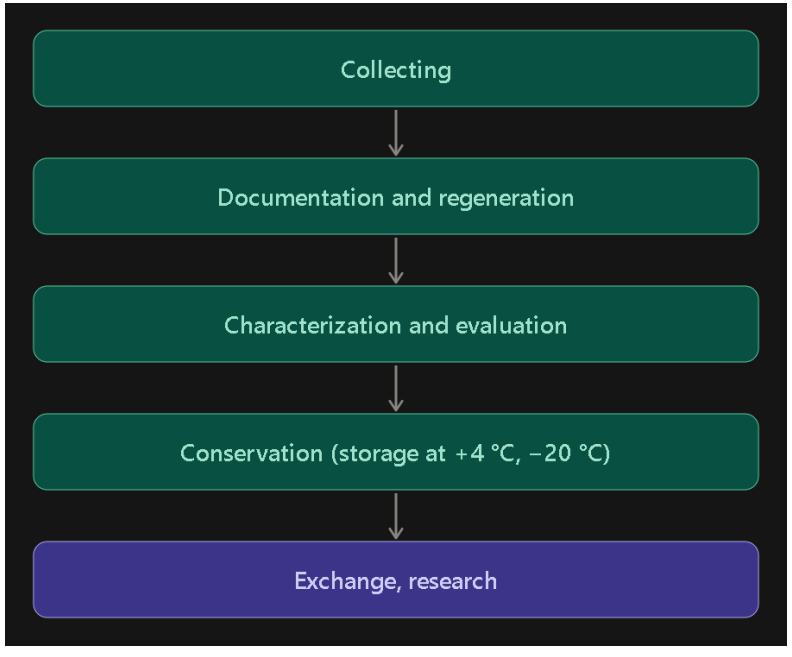
Romanian Status and Conservation of Leafy Vegetables Genetic Resources

Second Meeting of the ECPGR Leafy Vegetables Working Group and the EVA Lettuce Network
7-8 October 2026, Skierniewice, Poland

SUCEAVA GENEBANK





Base collection (-20°C)





Active collection (+4°C)





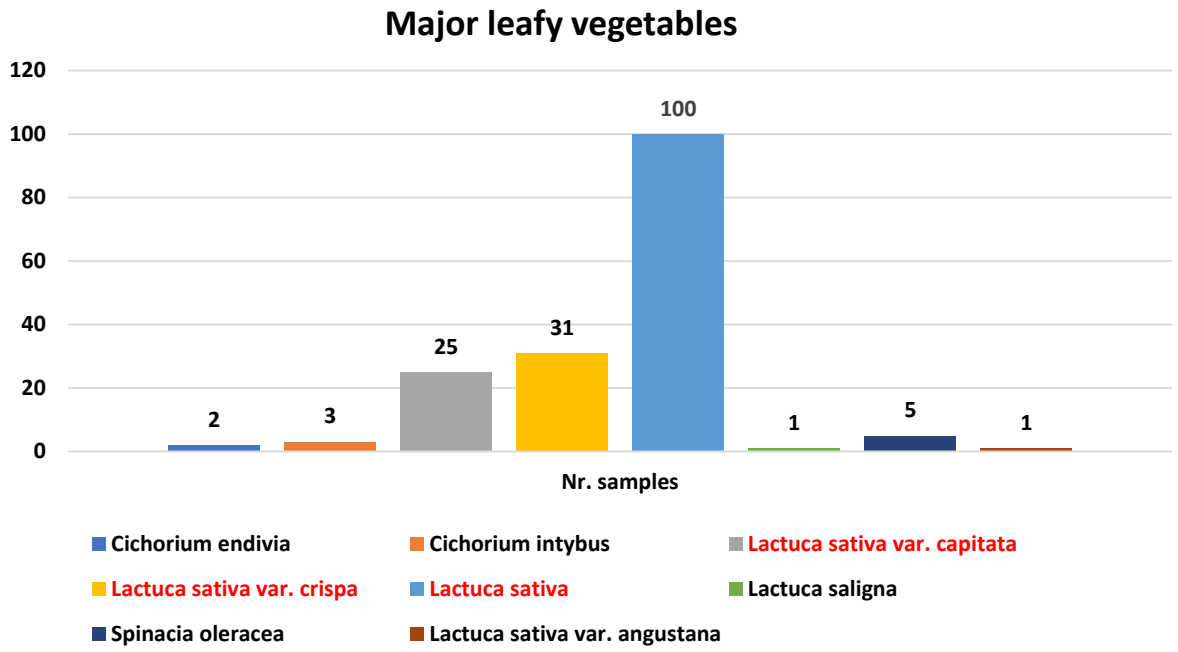
Leafy vegetables in the Suceava Genebank collection

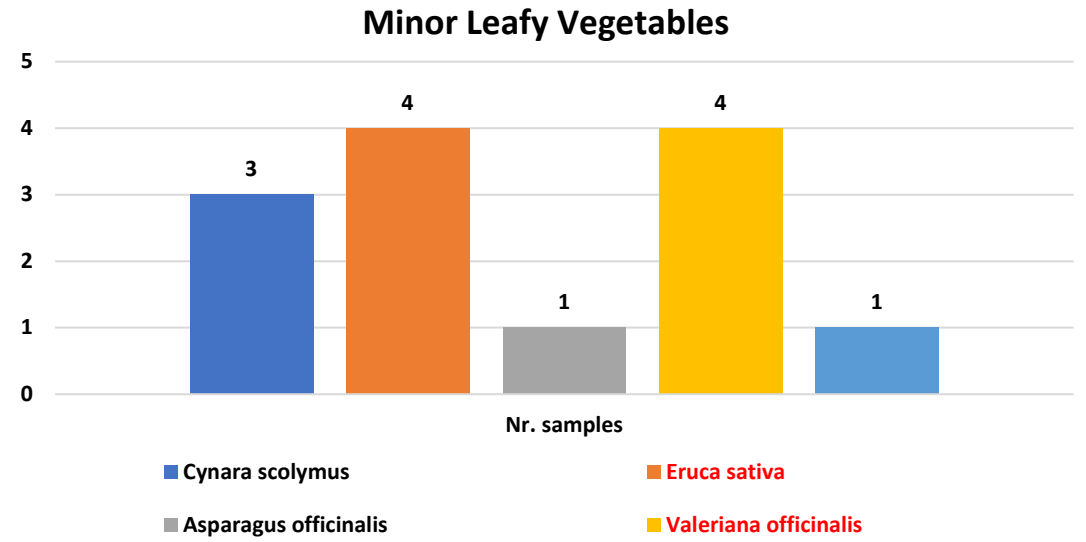
Major leafy vegetables

- **Lettuce:** *Lactuca sativa* L.
- **Chicory:** *Cichorium intybus* L.
- **Spinach:** *Spinacia oleracea* L.

Minor leafy vegetables

- **Rocket Salad:** *Eruca sativa* Mill.
- **Lamb's Lettuce / Valerian:** *Valerianella locusta* (L.) Laterr. /*Valeriana officinalis* L..
- **Asparagus:** *Asparagus officinalis* L.
- **Artichoke:** *Cynara scolymus* L.

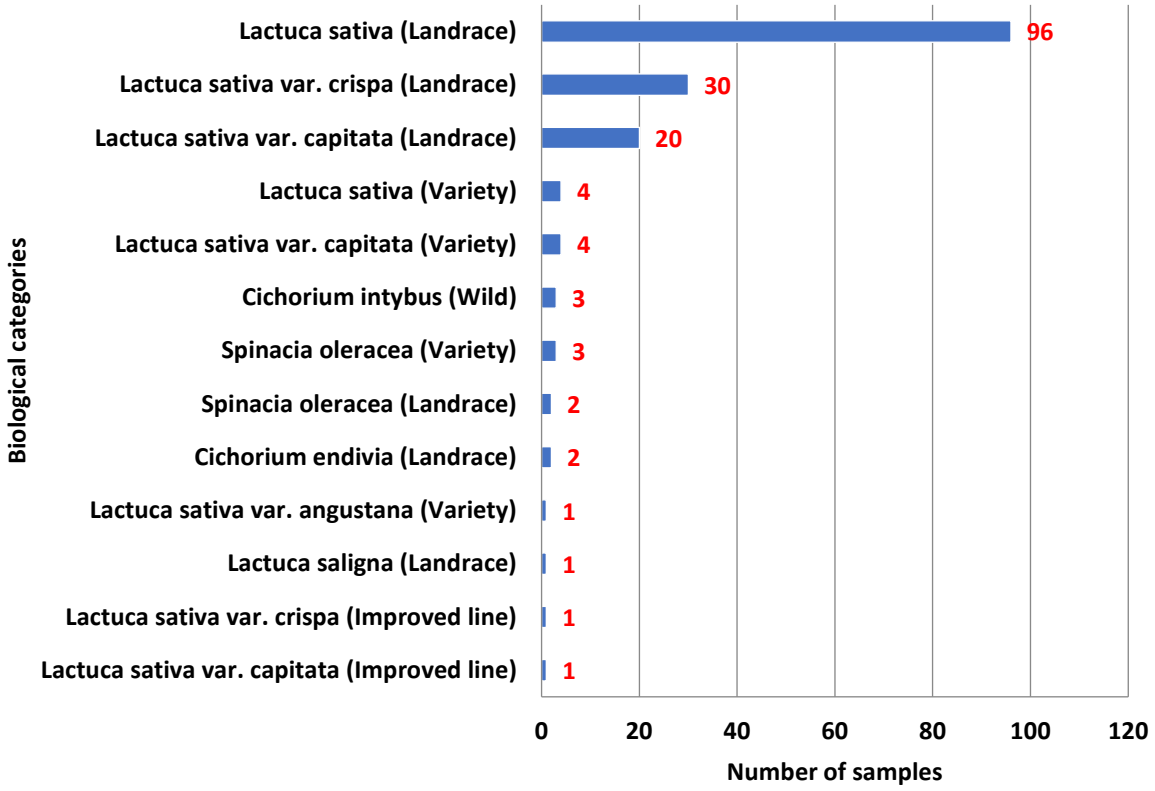




Composition and biological status of the collection

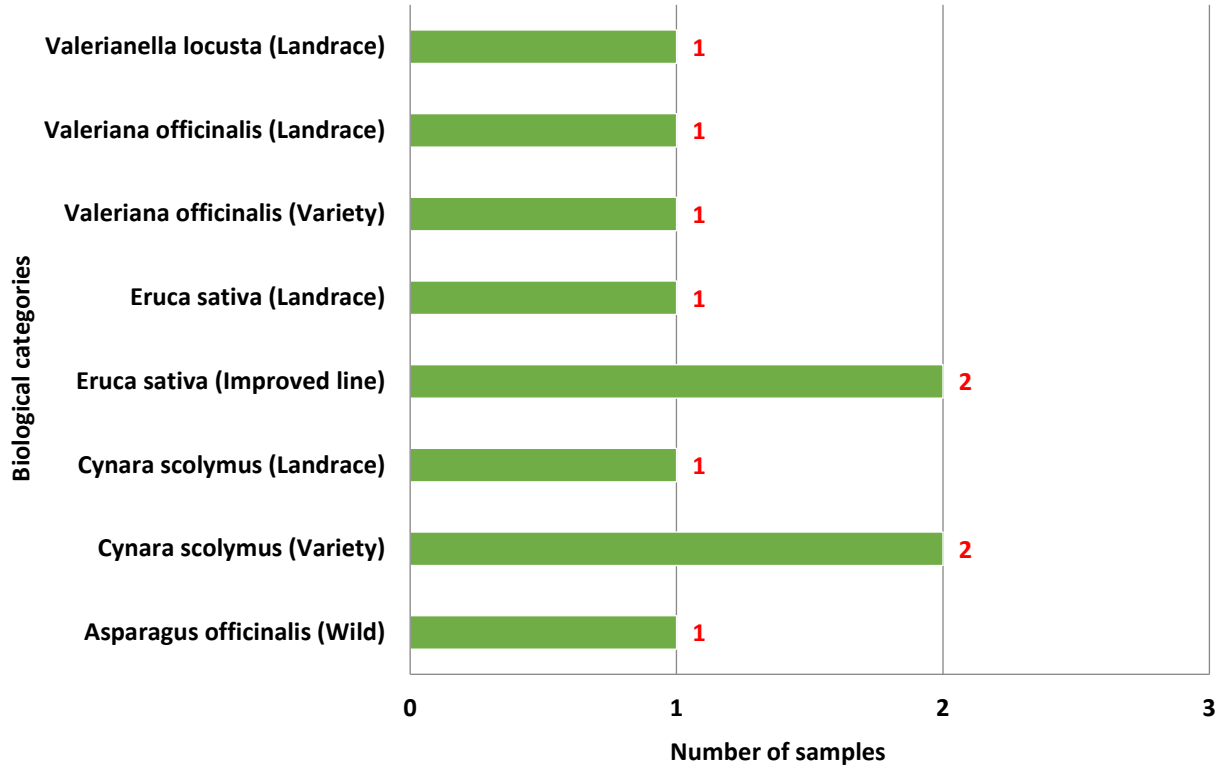
Major Leafy Vegetables

Number of samples by species and status

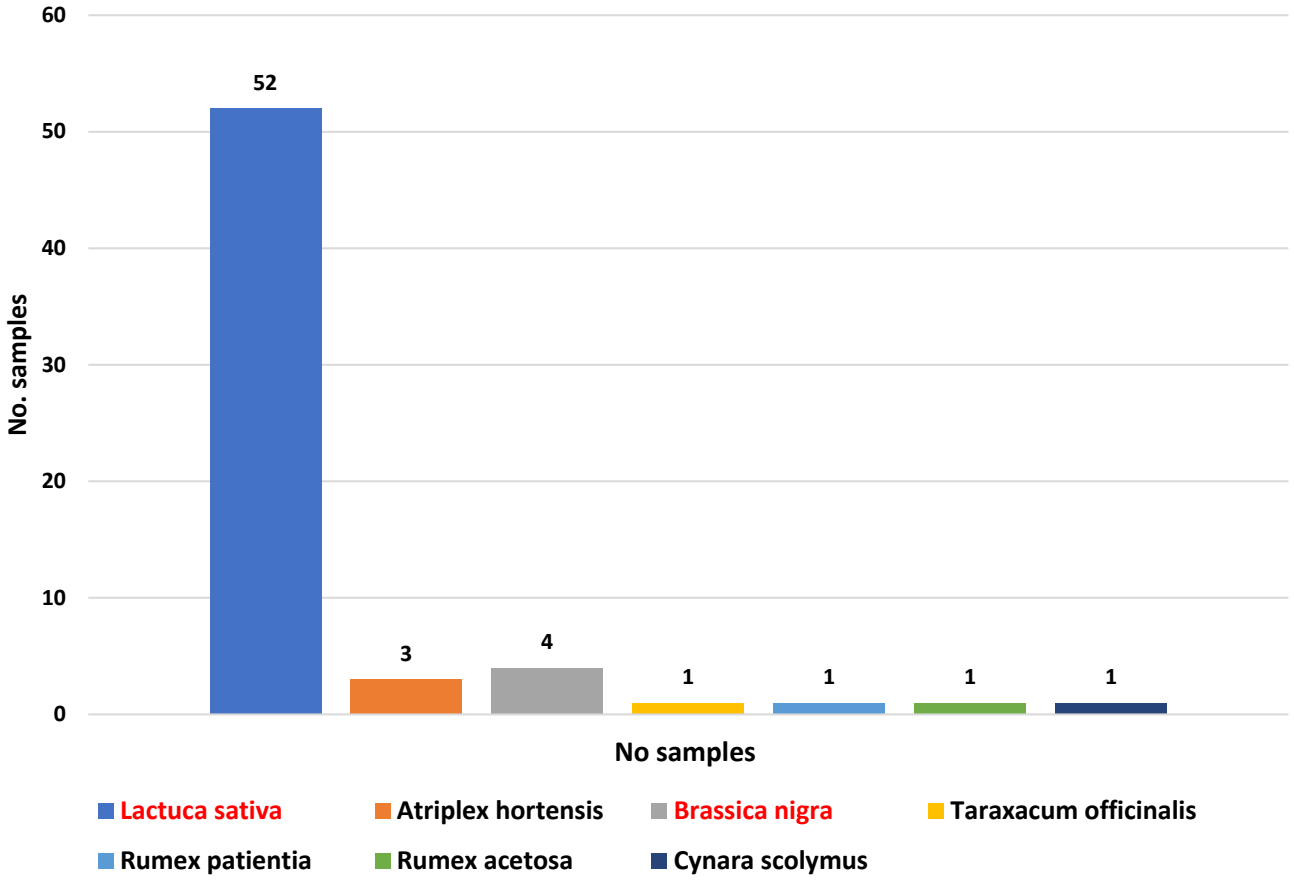


Minor Leafy Vegetables

Number of samples by species and status



Germplasm availability and access







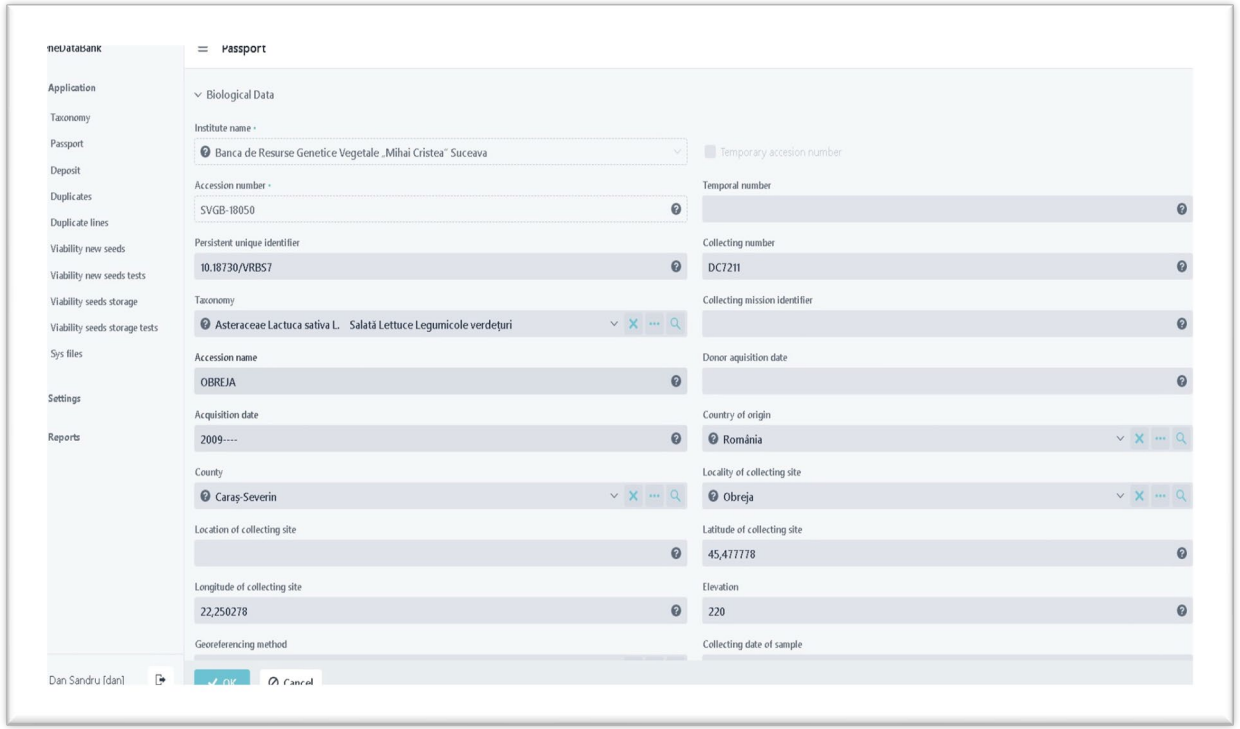
Available for research, breeding, and direct utilization under the **Standard Material Transfer Agreement (SMTA) / MLS**.

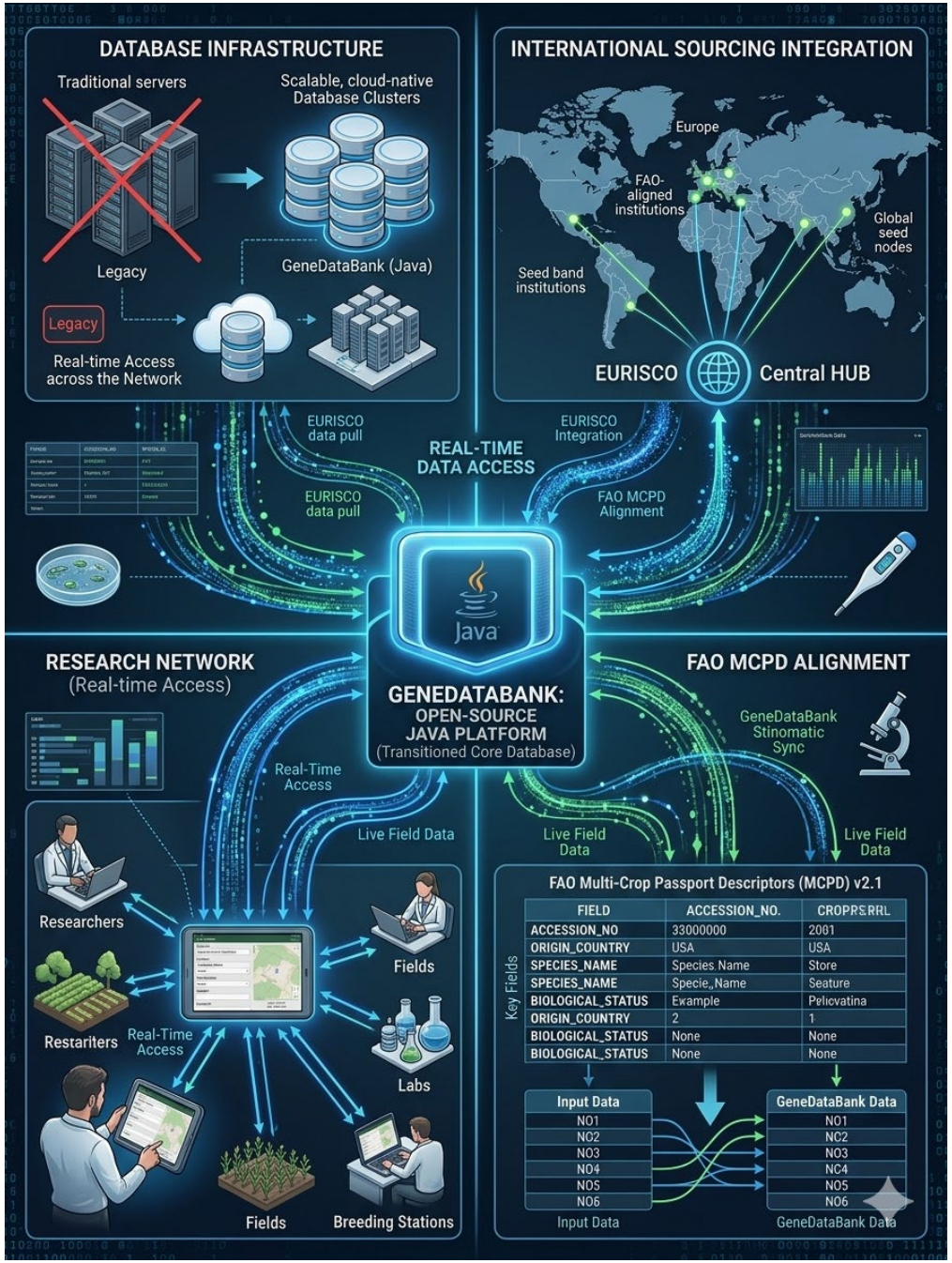
Data Management Systems

Database Infrastructure: Transition to **GeneDataBank** (open-source Java platform) for real-time data access across the research network.

International Sourcing: Full integration with **EURISCO** and alignment with **FAO Multi-Crop Passport Descriptors (MCPD)**.

GeneDataBank

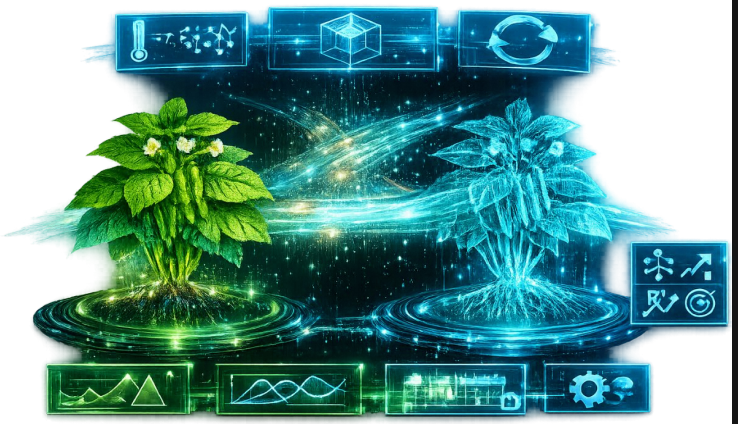




Collection documentation level









Provenance data
Origin and collection of the genetic material

↓

Taxonomic documentation
Species, genus, other identification information

↓

Conservation documentation
Regeneration, multiplication, viability, availability

↓

Characterization and evaluation
Morphological, agronomic, genetic data

↓

Digital records
Management and updating of accession information

↓

Unique identification
DOI assigned to every accession

↓

Traceability
Tracking each accession through conservation and use

Constraints to efficient conservation

Operational & Technical Challenges

- **Regeneration backlog:** The need for periodic regeneration of accessions to maintain viability and genetic integrity. Isolation requirements to prevent cross-pollination in open-pollinated species (e.g., *Cichorium*, *Asparagus*).
- **Maintaining viability:** Loss of germination/viability in certain accessions and the need for periodic monitoring;
- **Characterization and evaluation:** The existence of accessions requiring morphological, agronomic, and molecular characterization, as well as additional evaluation;
- **Human resource limitations:** Need for enhanced technical staff specialized in phenotyping and molecular characterization.

From conservation to use

On-Farm & Community Conservation:

Reintroduction of traditional landraces into local farming systems and family gardens.

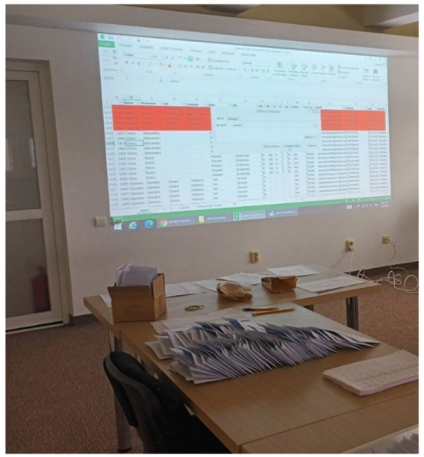
The material is supplied under a Transfer Agreement that must be accepted and confirmed by the applicants prior to the shipment of seed samples.

Available stocks are limited; therefore, a sample consists of a maximum of 25 seeds.

No fees are charged for the seed material itself or for shipping.

Distribution of plant genetic resources

PLANT GENETIC RESOURCES BANK „MIHAI CRISTEA" SUCEAVA

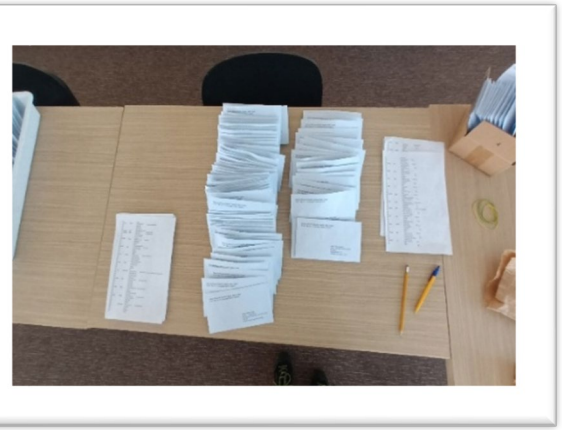






From conservation to use

Distribution Volume: Annual distribution of seed samples to researchers, universities (e.g., USV Iași), and local growers.





UNIVERSITATEA de ȘTIINȚELE VIEȚII din IAȘI 1842

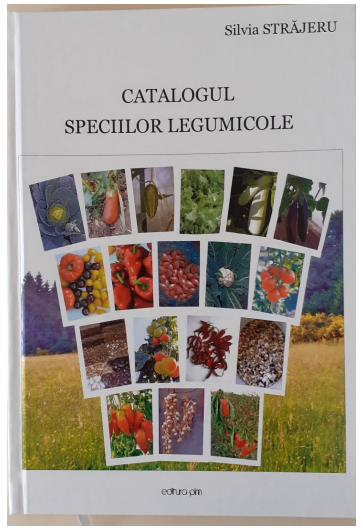
S.C.D.L. Buzău — Cercetare și gust românesc din 1957

1869 USAMV — Universitatea de Științe Agricole și Medicină Veterinară — Cluj-Napoca

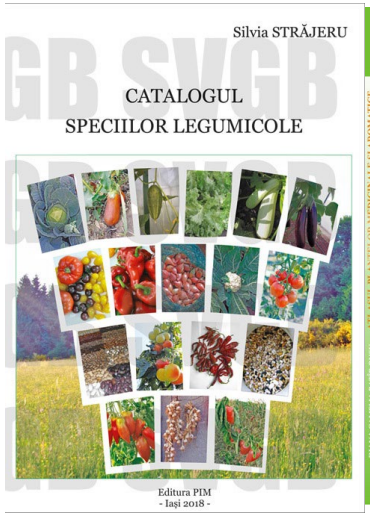
INCDA FUNDULEA — Institutul Național de Cercetare-Dezvoltare Agricolă

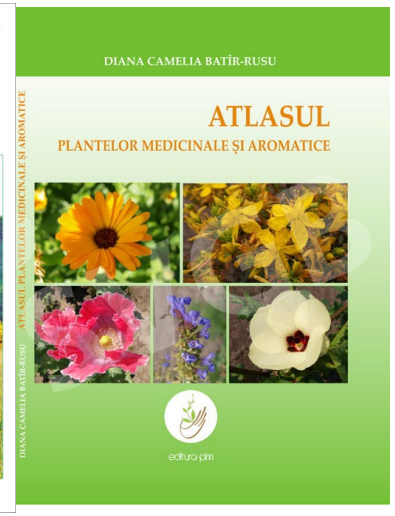
Scientific Dissemination: Monographs, catalogues, and scientific papers published to highlight phenotypic and therapeutic traits.

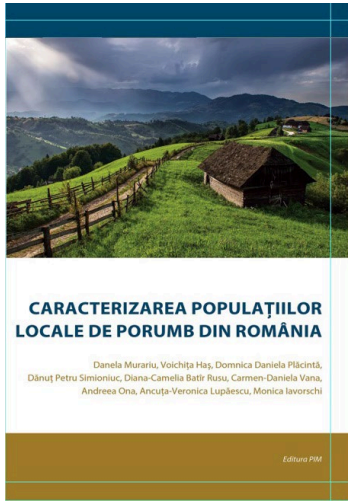












In situ conservation and Crop Wild Relatives: current status

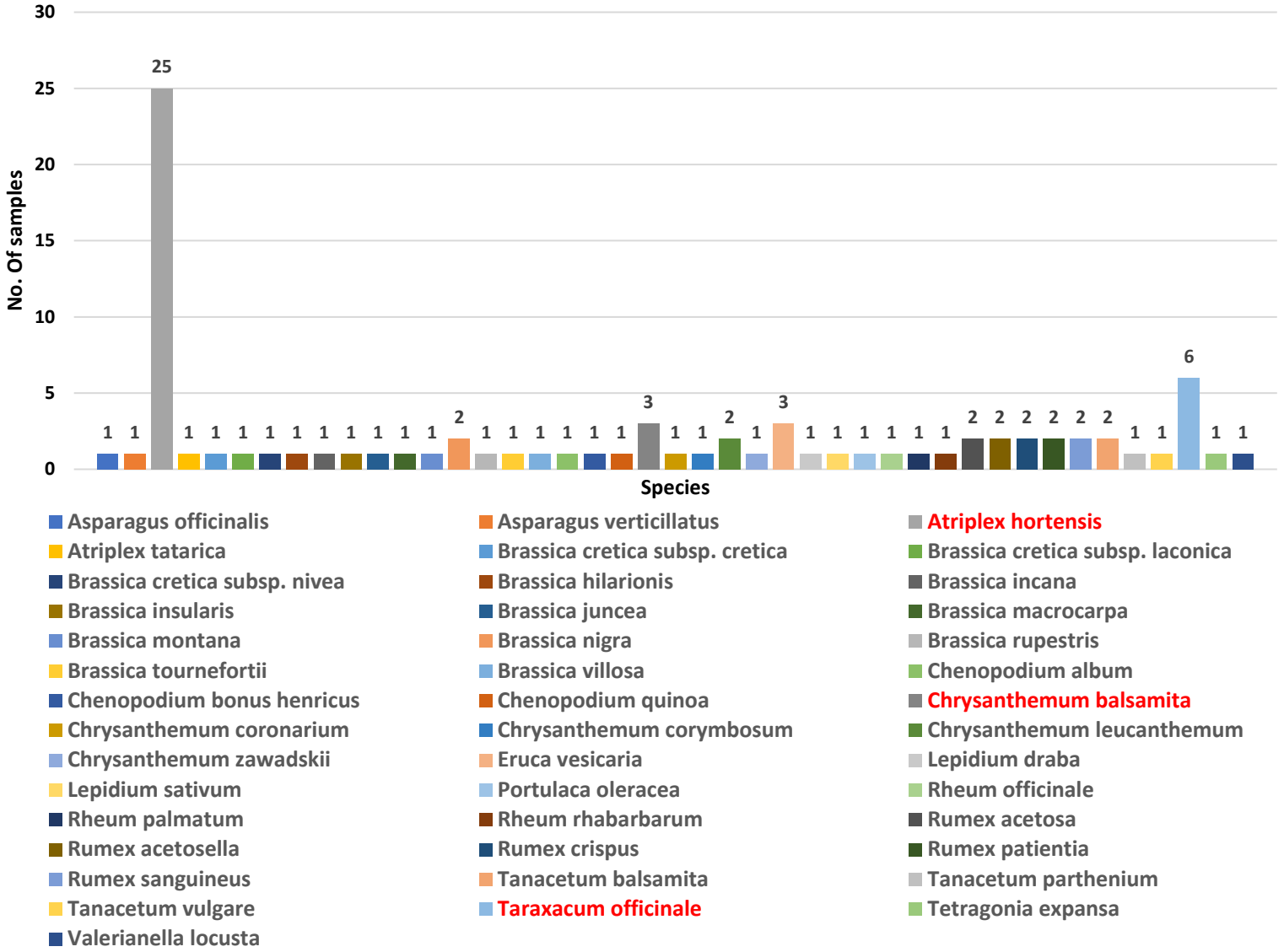
Under development

1. Identification and inventory of wild species;
2. Documentation of habitats and distribution ranges;
3. Collection and *ex situ* conservation of valuable genetic material;
4. Georeferencing of identified populations;
5. Monitoring of natural populations;
6. Assessment of genetic diversity;
7. Identification of priority areas for *in situ* conservation.

Priorities

1. Establishment of genetic reserves for CWR;
2. Integration of *in situ* and *ex situ* conservation;
3. Development of a national CWR monitoring system;
4. Utilization of CWR in breeding programs to enhance crop resilience.

CWR: what do we already conserve?





Ongoing Projects (National & International)

International Collaborations

- **INCREASE (Horizon Europe / H2020):** Active participation in citizen science, seed sharing, and genomic characterization.
- **ECPGR Initiatives:** Contribution to joint evaluation tasks and data sharing via EURISCO.

National Projects

- **Sectoral Projects (ASAS / MADR):** Multi-center evaluation of genetic resources in partnership with national research stations (SCDA Suceava, SCDA Turda, SCDA Lovrin).
- **Educational Partnerships:** Joint initiatives with agricultural universities for student training and germplasm characterization.

Expectations from the Working Group (WG)

BRGV Suceava expresses its interest in participating in the projects and initiatives of the ECPGR Leafy Vegetables Working Group and is willing to contribute its expertise and facilities to joint activities.

European Cooperative Programme for Plant Genetic Resources

ECP//GR



Thank you!