

Working Group on *Brassica* – Revised workplan and status at 20 May 2013

Note: some adjustments were made to the tasks agreed at the Fourth Meeting, 2-4 March 2010, Linguaglossa, Catania, Italy (full report available [here](#))

Activities	Carried out by	By when	Status 20 May 2013 / Comments
Project on wild <i>Brassica</i> species			
Reconfirm whether there is any action that they could do related to characterization of the small project collection of wild brassicas.	All WG members	15 March 2010	
Collect expressions of interest for a “field demonstration day” through the mailing list of the <i>Brassica</i> Group of the European Association for Research on Plant Breeding (EUCARPIA) as well as through contacts to be indicated by the <i>Brassica</i> WG members.	F. Branca and all WG members	May 2011	On 29/09/2010, F. Branca wrote to Ton Dennijs, the responsible of EUCARPIA GR but received no response.
Organize a “field demonstration day” in Catania, with the purpose of showing the wild <i>Brassica</i> project collection to breeders from Europe. The material will be made available (either seed or freeze-dried samples) to anyone interested in doing characterization or evaluation work and making the resulting data publicly available.	F. Branca		No expressions of interest were received. The field is not present any more, because many plants died. But they were characterized and leaf samples were collected for DNA and glucosinolate analysis.
Project on <i>B. rapa</i>			
Go through the process of requesting <i>B. rapa</i> material from the holding genebanks. Send seeds to A. Artemyeva	N. Bas with the help of F. Branca	June 2010	Seed sent before June 2010

Activities	Carried out by	By when	Status 20 May 2013 / Comments
Budget allocation			
Make a proposal on how to split the funds of the <i>Brassica</i> WG budget	F. Branca	After 15 March 2010	Task completed, budget as follows: 3000 euro VIR (<i>B. rapa</i>) 3000 euro DISPA (wild <i>Brassica</i>) 1840 euro CSCI (GLs profile)
Sign Letter of Agreement related to characterization of <i>B. rapa</i> at VIR as part of the <i>B. rapa</i> project	Bioversity and VIR	Within April 2011	Signed in December 2011
Sign Letter of Agreement related to characterization of wild <i>Brassica</i> (n=9) at DISPA as part of the wild <i>Brassica</i> project	Bioversity and DISPA		Signed in December 2011
European <i>Brassica</i> Database (Bras-EDB)			
Undertake the extension of the duplicate search function of the Bras-EDB to <i>B. oleracea</i>	N. Bas with the help of C. Allender and P. Kopecky	December 2010	Postponed due to approval of AEGIS project proposal "Duplicate Finder". The DuplicateFinder tool was finalized in June 2012. <i>B. oleracea</i> accessions in the BrasEDB have been searched for probable duplicates and the BrasEDB has been updated. (email from N. Bas to WG members, 18/10/2012):
Notify the EURISCO coordinator when Bras-EDB has more data in certain fields than EURISCO for the same accessions.	DB Manager (N. Bas)		Ongoing

Activities	Carried out by	By when	Status 20 May 2013 / Comments
Status of wild <i>Brassica</i> conservation at the Universidad Politécnica de Madrid (UPM), Spain			
- Inform the <i>Brassica</i> WG, providing a detailed list of the accessions of wild (n=9) <i>Brassica</i> currently stored at UPM and the amount of seed left.	M. Elena Gonzalez		On 12/03/2013 N. Bas sent a request to Elena Torres, UPM (cc A. De Haro) to receive updated information.
- Provide information about the sites where these accessions have been safety-duplicated, according to the existing records at UPM.			Elena Gonzalez informed Task Force on 10/03/2010
- Identify locations where wild (n=9) <i>Brassica</i> accessions are stored in the world	Task Force including N. Bas (coordinator) , F. Branca, G. Poulsen, M.E. Gonzalez, A. Traka-Mavrona and L. Maggioni		Overview was completed as far as possible by April 2011
- Verify the availability of the above accessions for seed exchange			Was completed as far as possible by April 2011
- Verify whether the genepool of wild <i>Brassica</i> can be considered safely conserved in <i>ex situ</i> genebanks or whether further collecting is needed		Ongoing	In March 2013 the TF renewed its commitment to collect updated information in preparation for a poster at EUCARPIA 2013.
- Identify the accessions requiring multiplication and prepare a time-framed plan for such multiplication (by whom and by when)			Item to be re-considered after completion of the analysis in June 2013
- Promote any other action required for the safe and effective conservation of the wild (n=9) <i>Brassica</i> genepool.			A presentation including the status of <i>ex situ</i> wild (n=9) <i>Brassica</i> was given by R. Von Bothmer at ISHS Brassica 2012, with inputs from the TF.

Activities	Carried out by	By when	Status 20 May 2013 / Comments
Descriptors to use for the characterization work			
- Circulate to the Group a list of descriptors to be used for the wild brassica characterization project.	F. Branca		The characterization work was completed in 2010, utilizing the IBPGR descriptors utilized for AEGRO project.
- Send comments to complement the initial suggestions.	WG members		See above
- Make final decision.	Chair		See above
AEGIS			
- Test the template of an operational genebank manual.	G. Poulsen / NordGen	May 2010	Completed in May 2010

Note: a project funded by the AEGIS Grants Scheme was completed in 2012:

“*Brassica* selection criteria for the identification of the Most Appropriate Accessions (MAAs): relate to the *Brassica oleracea* of Iberian Collection” (report available [here](#)).