

### Welcome to the 2024 CGC Chairs Annual Meeting

It takes too long for everyone to introduce themselves audibly. We invite you to use the chat feature to share your name, CGC, and affiliation.

#### **CGC Business Reminders**

How do I update CGC minutes, Crop Vulnerability Statements, etc. on the CGC page of GRIN?

Send updates to Gary Kinard, who will post them to the site.

How do I update CGC membership rosters?

- Two options:
  - We can give you permission to update them real-time on the CGC page (Google spreadsheet). This is the preferred method.
  - If it's a minor update, Gary can make it for you.
  - Note: Feel free to delete or omit detailed information such as mailing address and phone numbers if you choose. We recognize there is more sensitivity to public access to this information than in prior times. ARS would primarily like to know the names and affiliations of CGC members. As chairs, you might find the rosters a convenient and continuous way to maintain an email group for your committee.

Who should be notified when there is a new CGC Chair?

• Please notify Gary Kinard, who will update the ARS-GRIN-CGC Outlook group. It's a good idea to also notify the PGR NPL, currently Gayle Volk.

How can I submit content that you may want to add to GRIN-U?

Send it to Gary Kinard and/or Gayle Volk.

# Thank you for serving as a CGC Chair!

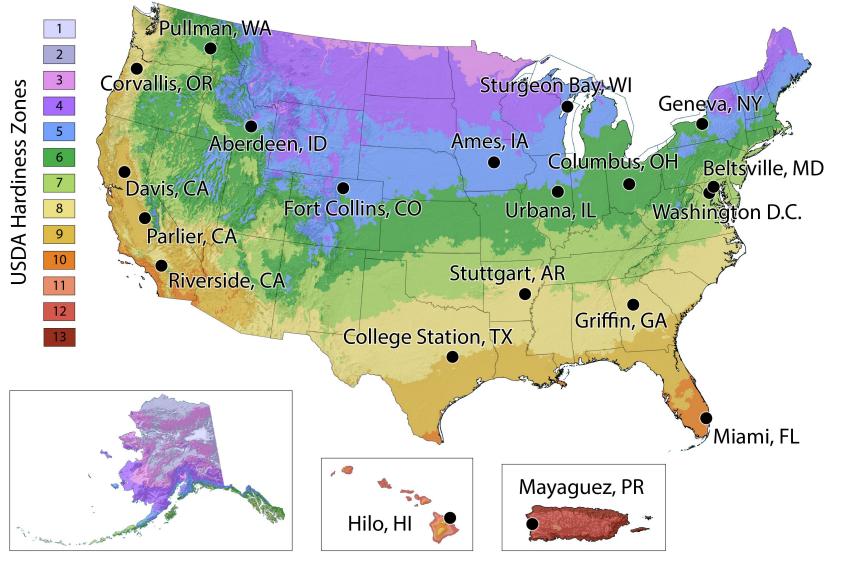
# The National Plant Germplasm System: 2024 Status, Prospects, and Challenges

Gayle Volk, Ph.D.

Office of National Programs (detail)

National Laboratory for Genetic Resources
Preservation, Fort Collins, Colorado
Gayle.Volk@usda.gov

# **USDA National Plant Germplasm System (NPGS)**



New Plant Hardiness Zone Map released 11/2023

### **USDA National Plant Germplasm System**



Acquire



Maintain



Secure



Document



Distribute

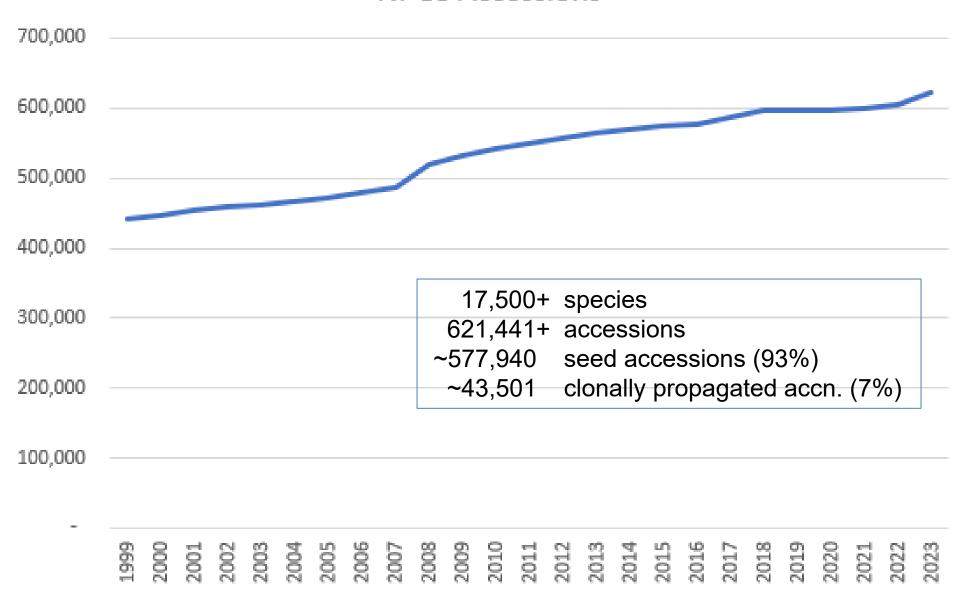


Characterize & Evaluate

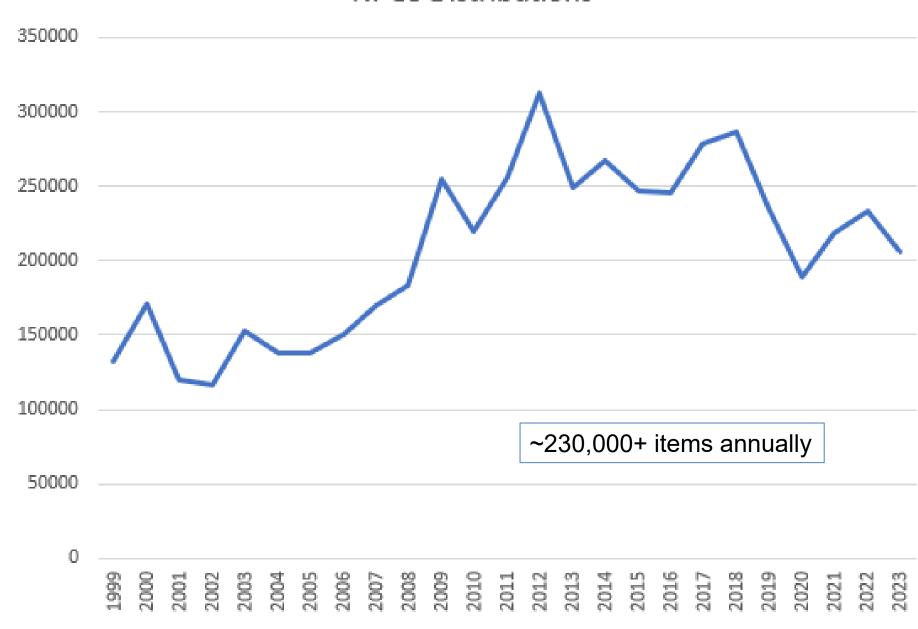
Regenerate

**Communicate with Customers and Stakeholders** 

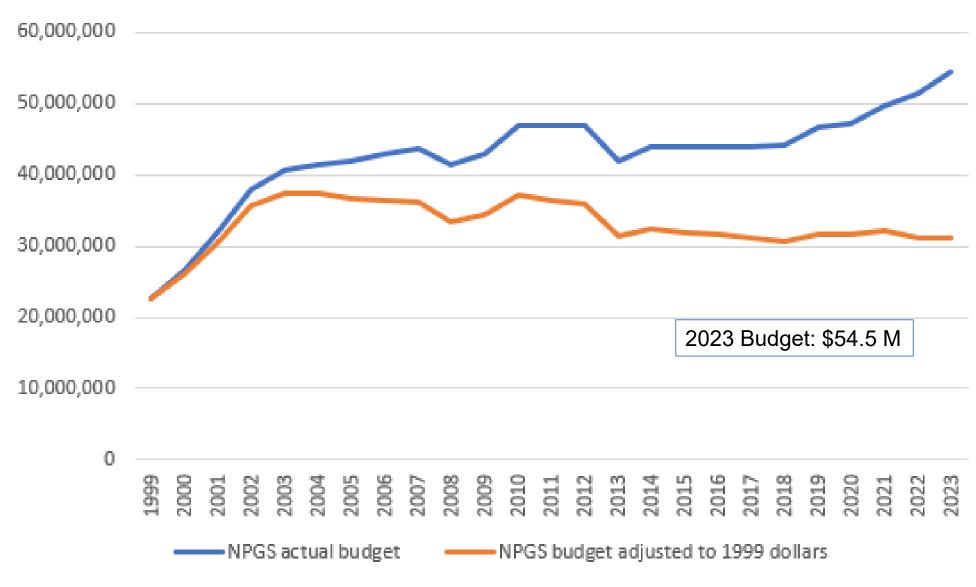
#### NPGS Accessions



#### **NPGS Distributions**



### NPGS Budget



## FY 23 ARS NPGS Budgetary Increases

- National Arboretum (ca. \$138,000) Washington, D.C.
- Sugarcane Variety Development (ca. \$166,667)
   Miami, FL
- Small Fruits PGR (ca. \$500,000) Corvallis, OR
- Pecan Genetic Research (ca. \$500,000) College Station, TX

# **NPGS** Personnel Transitions

Farewell and best wishes to Peter Bretting (NPL),
Tomas Ayala-Silva (Mayaguez), Harold Bockelman
(Aberdeen), Kevin Conrad (National Arboretum), Kurt
Endress & Matthew Riggs (DBMU), Barbara Hellier
(Pullman), David Peters (Ames)

 Welcome to Noelle Anglin (Aberdeen), Alex Cornwall (Pullman), Yu Ma (Ohio State), Rebecca Povilus (Geneva); Carolyn Scagel (Corvallis), Singh Sukhwinder (Miami)

# **NPGS Strategic Plan**

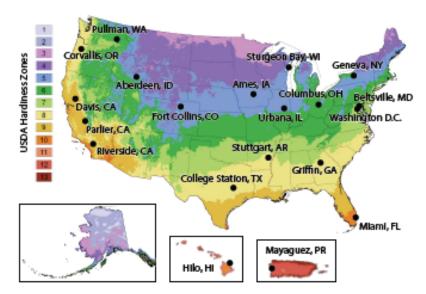
2018 Farm Bill directed USDA to develop and implement an assessment to address the significant backlogs in the NPGS. The NPGS Plan was released in 2023 and is available at <a href="https://www.ars-grin.gov/Pages/NPGS">https://www.ars-grin.gov/Pages/NPGS</a>

- NPGS Plan Infographic
- NPGS Plan Synopsis of the National Strategic Germplasm and Cultivar Collection Assessment and Utilization Plan
- NPGS Plan Technical Details, Analyses, and Approaches
- Crop and Crop Wild Relative Collections Data

# NPGS Plan Infographic (front)

# Strengthening the USDA/ARS National Plant Germplasm System to Conserve and Utilize Crop Germplasm That Sustains Us

# The U.S. National Plant Germplasm System (NPGS) is Crucial to Global Food Security



NPGS safeguards and delivers plant germplasm for food, fiber, animal feed, industrial, medicinal, and ornamental crops. Plant breeders utilize that plant germplasm to develop new crop varieties that are more nutritious, with higher yields, resilience to extreme weather, and resistance to diseases and pests.

NPGS has 22 genebanks that...

- manage 200+ crops
- maintain 600,000+ unique kinds of plant germplasm
- distribute 200,000+ research samples each year

#### The NPGS Faces Daunting Challenges

Inadequate NPGS genebank operational capacity results in losses and deteriorating germplasm quality.

NPGS collections have critical backlogs in:

- securing plant germplasm in long-term storage
- testing plant germplasm quality and health
- regenerating plant germplasm
- characterization, trait evaluations, and genetic enhancement of germplasm

Lack of technical knowledge for conserving some plant germplasm, particularly wild species, limits the scope of germplasm the NPGS can effectively safeguard.

Contact: Peter.Bretting@usda.gov Designed by: Katheryn Chen & Gayle Volk



# **NPGS Plan** Infographic (back)

#### NPGS 10 Year Plan to Meet the Challenges

Directed by the 2018 Farm Bill, the National Genetic Resources Advisory Council (NGRAC), and customers/stakeholders, the NPGS Plan will expand cutting-edge research and germplasm management capacity to safeguard and increase availability and utilization of NPGS germplasm, leading to:



More plant germplasm maintained disease-free, securely backed-up, and available for research and breeding



Knowledge of the intrinsic genetic variation and high value traits in plant germplasm



New plant germplasm with valuable traits acquired, conserved, and developed

#### Recurrent annual base funding increases:

\$17.45 million for germplasm maintenance

**Budget Increases Starting in Years 1-5** 

- \$25 million for trait evaluations
- \$1.8 million to manage genetic characterization data
- \$50-150 million for genetic enhancement of germplasm

#### Non-recurrent funding increase:

\$57.7 million for genetic characterization

The costs to implement this Plan are estimated and do not constitute a USDA request for funding.

#### **Budget Increases Starting in Years 6-10**

#### Recurrent annual base funding increase:

 An additional \$12.25 million for germplasm maintenance (for a total increase of \$29.7 million)

The costs to implement this Plan are estimated and do not constitute a USDA request for funding.

#### **Plan Timeline**

Years 1 - 5

Update NPGS Plan with input from NGRAC & customers/ stakeholders

> Hire & train personnel

Expand research to develop more efficient storage, quality testing, data management, genetic characterization. trait evaluation, & aenetic enhancement procedures

With Congress, the Administration. NGRAC & customers/ stakeholders assess the Plan's progress & adjust as needed

Years

6-10

Continue research and development

Substantially reduce backlogs in germplasm & information maintenance. characterization, & trait evaluation

Assess outcomes of the Plan with customers/ stakeholders, NGRAC, Congress, & the Administration

Rebuild & expand infrastructure/ equipment

Establish partnerships

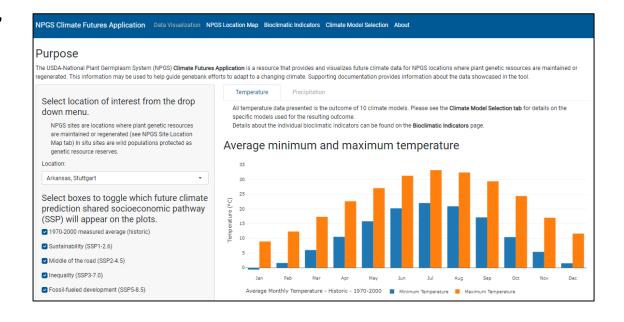
Expand NPGS operations & reduce backlogs

Complete infrastructural expansion & personnel hiring/training

Expand genetic enhancement of germplasm projects

# Adapting the NPGS to rapid global warming

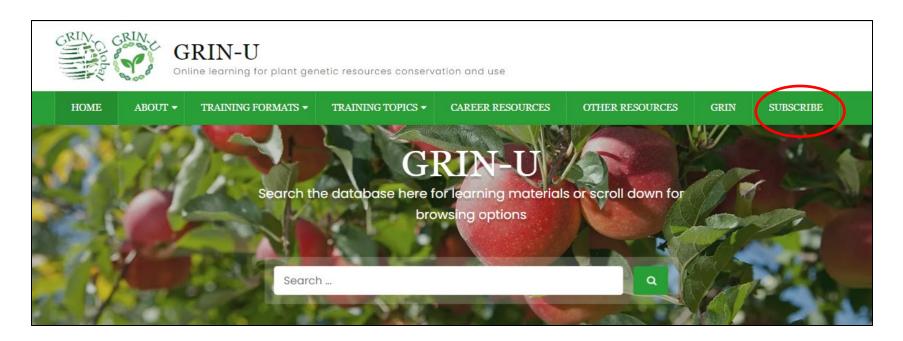
- Safeguarding plant genetic resources in the United States during global climate change. 2023. Crop Science. <a href="https://doi.org/10.1002/csc2.21003">https://doi.org/10.1002/csc2.21003</a>
- Includes case studies, an application for estimating future conditions at NPGS sites, potential adaptive strategies and actions.



# Some key challenges for the NPGS

- Increased operational costs (labor, inputs, overall inflation).
- NPGS personnel transitions—hiring, training, etc.
- Backlogs for regenerations and viability testing.
- Developing and applying cryopreservation and/or in vitro conservation methods for clonal and some seed PGR.
- BMPs and procedures for managing accessions with GE traits in more crops, the occurrence of adventitious presence (AP), and the products of gene editing.
- Acquiring and conserving additional PGR, especially of crop wild relatives.

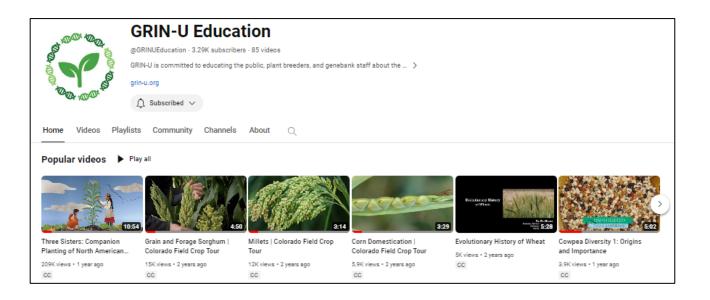
#### Educational Resources for PGR Conservation and Use



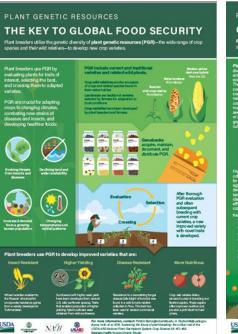
**GRIN-U.org** 

eBooks
Videos
Infographics
Webinars
Links to other resources

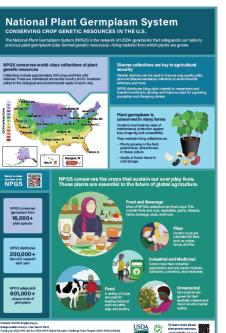
# GRIN-U Education YouTube



# Infographics









#### Submit PGR Success Stories!

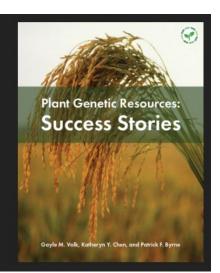
#### **Plant Genetic Resources:** Success Stories

Eds. Gayle Volk; Katheryn Chen; and Patrick Byrne



Public Domain

**READ BOOK** 



#### **Plant Genetic Resources Success Story Submission Template**



#### **Documenting Success Stories**

Documenting success stories and making them available to the public are important for ensuring continued support for plant genetic resources conservation and plant breeding efforts. Our goal is to document successes, broadly defined, that relate to plant genetic resources conservation and use, and crop improvement activities.

To ensure this information is accessible to the broadest possible audience, please keep content concise, minimize the use of jargon and acronyms, and write with a general audience in mind. It is the contributors' responsibility to seek permissions to share success stories from other researchers and breeders. Content may be edited and formatted before being posted on the public GRIN-U website and/or the National Association of Plant Breeders website. All edits will be shared with the contributor for final approval before posting to websites.

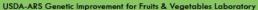
Once completed, email this form and 1-3 high-quality images to PGRSuccesses@gmail.com. For questions or comments, please contact Pat Byrne (Patrick.byrne@colostate.edu) or Gayle Volk (Gayle.Volk@usda.gov).

\*Required fields

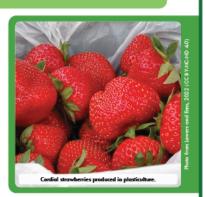
#### Contributor Information

\*Contributor(s) name: Author1 and Author2

#### Strawberry 'Cordial' - Late Season, Long Shelf Life



Strawberry cultivar 'Cordial', released in 2020 by the USDA, is a late-season cultivar for planting during the late part of the growing season in the Mid-Atlantic region of the U.S. It is a shortday strawberry, meaning that plants will flower as the daylength grows shorter in the northern hemisphere. 'Cordial' has large attractive fruits that are tough enough for rough handling, have increased shelf life, minimal proportion of produce lost to degradation, and possesses consistently high yields with low rot when grown in plasticulture production systems without fumigation/fungicide.



#### PROJECT GOALS

- √ Develop non-tart strawberries with increased shelf life
- √ Improve resistance to rot and provide consistent high yields

#### Problems Addressed

U.S. Department of Agriculture-Agricultural Research Service strawberry research efforts at Beltsville, MD, have resulted in release of several cultivars with high yields and good fruit flavor: 'Keepsake', 'Flavorfest', 'Allstar', 'Galletta', 'Ovation', 'Earlyglow', 'Chandler', etc. Decayed fruit, poor handling and refrigeration tolerance. foliar and fruit disease incidence, and reduced shelf life remained a production problem. The project therefore focused efforts on increasing shelf life, tolerance to rough handling, resistance to diseases, as well as reducing tartness and maintaining consistently high yields.

#### Solutions Developed

'Cordial' was developed by cross-pollinating B1893 × B1805. This new cultivar's average total yield was significantly higher than all cultivars tested, with one of the highest marketable yields. 'Cordial' showed significant resistance to crown rot, very mild bacterial angular leafspot disease symptoms, and mild powdery mildew disease symptoms. 'Cordial' fruit skin toughness rating was very high, and it exhibited fruit sweetness similar to 'Flavorfest', 'Keepsake', and 'Earliglow'. Due to its longer shelf life, less tartness, and disease resistance, 'Cordial' has the potential for a greater market share.



Written by: A. Mahama, S. Gray, W. Suza, K. Chen (editor)

To learn more about this and other success stories, visit colostate.pressbooks.pub/parsuccessstories

# National Laboratory for Genetic Resources Preservation Fort Collins, CO

Daren Harmel: Research Leader

Christina Walters: Seed Research & Viability, Lead Scientist

Vacant, Seed Curation & Microbes

Chris Richards: Population Genetics

Maria Jenderek: Clonal Curation

Gayle Volk: Clonal Research & Implementation, GRIN-U Training

Harvey Blackburn: Animal Geneticist, Lead Scientist

Phil Purdy: Animal Physiologist

#### **NPGS Collections**

82% of the NPGS seed accessions are secured (~ 500,000 accn) 15% of the NPGS clonal accessions are secured (~5000 accn)



-18°C Freezers seed storage



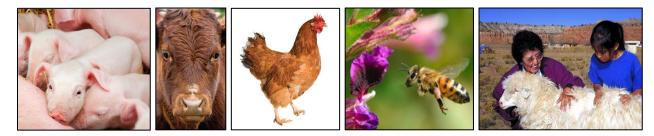
LN & LNV (-150 to -196°C) Clonal shoot tips & dormant buds, as well as embryonic axes, some seeds, and pollen

#### **Additional NLGRP Collections**

• >90,000 microbe accessions from the USDA-ARS Culture Collection (microbes) in Peoria, IL



• 65,000 animals representing 170 breeds



- 60 Black Box collections for seeds: Botanic Gardens, National Genebank collections, International Centers
- 1094 Journal of Plant Registrations & 8456 Plant Variety Protection Voucher Specimens

#### **NLGRP** Data Management



- ✓ GRIN-Data integration for seed check-in process (weights, labels)
- ✓ Reviewing and standardizing all NLGRP clonal data in GRIN-Global
- Standardizing seed and clonal documentation processes
- Reviewing Black box storage agreements
- Improving workflows for PVPs→sites
- Improving reporting features for NLGRP

Cullen McGovern and the NLGRP Data Management Team

# Thank you!

- Serving as customer and Stakeholder resources for the NPGS
- Submit Success Stories
- Update Crop Vulnerability Statements & Quad Charts
- Work with us to contribute GRIN-U content
- Evaluation and Exploration Proposals

# National Germplasm Resources Laboratory Plant Exchange Office

Anne Frances

Melanie Schori

Jennifer Friedman

Karen Williams (Contractor)

Crop Germplasm Committee Chairs Meeting March 4, 2024

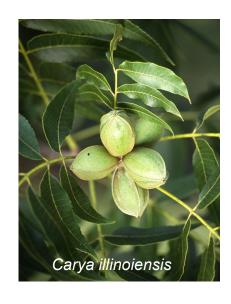
# Plant Exchange Office Updates

- Plant Exploration & Exchange Program
- Crop Wild Relatives
- International Distributions (with USDA-APHIS)
- GRIN Taxonomy

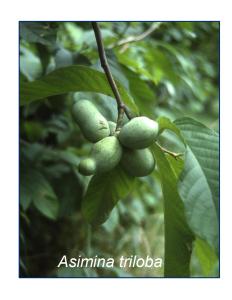


Vitis ripara, Hedrick and Booth 1908

# NPGS Plant Exploration & Exchange Program



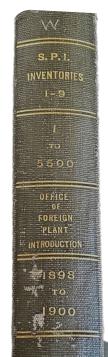


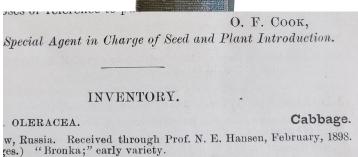


Anne Frances
Plant Exchange Office
National Germplasm Resources Laboratory
Beltsville, Maryland
anne.frances@usda.gov

# NPGS Plant Exploration & Exchange Program

- Fills gaps in the NPGS
- Proposal guidelines on SharePoint
- Proposals accepted yearly (due July 31)
- CGCs and curators must endorse proposals
- Crop Vulnerability Statements help identify priorities
- International explorations require prior informed consent





# Access and Benefit Sharing for International Explorations

- NPGS explorations abide by the CBD\* principle of national sovereignty over genetic resources
- Prior informed consent (PIC) obtained from national authority (form of a letter, permit, MTA, etc.) via PEO
- Includes agreement on benefit sharing
- Acceptable benefits are "in-kind" (training, equipment purchase, increase projects, etc.)
- SMTA provides terms for some explorations



# NPGS Plant Explorations FY 2023

Citrus spp.

Grindelia squarrosa

Monarda sp. nov.

Chionanthus virginicus

Phaseolus spp.

Vietnam

US: western states

**US: Kentucky** 

US: Missouri, Arkansas

**US: New Mexico** 



Grindelia squarrosa

# **Crop Wild Relative Conservation**

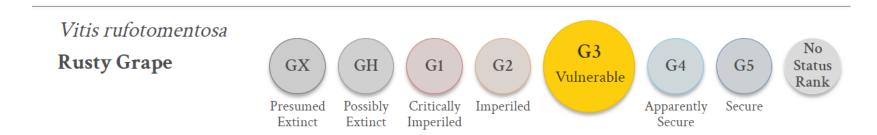
Continued collaborations: Forest Service, US Botanic Garden, Botanic Gardens Conservation International, NatureServe, etc.

- Crop Wild Relative Conference, Denver, September 2024
   <a href="https://www.bgci.org/news-events/cwr2024/">https://www.bgci.org/news-events/cwr2024/</a>
- NAFANT gap analysis North American Fruit and Nut Tree group https://northamericanfruitnuttreecwr.github.io/
- Small grants for CWR collection and maintenance (BGCI-US and USBG)

# **Crop Wild Relative Conservation**

#### Vitis conservation

- Special Issue in Plants, People, Planet open call for papers
- County level maps are being developed
- Symposium at the International Botanical Congress, Madrid 2024
- Conservation status assessments on NatureServe Explorer



# NPGS International Distributions (Jennifer Friedman)

National Cotton Germplasm Collection (COT)	Woody Landscape Repository (NA)
Griffin Plant Introduction Station (S9)	Potato Germplasm Introduction Station (NR6)
National Small Grains Collection (NSGC)	Ornamental Plant Germplasm Center (OPGC)
Western Regional Plant Introduction Station (W6)	Desert Legume Program (DLEG)
National Arid Land Plant Genetic Resources Unit (Parlier)	North Central Regional Plant Introduction Station (NC7)
U.S. Nicotiana Germplasm Collection (TOB)	Soybean/Maize Germplasm, Pathology, & Genetics Research Unit (SOY)
Plant Genetic Resources Unit, Geneva*	National Laboratory for Genetic Resources Preservation*

<sup>\*</sup>Occasional

FY23: 45,909 samples to 62 countries

Contact: jennifer.friedman@usda.gov

# **GRIN Taxonomy Search Refresher**

# Search Taxonomy Data in GRIN-Global Note: Use the Shift key + b, f, g, s, r or d to navigate between tabs. Results of 5000 or more will be returned without links. Browse Family Genus Species Results Distribution Genus or species name Specific or infraspecific name Q e.g., Avena or Avena b or Avena fatua Q e.g., sativa or sat

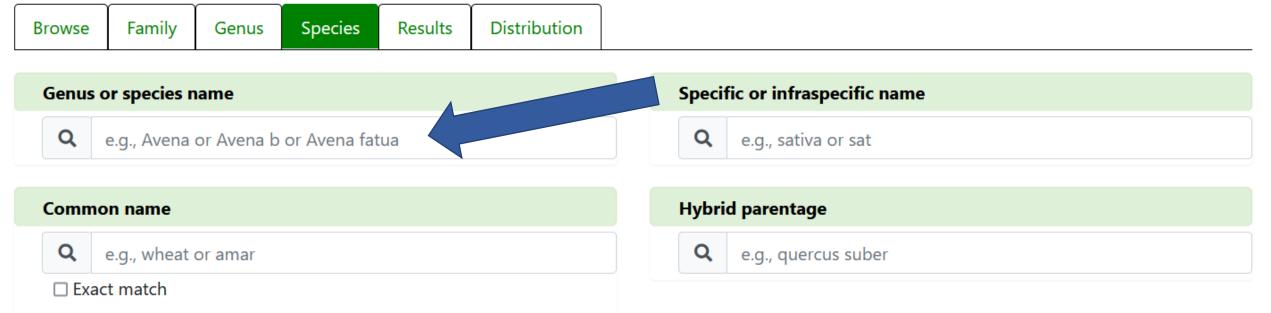
Melanie Schori
Plant Exchange Office
National Germplasm Resources Laboratory
Beltsville, Maryland
Melanie.Schori@usda.gov

# Taxonomy search page

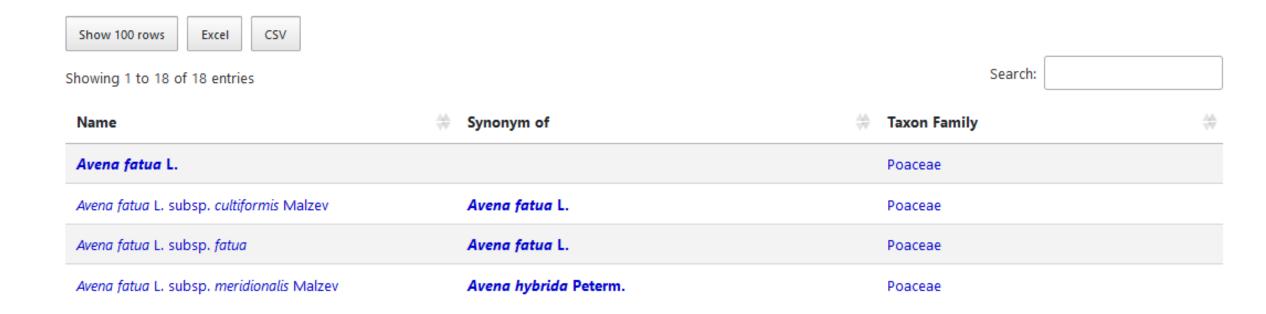
Search Taxonomy Data in GRIN-Global

Note: Use the Shift key + b, f, g, s, r or d to navigate between tabs.

Results of 5000 or more will be returned without links.

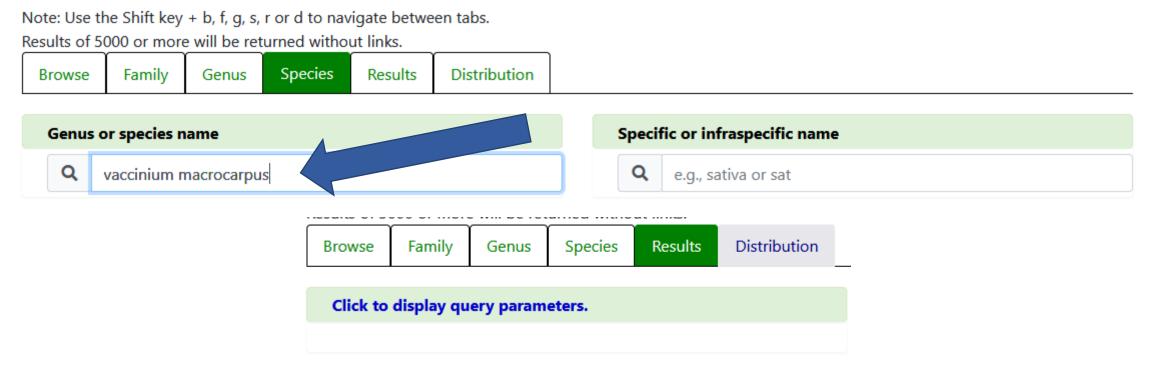


# **Exact search results**



# Full name search

### Search Taxonomy Data in GRIN-Global



There are no species results for your search.

### Partial name search

Search Taxonomy Data in GRIN-Global

Note: Use the Shift key + b, f, g, s, r or d to navigate between tabs.

Results of 5000 or more will be returned without links.

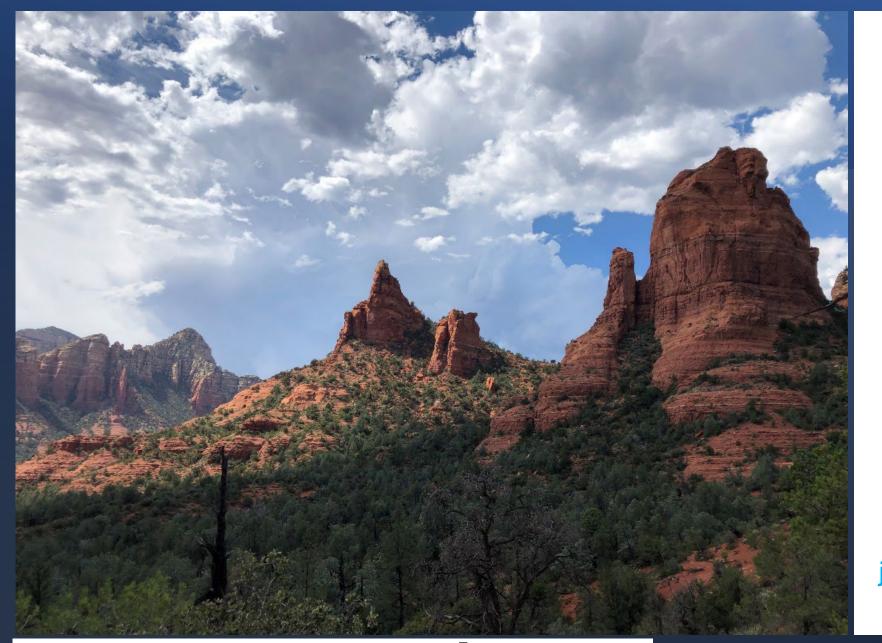
Browse Family Genus Species Results Distribution

Specific or infraspecific name

Q vaccinium macro

Q e.g., sativa or sat





# Thank you! Questions?

Anne Frances anne.frances@usda.gov

Melanie Schori <u>Melanie.Schori@usda.gov</u>

Jennifer Friedman jennifer.friedman@usda.gov

### GRIN-Global

Public Website & Server Changes

#### Releases...

4 major releases since last CGC

Next release: March 2024



### Major Changes

SMTA acceptance required for international distributions effective January 1, 2024

### Major Changes

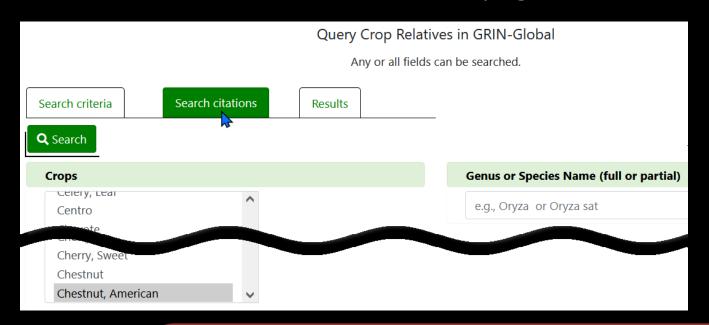
Changed mapping feature to map only one accession (button added for related accessions)

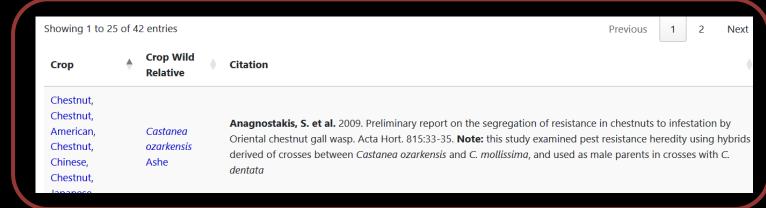
### Major Changes

Advanced Search plant parts option

#### Citations

### Citation search added to the Crop Wild Relatives (CWR) page





#### Citations

#### Citations on an Accession Detail page now include links to all other accessions with that citation

#### Citations

Klein, R. R., F. R. Miller, S. Bean, & P. E. Klein. 2016. Registration of 40 Converted Germplasm Sources from the Reinstated Sorghum

Conversion Program. J. Pl. Registr. 10(1):057. **DOI:** 10.3198/jpr2015.05.0034crg. **Number of accessions cited:** 40

## Taxonomy related

 Changed scientific name search to look for hybrids

 Also added "no hybrid symbols" to the text label

### Usability Improvements



More direct links to curatorial sites: request history pages; "Contact us"



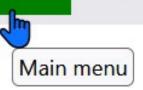
Confirmation emails w/ link to FAQs



Consistency - wording changes

#### U.S. National Plant Germplasm System

Accessions Descriptors Reports GRIN Taxonomy ▼ GRIN ▼ Help Contact Us Your Profile



GRIN-Global suggestions & questions are always welcome;
Training /demos can be arranged

Contact Us

Please do!