

**FROM: Progress report of the AEGIS model crop: *Brassica*
July 2008**

a. Recommended secondary selection criteria

The Group agreed in Olomouc that the most important secondary criterion should be “*country of origin*” (with the criterion “*region/district*” included for landraces and wild material). Other secondary criteria were discussed and it was decided that a pilot study was necessary to detect problems and appropriately rank the criteria and/or to set up a decision tree for the selection of accessions. It was decided that this study will start with the identification of candidate MAAs for *B. rapa*, as this species includes a wide diversity of uses and the collections are medium-sized. This work was carried out independently and in parallel by Charlotte Allender and Noor Bas between October 2007 and May 2008 and tested the relevance and robustness of the secondary criteria as drafted.

The same basic method was used in both instances:

- Most up-to-date version of BrasEDB used (2007 version)
- F1 hybrids disregarded
- Data were then split in two:
 - Accessions with names
 - Accessions without names
- Genetic uniqueness determined by accession name or other data
- Other primary criteria assumed to apply
- Geographic origin was priority for the secondary criteria
- Potential MAAs identified in each group
- Data recompiled and analysed

The results of the parallel studies in terms of % of *B. rapa* accessions selected as MAAs are shown below:

| % selected as MAA | Noor | Charlotte |
|-------------------|------|-----------|
| total | 60 | 78 |
| with ACCNAME | 57 | 72 |
| without ACCNAME | 66 | 90 |

The patchiness of the data meant that the decisions taken when applying the secondary criteria were subjective, and this led to the differences in the % of accessions selected as MAAs by the two people. Figure 1 below shows the number of accessions with data available for the most important passport descriptors for selecting MAAs.

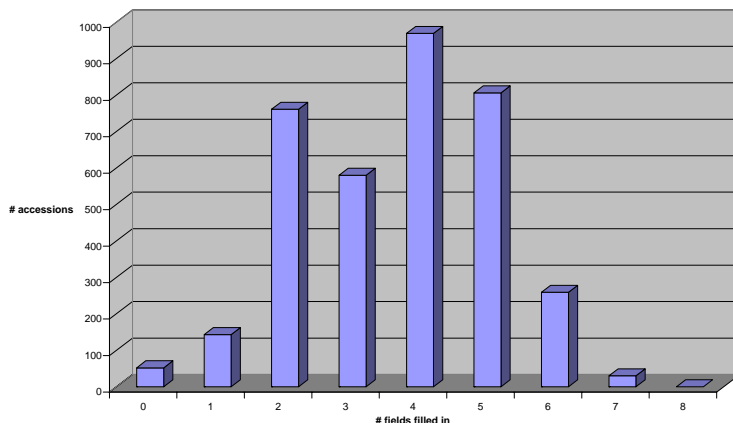


Figure 1. Number of accessions with number of following 8 descriptors filled in: ACCENAME, ORIGCTY, SAMPSTAT, COLLSITE, COLLNUMB, OTHERNUMB, DONORNUMB, DONORCODE

Based on these experiences a draft workflow was constructed for those accessions with accession name filled, see Annex 1. In this workflow the order of criteria, including some considerations on these criteria, on which decisions are to be taken are:

STEP 1: criterium for possible inclusion in AEGIS

- Amount of descriptors filled in
 - No decision yet taken on minimum number of descriptors and/or which descriptors should at least be filled

STEP 2: identification of duplicate groups

- Same or similar names
 - Taken into account different spellings, “sounds like” etc?
 - Decision yet to be taken in case of different extension after same name:
 - Gelria, Gelria A, Gelria B
 - King, King 14
- Synonyms
 - Information from EU variety list.
 - What to do with a variety, of which different synonyms exist, which is important in different countries?
- Check matches between accession-/collection-/donor-/other numbers, if information available

STEP 3: criteria to select within duplicate groups

- Held in the country of origin
 - What if origin country varies within duplicate groups?
- In core collection, or characterized/evaluated
- Most descriptors filled in

b. General observations and comments on the process of developing the criteria and lessons learnt for other crops

Insufficient data are available for many accessions of *B. rapa*, meaning that the secondary selection criteria cannot be applied in an objective, unequivocal manner. Collection holders will therefore need to be contacted to ensure that all available passport data are transferred to BrasEDB.

Information on subtaxa, and the coherence of this information within duplicate groups, has not been included in the criteria. This as for *B. rapa* the taxonomy is complex and there can be multiple uses.

It has been experienced that one year ago, for some collections the BrasEDB was more complete in relation to passport data than EURISCO. Therefore the database manager was hesitant to replace old data with more recent but incomplete passportdata. Recently it has been observed that the completeness of data in EURISCO has been increased and that EURISCO can be used more often for updating the BrasEDB with recent accession data. However, it has been observed that more data in the remarks field are available in the databases of collectionholders which are not included in the EURISCO.

A concern stays that *Brassica* collections from FRA, ITA, ESP, PRT and TUR are included in the BrasEDB, but not in EURISCO.