

Report to the Ninth ECP/GR Steering Committee meeting (October 2003)

Working Group on *Prunus*

Progress made by the Group during Phase VI (1999 - 2003)

Specific objective	Achievements
Meetings	
Sixth meeting, 20-21 June 2003, Fruit Research Institute, Budapest, Hungary	23 attendants (including EUFORGEN representation) draft report prepared, workplan established
Extraordinary meeting at Unit of Phytopathology, Gembloux, Belgium 7-8 November, 2000	Complementation with EU project GENRES 61 – <i>Prunus</i> network
Documentation	
Further develop the European <i>Prunus</i> Database (EPDB)	EPDB developed by INRA Bordeaux as interactive database with a programme for inclusion of further data. EPDB has a high coverage of passport data, a good coverage of primary characterization data and some additional characterization data
Sharing of responsibilities	
Establish a decentralized European <i>Prunus</i> collection	Mechanism for sharing responsibilities between participating genebanks drafted and agreed (and adopted as model by <i>Malus/Pyrus</i> group)
Collaboration	
Interact with other relevant networks and exchange views	Representative of EUFORGEN Noble Hardwood Network invited to <i>Prunus</i> meeting 2003 and relationship with this network strengthened e.g. with respect to common standards. 'Task force' set up to explore funding opportunities in EU 'GENRES 2'
Dissemination	
Publish <i>Prunus</i> Genetic Resources Newsletter to maintain momentum between meetings. Raise awareness of group's activities within scientific community	In effect published in conjunction with Eucarpia Fruit Breeding Section Newsletter 2001. Various posters displayed and articles published including Zanetto <i>et al.</i> (2002) <i>Prunus</i> genetic resources in Europe: achievement and perspectives of a networking activity. Genetic Resources and Crop Evolution 49: 331-337

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Plan of action for Phase VII (2004 - 2008)

Specific objective	Action	Timeframe	Request of support from ECP/GR for specific actions	
			Funding requested	Type of support requested
<u>Meetings:</u> Maintain the cohesion of the group through biennial meetings	Hold two meetings during Phase VII. First meeting in Cyprus especially to consider plans for 2006-2008. Second meeting or extraordinary meeting might be in conjunction with Eucarpia Fruit Breeding Symposium, Zaragoza, Spain, September 2007	2005 and 2007	YES	- Funds - Logistic support - Technical support during meeting
<u>Documentation:</u> Further development of the EPDB with view to establishing Decentralised European <i>Prunus</i> Collection	National lists to be considered for inclusion in DEPC	2004		
<u>Documentation:</u> Produce a paper edition of the catalogue of <i>Prunus</i> accessions	Search for necessary funds	2005		
<u>Characterization:</u> Evaluation of sanitary status, evaluation with molecular markers, establishment of core collection. Harmonise characterisation by molecular markers	Apply for funding through the new EC Regulation on genetic resources perhaps in collaboration with <i>Malus/Pyrus</i> Task force to search for set of 5 to 10 microsatellite markers that work in all <i>Prunus</i> crops and establish microsatellite database and guidelines, along the lines of <i>Vitis</i>	1 st call for proposals 2004 and 2005		
<u>Collecting:</u> Acquisition of additional genetic resources	Apply for funding through the new EC Regulation on genetic resources perhaps in collaboration with <i>Malus/Pyrus</i>	1 st call for proposals		

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<u>Sharing of responsibilities:</u> Implementation of agreed mechanism	Following pattern of EUFORGEN's Noble Hardwoods Group share among members of the <i>Prunus</i> Working Group responsibilities for e.g. marker guidelines, posters, website			
<u>Dissemination:</u> Maintain momentum between meetings	Distribute Newsletter, perhaps in association with <i>Malus/Pyrus</i> or with Eucarpia Fruit Breeding Section.	2004 and 2005		
Raise awareness of public and scientific community	Present posters at ISHS Plum, Peach, Cherry and/or Apricot, Symposia and at Eucarpia Symposium.	2004, 2005 2005,2005		
Improved communication	Establish website with key documents	2006-2008		

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