OTHER INFORMATION
ACQUISITION AND MAINTENANCE	DuplSite/ DuplDescr
AcqDate	OtherNumb
CollSrc	YearReg (Year of registration/first description)
Storage	Remarks
AccNumb	AcceURL
MLSStatus	AcceUse (main attitude)
AEGISStatus	Avail (Availability)
COLLECTED MATERIAL	
CollCode/ CollDescr	
CollNumb	
CollDate	





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Research within the database allows to choose among one or more elements of the 7 core criteria for the identification of an accession, or to start a targeted search by combining multiple criteria. Depending on the criteria chosen, the system generates a list of accessions corresponding and also indicates the total number of these.

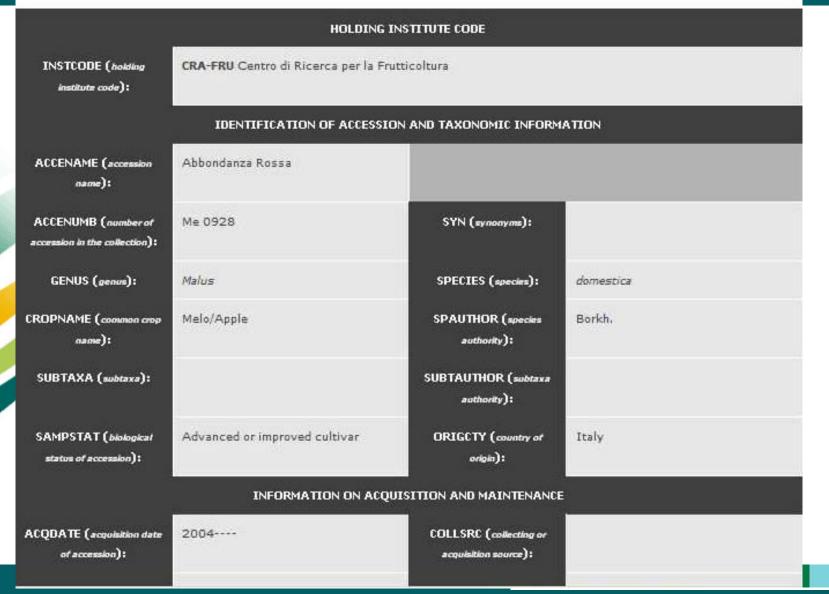
Advanced Search	Search Reset
Choose one or more fields to search accessions	
Search for CropName	1202 Accession Found
CRA-FRU-Centro di Ricerca per 💌	MALUS FLORIBUNDA GENUS/SPECIES: Malus floribunda, Sieb.
FRUIT AND CITRUS         Malus         Species	SUBTAXA: /
Search for AcceName	SYN: CROPNAME: Melo giapponese da fiore/Crabapple, Japanese flowering
MLSstat	CROPHAME. Melo grapponese da nore/Crabappie, Japanese nowening
SampStat	CRA-FRU Centro di Ricerca per la Frutticoltura
OrigCty	JAY DARKING
	GENUS/SPECIES: Malus spp., SUBTAXA: /
Search Reset	SYN:
	CROPNAME: Melo ibrido/Apple hybrid
	CRA-FRU Centro di Ricerca per la Frutticoltura
	MALUS PROFUSION
	GENUS/SPECIES: Malus spp.,



### Search within the Database (2)

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Specific Descriptors Model







In order to give information concerning the evaluation of agronomical, qualitative, technological and ornamental aspects of this material we collect morphological, phenological, agronomical and biochemical data.

For most species, we use specific descriptors based on **internationally standardized protocols** (UPOV, CPVO, OIV, COI, IPGRI etc) and integrated, as appropriate, by **further descriptors** agreed by the species-specific experts.

For other species (es. milk thistle, *Silybum marianum* L.) where no official descriptor list is available, we use the descriptors applied by the respective experts working on these species.



## Specific Descriptors (1) example: Kiwifruit - flower



A	CTINIDIA: CA	RATTER	I DEL FIORE		
Nome accessione	JINT	<b>AO</b> (f5p9-:	LO) DATA	: 09/05/2015	
Inizio fioritura			09/05/2015		
Carattere	espr. verb.	espr. num.	carattere	espr. verb.	espr num
Inflorescence: Type (30)	solitary	1	Flower: attitude of styles (40)	irregular	4
Flower bud: position of first spike (32)	n.a.		Petal: main colour on adaxial side (40)	white	1
Flower: main colour of sepals (33)	green	2	Petal: shading of main colour (42)	even	2
Flower: density of sepal hairs (34)	medium	2	Petal: second colour on adaxial side (43)	green	3
Flower: arrangement of petals (37)	overlapping	3	Petal: distribution of second colour (44)	basal spot only	3
Flower: shape in profile (38)	convex	3	Anther: colour (45)	yellow	

Adopted from CPVO and integrated according to personal experience (e.g. number of petals, number of anthers)



# Specific Descriptors (1) example: Kiwifruit - flower (cont'd)



Infiore: numer (31)	scenza: o di fiori	500 States States 200	numero Pali (33)	Fiore: nu petali (e	ımero dei xtra)	Fiore: d (36)	liametro	Numer (39)	o degli stili	Numero di ( extra)	elle antere
1.	1	1.	6	1.	7	1.	59,8	1.	32	1.	58
2.	1	2.	7	2.	8	2.	61,1	2.	34	2.	67
3.	1	3.	7	3.	6	3.	64,2	3.	37	3.	66
4.	1	4.	6	4.	6	4.	53,2	4.	42	4.	60
5.	1	5.	6	5.	6	5.	58,9	5.	32	5.	70
6.	1	6.	6	6.	6	6.	55,7	6.	33	6.	64
7.	1	7.	7	7.	7	7.	57,6	7.	32	7.	62
8.	1	8.	6	8.	7	8.	61,6	8.	38	8.	68
9.	1	9.	6	9.	7	9.	59,4	9.	28	9.	62
10.	1	10.	6	10.	7	10.	67,2	10.	36	10.	68
11.	1	11.	6	11.	6	11.	57,1	11.	36	11.	60
12.	1	12.	7	12.	8	12.	61,3	12.	30	12.	64
13.	1	13.	7	13.	8	13.	62,3	13.	39	13.	68
14.	1	14.	6	14.	7	14.	55,8	14.	40	14.	66
15.	1	15.	7	15.	8	15.	55,6	15.	36	15.	78
16.	1	16.	7	16.	8	16.	58,1	16.	40	16.	62
17.	1	17.	7	17.	8	17.	60,9	17.	37	17.	72
18.	1	18.	6	18.	6	18.	50,1	18.	38	18.	60
19.	1	19.	6	19.	6	19.	61,7	19.	34	19.	63
20.	1	20.	7	20.	6	20.	62,8	20.	34	20.	75

For measurable characteristics, 20 data are taken each and the medium value enters in the database and is used for further elaboration



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elaborated by experts working on the species (in case of no common descriptor lists)



MILK THIS	
(Silybum marianum	ı (L.) Gaertn.)
DESCRIPTORS AND EXPRESSIONS	LEVEL
1) Plant: maximum height (incl. branches)	
short	1
medium	3
tall	5
2) Main stem: height	
short	1
medium	3
tall	5
3) Number of branches	
mall	1
medium	3
large	5
4) Main head: diameter (no spines)	
small	1
medium	3
big	5
5) Head: external spines angle at flowering	
small	1
medium	3
large	5
6) Flower: colour	
purple	1
white	3
7) Leaf: colour	
variegated	1
green	3
8) 1000 fruits weight	
low	1
medium	3
high	5
9) Fruit colour	
black	1
dark brown	3
light brown	5
······	

10) Fruit: length	
short	1
medium	3
long	5
11) Fruit: width	
narrow	1
medium	3
wide	5
12) Vegetative period (days to maturity)	
early	1
medium	3
late	5
12) Posinning of flowering (days to flowering)	
13) Beginning of flowering (days to flowering)	1
early medium	3
late	5
late	
14) Fruit: yield	
low	1
medium	3
high	5
15) Biomass yield (no fruits)	
low	1
medium	
	3
high	3 5
high	
high <b>16) Fruit: oil content (%)</b> low	5
high <b>16) Fruit: oil content (%)</b> low medium	5 1 3
high <b>16) Fruit: oil content (%)</b> low	5
high <b>16) Fruit: oil content (%)</b> low medium high	5 1 3
high 16) Fruit: oil content (%) low medium high 17) Fruit: oleic acid content (%)	5 1 3 5
high 16) Fruit: oil content (%) low medium high 17) Fruit: oleic acid content (%) low	5 1 3 5
high 16) Fruit: oil content (%) low medium high 17) Fruit: oleic acid content (%) low medium	5 1 3 5 1 3
high 16) Fruit: oil content (%) low medium high 17) Fruit: oleic acid content (%) low	5 1 3 5
high 16) Fruit: oil content (%) low medium high 17) Fruit: oleic acid content (%) low medium high	5 1 3 5 1 3
high 16) Fruit: oil content (%) low medium high 17) Fruit: oleic acid content (%) low medium high 18) Fruit: silymarin content (%)	5 1 3 5 1 3 5
high 16) Fruit: oil content (%) low medium high 17) Fruit: oleic acid content (%) low medium high 18) Fruit: silymarin content (%) low	5 1 3 5 1 3 5
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high 16) Fruit: oil content (%) low medium high 17) Fruit: oleic acid content (%) low medium high 18) Fruit: silymarin content (%) low medium high 19) Fruit: silybin content (isomers A+B, %) low	5 1 3 5 
high 16) Fruit: oil content (%) low medium high 17) Fruit: oleic acid content (%) low medium high 18) Fruit: silymarin content (%) low medium high 19) Fruit: silybin content (isomers A+B, %)	5 1 3 5 1 3 5 
high  16) Fruit: oil content (%)  low medium high  17) Fruit: oleic acid content (%)  low medium high  18) Fruit: silymarin content (%)  low medium high  19) Fruit: silybin content (isomers A+B, %)  low medium	5 1 3 5 1 3 5 1 3 5 1 3 5
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#### **Transformation of data into judgements**

In order to be able to give objective information, the expressions of qualitative traits are first recorded as measured data. For this purpose, a sample of 20 representative organs (fruits, leaves, etc) is chosen, single values are recorded and the medium value is elaborated.

Data are collected for more than one year (3 or 4).

Only afterwards, statistical analysis of all data allows to elaborate the obtained information in such a way to transform these numeric values into specific verbal judgements corrisponding to the scales of expressions applied to the descriptor. In this way it is possible to translate «a value» into «a judgement» which describes the value.

Comparison of data of the examined accessions with those of commonly known reference varieties is a useful tool of verification.

For the purpose of transparency and further elaboration, the database will report both the numeric values and the corrisponding verbal judgement.





- Increase the number of accessions in the Database;
- Make available the specific descriptor lists used to describe the accessions within PlantA-Res;
- Continue elaboration of further specific descriptor lists;
- Expand the database with specific descriptors of single species, in order to enable the sharing, at national and international level, of information derived from the activities of characterization which institutions have been carrying out for years.

It is hoped that more istitutions (Universities, Regions, private collectors, ...) will join the database in order to make the website a complete reference portal for Plant Genetic Resources preserved in Italy.







