

# Medicinal and Aromatic Plants ECPGR Working Group: Objectives and Achievements

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# European Cooperative Programme for Plant Genetic Resources

## Medicinal and Aromatic Plants Working Group

Sugar, Starch and Fibre Crops  
Network ▶

### ■ Useful links

Report of a Working Group on Medicinal and Aromatic Plants. Second Meeting, 16-18 December 2004, Strumica, Macedonia (FYR) and Third Meeting, 26-28 June 2007, Olomouc, Czech Republic

 [MAP 2nd and 3rd](#)  
(PDF file 2658KB)

■ [Workplan agreed in June 2007](#)

- [Recent events](#)
- [Background information](#)
- [Scope of the WG activities](#)
- [European Status of MAPs](#)
- [Conservation programmes](#)
- [Long-term tasks](#)

### ■ Recent events

- The Medicinal and Aromatic Plants Working Group held its 4th meeting at Kuşadası, Turkey on 29 September - 1 October 2009.
- [Draft report](#)
- [Presentations given during the meeting](#)

### ■ Background information

The proposal to establish a Working Group on Medicinal and Aromatic Plants (MAPs) was advanced at the first meeting of the Minor Crops Network Coordinating Group, in June 1999 in Turku, Finland. During its eighth meeting, in October 2001, the ECPGR Steering Committee agreed on the establishment of this Working Group. The MAP Working Group met for its first time in Gozd Martuljek, Slovenia, September 2002. A second meeting was held in Skopje, Macedonia, 16-18 December 2004, jointly with the SEEDNet MAP Working Group meeting. The third meeting of the WG took place in Olomouc, Czech Republic, on 26-28 June 2007. (See report of the





## Main objectives of the MAP WG

Develop conservation strategies in Europe

✓ inventory of MAP genetic resources

✓ *ex situ* and *in situ* conservation

✓ characterization/evaluation

*with development of crop-specific descriptors*

✓ documentation of *ex situ* collections and *in situ* populations



The Fourth Meeting of the MAPWG was held in  
2009 in Kuşadası, Turkey

## DECISIONS

**Crop-specific characterization and evaluation  
descriptors, for ten target species**

**Documentation of *ex situ* collections, following the  
EURISCO procedures**

**Documentation of *in situ* populations**

**Development of a common project: Conservation and  
characterization of oregano (*Origanum vulgare* L.) wild  
populations in Europe**



## Priority species

*Mentha piperita* and *M. spicata*  
*Thymus vulgaris* and *T. serpyllum*  
*Origanum* spp.  
*Carum carvi*  
*Melissa officinalis*  
*Achillea millefolium* agg.  
*Salvia officinalis*  
*Artemisia absinthium*  
*Gentiana lutea*  
*Hypericum perforatum*



## MAP collections in Europe ( information reported in country reports)

Total number of accessions reported	19 680
Number of accessions from domestic flora	14 702
Number of <i>ex situ</i> seed accessions approximately	15 000
Number of <i>ex situ</i> field accessions approximately	5 400
Number of reported <i>in situ</i> accessions	249



## MAP collections in Europe

( information reported in country reports)

**No. of acessions**

**No. of collections**

≥ 5

482

≥ 10

286

≥ 50

73

≥ 100

35



## The ten largest MAP collections

( information reported in country reports)

Country	Species	N° Acessions
Hungary	<i>Papaver somniferum</i>	828
Israel	<i>Sinapis alba</i>	363
Spain	<i>Rosmarinus officinalis</i> L.	335
Turkey	<i>Salvia</i> spp.	332
Spain	<i>Lavandula latifolia</i> Medik.	277
Turkey	<i>Origanum</i> spp.	219
Turkey	<i>Sideritis</i> spp.	206
Austria	<i>Papaver somniferum</i>	196
Portugal	<i>Humulus lupulus</i>	162
Spain	<i>Salvia lavandulifolia</i> Vahl.	151

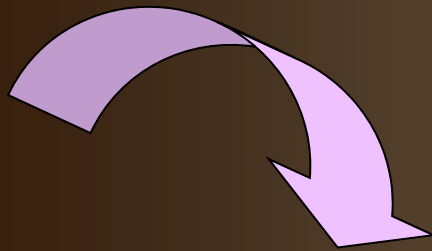




## Documentation

( information reported in country reports)

**14 030** MAP accessions are documented in National Databases



***4300*** MAP accessions have been uploaded in EURISCO

Evaluation data has been uploaded in national databases

**Hungary, Slovakia and Latvia.**



“Origanum project”

**Conservation and characterization of oregano  
(*Origanum vulgare* L.) wild populations  
in Europe**

*1 June 2010 - 31 March 2011*



## “Origanum project”

### Objectives

- ✓to make an inventory and to survey native populations of wild oregano (*Origanum vulgare* L.)
- ✓to characterize their genetic and chemical variability
- ✓to find out the distribution pattern of taxonomically defined populations in European countries.



## “Origanum project”

### Project tasks

- ✓ Sampling of *Origanum vulgare* L. populations
- ✓ Collecting of herbarium specimens  
([www.herbarium.reading.ac.uk](http://www.herbarium.reading.ac.uk))
- ✓ Study of genetic and chemical variability of oregano populations
- ✓ Documentation (following ECPGR MAPWG general descriptors )
- ✓ Distribution of collected data among partners



**Slovenia:** Dea Baričevič - **Coordinator**

**Portugal:** Ana Maria Barata

**Albania:** Alban Ibraliu

**Check Republic:** Karel Dušek

**Bulgaria:** Kana Bojcheva Varbanova

**Finland:** Bertalan Galambosi

**Italy:** Carla Vender

**Israel:** Nativ Dudai

**Latvia:** Ieva Žukauska

**Macedonia FYR:** Gjoshe Stefkov

**Norway:** Åsmund Asdal

**Slovakia:** Iveta Cicová

**Turky:** Ali Osman Sari

**Croacia:** Zlatko Satovic

**Serbia:** Zora Dajic Stevanovic

**Spain:** David Draper Munt

**Greece:** Paschalina Chatzopoulou

**Hungary:** Ildikó Novak

**Lituania:** Jolita Radušienė



## “Origanum project”

The collected material will be characterized  
genetically and chemically by

Dr. Johannes Novak,  
Institute for Applied Botany and Pharmacognosy,  
University of Veterinary Medicine, Veterinärplatz 1,  
A-1210 Vienna  
Austria



# Work Plan

## Time frame

## Actions

June to September 2010

Member countries collect the plant material and record habitat data

By 1 October 2010

Samples are processed and sent to the subcontracted research institute according to internal guidelines

October 2010 to 1 March 2011

Genetic and chemical analyses are performed

March 2011

Data distribution among the partners and final report produced.  
Final report to the Steering Committee for evaluation.



## “Origanum project”

The main outcome of the project is to gather data on the distribution of native populations of taxonomically defined oregano (*Origanum vulgare* L.) in ECPGR MAPWG member Countries and partners of the project.





## Future

Continue to implement global projects involving all the ECPGR member countries, for different MAP species

To get involved for specific tasks, with other ECPGR Working Groups

Thank you very much  
for your attention



Medicinal and Aromatic Plants Working Group