

The 'EURISCO e-bulletin' is a series of electronic bulletins that provide feedback to National Focal Points (NFPs) and serve as a dissemination vehicle for NFPs and others to put forward their contribution regarding plant genetic resources issues/themes. 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 e-bulletin. Thematic papers, ideas, comments, suggestions and questions are all [welcome](#).

This e-bulletin provides information on: [Recent and ongoing activities, Dissemination activities and News, and Planned meetings](#)

## Recent and ongoing activities

- **EURISCO Data Sharing Agreement**

The new EURISCO Data Sharing Agreement (DSA) has been signed by most of the participating countries. The new DSA will take effect from the day of signature until 2020. Countries that have not yet signed the EURISCO Data Sharing Agreement are urged to do so as soon as possible. For any [queries](#), please contact us.

- **EURISCO transferring to typo3**

The EURISCO Portal is in the process of being transferred to Typo3. This option is a resource management solution since Typo3 is the platform that Bioversity supports for its websites. While making this transfer to Typo3, we took advantage of the opportunity to revise and upgrade the website. Besides upgrading the search functionalities, some light cosmetic touches were made to the website pages, making it more attractive and user-friendly. (e.g. the News will appear in the home page, etc.).

- **EURISCO taxonomy and GIS reports are automatically available and downloadable**

In an attempt to further increase data quality and completeness in the EURISCO Catalogue, in the National Inventories (NIs) and in genebanks databases, the Taxonomic and GIS reports are available on the intranet on each country upload page. Now, when uploading your data, you can see these reports immediately. The taxonomy reports highlight taxonomic imprecision such as spelling mistakes. The taxonomy reports can be downloaded in full or can be viewed by institute. The reports can be of three types: indicating which accession names are fully matching, partially matching or not matching the Grin Taxonomy.

The GIS reports can be downloaded in both Excel and for Google Earth viewing; the data is available by institute. These reports compare the declared country of origin with the coordinates of the collecting site and offer three types of result: matching, not matching or matching a different country. Thus, using these reports as a reference, we encourage you to contact your original data sources to update the coordinates, followed by an update of the NI and a fresh upload onto EURISCO. This is

one more activity to assist NFPs in achieving improved data quality and completeness.

- **EURISCO Taxonomy accurate to users**

The new website, to be launched in September 2011, will provide users with more accurate results of their taxonomy searches, helping to bypass the existing errors in the taxonomic nomenclature of the EURISCO data and ensuring that synonyms are also captured in the search. The added mechanism (filter) is based on the proposals made by van Hintum TJL, Knüpfner H 2010. Current taxonomic composition of European genebank material documented in EURISCO. Plant Genetic Resources: Characterisation and Utilisation 8:182-188.

Essentially what will happen is that there will be a middle layer to the website matching the existing genus and species in the database against the accepted genus and species in the GRIN taxonomy. This process will allow for the search and display of corrected taxonomy (without misspellings) and synonyms that are found within the Grin Taxonomy Catalogue. Users will have the possibility to search not only by taxonomic names but also see the synonyms, thus increasing data quality of the search results.

## Dissemination activities and News in 2011

### **GRIN-Global in EUROPE:**

Two GRIN-Global evaluation/training activities have been undertaken in Portugal, one at the "Banco Português de Germoplasma Vegetal" (BPGV), Braga and the other at "ISOplexis - Banco de Germoplasma", University of Madeira, Funchal, Autonomous Region of Madeira. The trainings' main objectives were to show the tool and its potential for the genebanks' daily management of the collections, to be an opportunity for the users to evaluate the tool and to collect feedback for further improvement and assess the feasibility for possible adoption of GRIN-Global. Other training activities will be scheduled for the last quarter of the year, taking advantage of the "Gold" version that will be released by then. The next training activities in Europe will be in October 2011 in Alnarp, Sweden at SEEDNet - "Documentation, management and administration of genebank data: a training/evaluation of the genebank documentation system GRIN-Global".

## News in 2011

- **Welcome Moldova - New NI available in EURISCO in 2011-**

Moldova is the most recent NI to join the EURISCO Catalogue, having joined during July 2011, augmenting the value of the information made available in EURISCO. With this new NI, the Catalogue now represents 42 European countries of the European Region. We hope that the countries yet to join EURISCO – Belgium and Malta- will follow in the coming months.

- **ECPGR Progress Report 2010**

The ECPGR Progress Report 2010 for ECPGR Phase VIII (2009-2013) has recently been released. We invite you to read the report, particularly in the context of EURISCO [Annual Report for 2010](#)

- **EURISCO website further improved**

A new and improved version of the EURISCO website will be released in September 2011. You will see an enhanced capacity for searching, better data quality with taxonomy and synonyms added. The

intranet, for the upload for NFPs, will also be revised and improved to better serve the NIs. Keep an eye on the site and let us know what you think by sending us your [feedback](#).

- **GRIN-Global “pre-release” version**

GRIN-Global is a scalable and flexible software package designed to facilitate the management of all genebank related information. It is based on the USDA’s GRIN system, but the GRIN-Global version is intended to be portable and free to use and further develop, so it has been developed in an environment that does not require any license for use. The Global Crop Diversity Trust, USDA and Bioversity International partnered to develop GRIN-Global over the past 3.5 years and it is now in a ‘pre-release’ stage of final testing. One excellent feature of the package is the generic genebank web page that allows users to search and make requests to the genebank online. GRIN-Global 1.0 is expected to be released before the end of 2011, possibly as early as September. Bioversity is committed to the ongoing development and training/deployment of GRIN-Global, where some sites have already evaluated the earlier versions. For more information about GRIN-Global please refer to the official web site at [http://www.grin-global.org/index.php/Main\\_Page](http://www.grin-global.org/index.php/Main_Page) .

### Your contributions to the next issue (November 2011)

We would like to invite all of you to send your contribution to the next e-bulletin by November 2011.

## Planned meetings

Meeting	Venue	Date
PGR Secure –European crop wild relative and landrace conservation workshop	Lithuania, <u>Palanga</u>	7-09- 2011
Joint ECPGR/ NENA workshop on the ITPGRFA implementation	Izmir, Turkey	28-29-09-2011
<u>SEEDNet</u> - “Documentation, management and administration of <u>genebank</u> data: a training/evaluation of the <u>genebank</u> documentation system GRIN-Global”	<u>Alnarp</u> , Sweden	24 Oct-4 Nov 2011

More information can be found on the EURISCO website at <http://eurisco.ecpgr.org>.

If you wish to contribute to or comment on the e-bulletin, please contact [s.dias@cgiar.org](mailto:s.dias@cgiar.org) or use the sign-up form on the EURISCO website at: [http://eurisco.ecpgr.org/releases/e\\_bulletin.php](http://eurisco.ecpgr.org/releases/e_bulletin.php).

You can find previous issues of the e-bulletin at: <http://eurisco.ecpgr.org/releases/issues.php>.

Through the 'EURISCO e-Bulletin', we wish to inform you about EURISCO activities and benefits. You are receiving this bulletin either because you have previously indicated an interest in receiving our news, or because you are associated with an organization that has an interest in biodiversity and biodiversity data.

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