
Collaboration between a vegetable genebank and the private sector

International expert panel

Fruit and vegetable genetic diversity

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Collaboration CGN – private sector

■ Features CGN

- Established in 1985
- Dutch national genebank
- 23323 accessions
- Strong focus on vegetables
- Close cooperation with the private sector



Collaboration CGN – private sector

■ Features collaboration

- Formalized by MoU/letter of intent
- Transparent and open collaboration
 - Preferably multilateral initiatives
 - Approval of Dutch government
- Areas of cooperation
 - Collection improvement
 - Collection maintenance
 - Collection evaluation



Collaboration CGN – private sector

■ Exchanged services

● CGN

- Organizing collecting expeditions
- Providing access to accessions, associated information
- Advising user community (e.g. material for use, ABS issues)

● Private sector

- Cooperation via the Dutch association of plant breeders (Plantum)
- Policy advice (advisory committee)
- Technical input (materials, working groups)
- Support to collecting missions
- Input in kind (regeneration, evaluation)



Collaboration CGN – private sector

■ Collection improvement

● Collecting missions

- CGN: organization, contacts, paperwork, collecting
- Private sector: cofunding, seed multiplications



● Extension with new varieties

- CGN: organization, variety inventory, processing of data
- Private sector: advise on selection, providing seed samples



Collaboration CGN – private sector

■ Collection maintenance

- Regeneration of accessions
 - Seed depletion or low viability
 - CGN: organization
 - Private sector: experimental work
 - Based on CGN protocols (part of QMS)
 - Amounts ~10-15% of the CGN budget



Collaboration CGN – private sector

■ Collection evaluation

● Morphological description

- CGN: organisation, data recording, pictures
- Private sector: trial visits, feedback (e.g. on identity)



● Trait evaluation

- CGN: coordination, paperwork, material distribution, data processing
- Private sector: decision on traits, experimental work



(e.g. 45,000 observations on lettuce downy mildew)

Collaboration CGN – private sector

■ Cooperation in wider consortia

● Research projects

- National or international projects (EU)
- With research institutes and breeding companies
- Resequencing of genebank accessions

● ECPGR European Evaluation Network

- Genebanks, research institutes, breeding sector
- Phenotyping and genotyping
- Accessions from European genebanks



Collaboration CGN – private sector



Thanks for your attention