

**Welcome to the NPGS Crop Germplasm
Committee Chairs Virtual Meeting**

November 15, 2012

The meeting will begin at 1:30 pm EST

Logistics of AT&T Connect Meeting Room

Note features in the task bar at the top of the meeting room screen:

- ✓ Can ask question using the raised hand feature
- ✓ Step out feature if you need to take a break
- ✓ Can send emoticons

Note the view pane to the right of the screen:

- ✓ Can change size by dragging
- ✓ Can ask question by sending note to presenter or to all
- ✓ Lists the participants
- ✓ Can tell who is speaking by observing the microphone icon (in participant application only)

If using a desktop speaker phone, you may want to mute it to avoid disseminating background noise to all.

CGC Chair Best Practices

- ❖ Submit minutes after CGC meetings, or ensure secretary does.
- ❖ Ensure your membership rosters are up to date.
- ❖ Notify us (NGRL) when Chairperson rotates to a new member.
- ❖ Notify us (NGRL) as far in advance as possible of meeting dates.
- ❖ Spearhead the revision of crop status/vulnerability reports.
- ❖ Consider virtual technologies (such as this one) if having a difficult time arranging well attended in person meetings.
- ❖ Consider joint meetings with other CGCs based on natural alignments and/or meeting locations (e.g. joint apple, pear, prunus CGCs meeting at ASHS this past August)

Thank you for your service
as a Crop Germplasm
Committee Chair

You and your committees are an
integral part of the US National
Plant Germplasm System

More than 551,000 active accessions of over 2,400
genera and still going strong!



Herb Aldwinckle (retired, Cornell Univ., apple CGC chair)

Tommy Thompson (announced retiring, ARS, pecan CGC chair)

And now a quick tour of the
CGC pages on the GRIN
(current GRIN) public website
from Mark Bohning



The National Plant Germplasm System: Current Status and Future Prospects

Peter Bretting

USDA/ARS Office of National Programs

The USDA/ARS National Plant Germplasm System (NPGS)

- One of the largest national genebank systems.
- More than 551,000 samples of more than 14,500 plant species.
- Large collections of the major staple crops important to U. S. and world agriculture.
- Large holdings of crops without major collections at international agricultural research centers, e.g., cotton, soybean, various horticultural and “specialty” crops.
- Germplasm Resources Information Network (GRIN): an international standard.

USDA National Plant Germplasm System

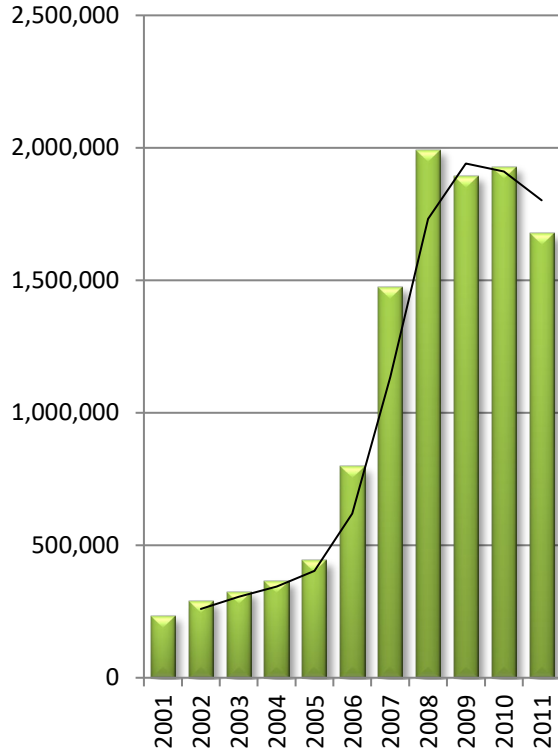


Priorities for Genetic Resource Management in Genebanks

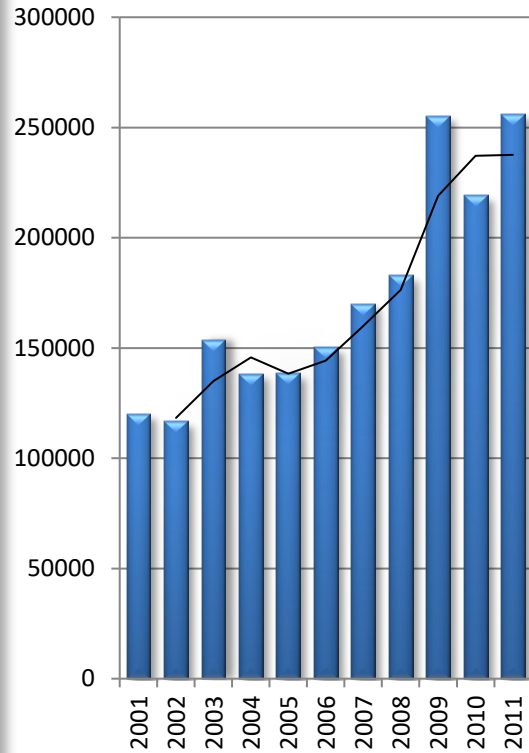
- **Acquisition**
- **Maintenance**
- **Regeneration**
- **Documentation and Data Management**
- **Distribution**
- **Characterization**
- **Evaluation**
- **Enhancement**

DEMAND FOR NPGS GERmplasm AND INFORMATION VS. NPGS BUDGET

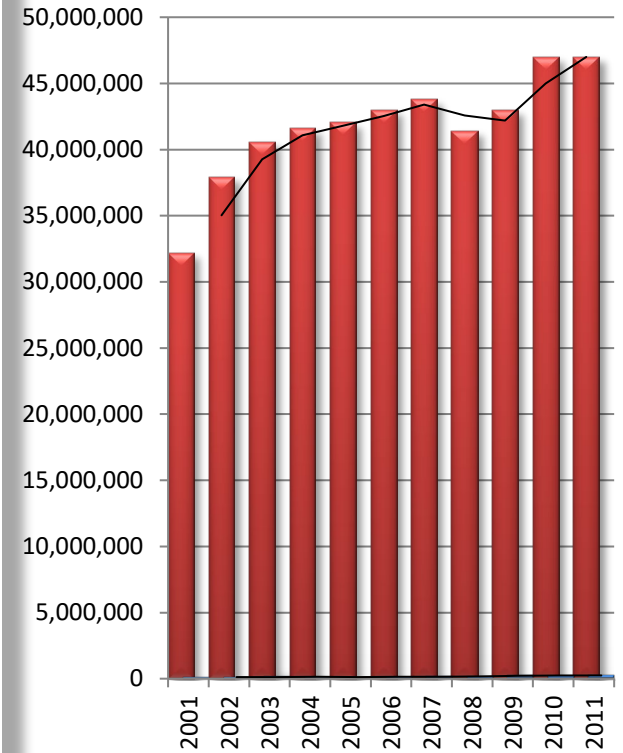
NPGS Web Page Access



Germplasm Distribution



NPGS Annual Budget



Budgets

- **The President's FY 13 budget proposed modest increases (\$581,000) for the NPGS.**
- **The Congress in September 2012 passed a Continuing Resolution funding ARS at the FY 12 budget level + 0.6% until end of March 2013.**
- **But if the Congress does not act before January 2013, a mandatory budget sequestration will occur, with potentially strong effects on ARS's programs.**
- **Because of that uncertainty, calls for FY 13 horticultural germplasm evaluation proposals must await action on the FY 13 budget.**

Greater value from your reports

- **Periodic reports for NPGS progress and related topics:**
 - Annual reports to and by **CGCs**, RTACs, NPGCC, PGOCC
 - Annual ARS research project reports
 - Annual ARS National Program 301 reports
 - 5 year National Program 301 Accomplishment Reports
 - **CGC crop vulnerability/status reports**

Greater value from your reports

- **Mechanisms for systematically collecting, collating, interpreting, and disseminating information from these reports which is potentially valuable for assessing critical needs, dangers, and/or emerging trends.**
- **Is your crop vulnerability statement current?**

External review for NPGS project plans

- **The five-year research project plans for the NPGS genebanks--and for all of ARS's plant genetics, breeding, and genomics research projects--will soon undergo external review.**
- **Non-ARS CGC Chairs: if invited to serve as a project reviewer, please consider doing so!** Your expert input will certainly improve the quality of our research and germplasm curation.

Thanks for all the time and effort you devote to plant germplasm!



The NPGS Plant Exploration/Exchange Program

Karen A. Williams

Plant Exchange Office
National Germplasm Resources Lab
Beltsville, Maryland

Karen.Williams@ars.usda.gov



CGC Chairs Web Conference
November 15, 2012

The NPGS Plant Exploration/Exchange Program

Purpose: To fill gaps in the NPGS collections

Administration: Plant Exchange Office (PEO),
National Germplasm Resources Lab

Support for both plant explorations (*in situ*)
and plant exchanges (visits to foreign *ex situ*
collections)

Proposals

- accepted yearly
- separate guidelines for exploration and exchange proposals – sent to CGCs in January
- endorsement by CGC and crop curator required
- pre-proposals for foreign explorations requested in April
- deadline is in July every year

NPGS Plant Explorations - 2012

Wild beets	Morocco
Fruits and nuts	Azerbaijan, Kyrgyzstan
Small fruits (exchange)	Canada
Wild carrots	Morocco
<i>Miscanthus</i>	Russia
Wild onions, beets, strawberries	Georgia
Wild lettuce	Uzbekistan
Wild lettuce	Kyrgyzstan
Wild lettuce	Tajikistan
<i>Cornus rugosa</i>	United States
<i>Phlox</i> and <i>Coreopsis</i>	United States
Switchgrass	United States
Potato	United States
<i>Lomatium suksdorfii</i>	United States
Chinkapin oak	United States

PEO Assistance with Proposals

- Contact us before developing a proposal
- We can offer advice on which countries are accessible for exploration
- PEO has contacts in many countries
- Contact us with germplasm needs even if you are not developing a proposal

Access and Benefit Sharing for International Explorations

- Prior informed consent (PIC) obtained from national authorities in all countries that are parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD)
- Includes agreement on the sharing of benefits
- Acceptable benefits are “in-kind” (training, equipment purchase, increase projects, etc.)
- The SMTA of the International Treaty may be used to specify terms of access

Thank you!

GRIN-Global Project



the global
plant genebank
information management system



2012 Developments

- Version 1.0 was released to international partners on December 14, 2011. Team is actively engaged in assisting with deployment.
- Revisions and enhancements are ongoing.
- Introduction to GRIN-Global training webinars for NPGS staff February-April 2012.
- Presentations at PGOC/Curators Workshop in June 2012.
- Gap analysis meetings with every NPGS site and US user partners (e.g. APHIS, PVPO, USFS) May-November 2012.

And now a quick tour of the latest
prototype version of the GRIN-
Global public website from
Marty Reisinger

