

The main objective of the National Centre for Plant Genetic Resources: Polish Genebank (NCPGR) is protection of biodiversity of crop plants endangered with genetic erosion.

NCPGR objectives:

- collection of crop plants and their wild relatives endangered with genetic erosion,
- characterization and evaluation of collected materials in both, traditional and molecular way,
- keeping the accessions in viable state and genetic purity,
- drawing up documentation and exchanging the collected materials with other genebanks and botanical gardens worldwide,
- distribution of the material for breeding, research and education,
- development of research and use of crop plants genetic resources.

The objectives are realized within the scope of Area 1 „**Protection of crop genetic resources**” within the framework of the Multiannual Programme „**Creating the scientific basis of the biological progress and conservation of plant genetic resources as a source of innovation to support sustainable agriculture and food security of the country**” coordinated by Plant Breeding and Acclimatization Institute — National Research Institute and financed by the Polish Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development.

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## PROTECTION OF CROP GENETIC RESOURCES

PLANT BREEDING AND  
ACCLIMATIZATION INSTITUTE—  
NATIONAL RESEARCH INSTITUTE  
NATIONAL CENTRE FOR PLANT  
GENETIC RESOURCES:  
POLISH GENEBAK



We are able to manipulate genes, but only nature can create them. When a plant with unique feature disappears, it is an irreversible loss.

A lot of factors endanger biodiversity, including:

- change of land cultivation methods,
- limitation or abandoning of traditional farming methods,
- liquidation and fragmentation of habitats and agroecosystems,
- chemical contamination, dehydration and acidification of soils,
- displacing landraces and old varieties of crop plants with new, high yielding varieties,
- intrusion of alien species and their planned or accidental introduction.

It is crucial for future and sustainability of our agriculture to stop the process of genetic erosion.

NCPGR activities extend biodiversity of agricultural crops through introduction of landraces and old crop varieties of field crops, vegetable crops, medicinal plants and through raising public awareness about the importance of plant genetic resources.



Plant collections protected within the framework of Multiannual Programme, Area 1 „Protection of crop genetic resources”:

collections of agricultural plants: rye, winter and spring wheat, pea, lupin, serradella, underutilized grain legumes, durum wheat, triticale, buskwheat, corn, potatoes, herbal plants, medicinal and aromatic plants (including spice crops), hop, hemp, smallseed legumes, meadow and pasture plants, reclamation plants, energetic plants and grasses,

- collections of vegetable crops: onions, garlic, shallot, cucumbers, cucurbits, tomatoes, parsley, celery, dill, beans, asparagus, carrots, cabbages, cauliflowers, broccoli and peppers,
- collections of fruit trees: apple, pear, plum, sour and sweet cherry, peach, apricot, hazel, walnut, and rare varieties of fruit crops,
- collections of berry crops: strawberry, wild strawberry, raspberry, blackberry, currant, gooseberry, blueberry and cranberry, grapevine and ornamental plants (lily, narcissus, tulip, gladiolus and rose),
- collection of wild crop relatives and accompanying weed species.



Cooperating units managing field crops



Cooperating units managing vegetable crops