Safeguarding of potato onion (Allium cepa L. Aggregatum group) and garlic (Allium sativum L.) crop diversity in North Europe – Baltic region - SafeAlliDiv

Līga Lepse
Institute of Horticulture,
Latvia University of Agriculture
Potato onion

• Most potato onions are not cultivated commercially anymore in Latvia, but are stored in genebank collections.

• Interest is rising niche product in organic and/or sustainable farming systems...
Accessions for DNA analyse

• 38 samples of local landraces (out of 41 maintained in collection)
• Representing all regions of Latvia
Descriptors for morphological evaluation (for 20 accessions from analysed)

Leaf color; Leaf number; Leaf length; Leaf width; Foliage attitude; Foliage cracking; Waxiness; Pseudostem diameter; Pseudostem length; Shape of mature dry bulbs; Shape of bulb top; Shape of bulb base; Outer skin ground colour of bulb; Bulb flesh colour; Coloration of epidermis of fleshy scales; Average number of bulbs per cluster; Bulb hearting; Thickness of dry external scales; Ability to flower; Number of days to maturity; Sprouting during storage; Bulb diameter
Thank you very much for your attention!