# Drafting a prioritized checklist of Crop Wild Relatives and Wild Harvested Plants of Italy: problems and solutions

Giulio Barone<sup>1</sup>, Simona Ciancaleoni<sup>2</sup>, Domizia Donnini<sup>2</sup>, Daniela Gigante<sup>2</sup>, Lorenzo Raggi<sup>2</sup>, **Gianniantonio Domina**<sup>1</sup>, Valeria Negri<sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Department of Agricultural, Food and Forest Sciences, University of Palermo, Palermo, Italy <sup>2</sup>Department of Agricultural, Food and Environmental Sciences, University of Perugia, Perugia, Italy





CWR and WHP should be protected not only *per se*, as key elements of biodiversity, but also for their great and direct socioeconomic importance for humans.



CWR, some of which are also collected in the wild for different purposes including human consumption, are widely used in specific breeding programs aimed at improving crops for productivity, quality, and resistance to biotic and abiotic stress. The most relevant economic impact of wild relatives in crop improvement is related to the introgression of disease and pest resistance traits in several crops.



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ARTICLE

# A new list and prioritization of wild plants of socioeconomic interest in Italy: toward a conservation strategy

Simona Ciancaleoni<sup>a</sup><sup>5</sup>, Lorenzo Raggi<sup>a</sup><sup>5</sup>, Giulio Barone<sup>b</sup><sup>5</sup>, Domizia Donnini<sup>a</sup>, Daniela Gigante<sup>6</sup>, Gianniantonio Domina<sup>6</sup>, and Valeria Negri<sup>a</sup>

\*Department of Agricultural, Food and Environmental Sciences, University of Perugia, Perugia, Italy; \*Department of Agricultural, Food and Forest Sciences, University of Palermo, Palermo, Italy

### ABSTRACT

### KEYWORDS

Crop wild relatives; Italian CWR check list; CWR taxa

biodiversity; ethnobotanical

conservation priority;

Wild harvested plants (WHP) and crop wild relatives (CWR), part of the segment of natural diversity that is collectively known as 'Plant Genetic Resources', have great socioeconomic importance for humans because they are used either directly or in crop breeding. In order to lay down a solid base for constructing conservation strategies for Italy, an updated annotated list of CWR and WHP was produced for the country including information on known uses. Taxa included in the list were then prioritized using a pragmatic approach based on their value, native status, and need of protection or monitoring.

### Introduction

It is commonly acknowledged that the inter- and intra-specific diversity, as well as the habitat diversity of wildlife, is under threat of irremediable loss (Cardinale et al. 2012; Ceballos et al. 2015; Chase et al. 2020; Leigh et al. 2019). The Mediterranean basin is an important biodiversity hotspot with about 25,000 plant species (Cuttelod et al. 2008), of which about 13,000 are endemic (Myers et al. 2000). In particular, after the Iberian Peninsula and Balearic Islands, the Italian Peninsula, and the main Italian Islands are the European areas where the highest number of endemic plant species can be found (Bartolucci et al. 2018; Bilz et al. 2011; Castroviejo 2010). Because of their distribution and the real and potential threats to the conservation of their populations (Bilz et al. 2011), many plant species of the Mediterranean area are considered in need of protection and/or monitoring by national and international conservation policies such as the Bern Convention (Council of Europe 1979) and the Habitats Directive 92/43/EEC (European Commission 1992). The crop wild relatives (CWR) (i.e., wild plant taxa that are relatively genetically close to cultivated plants) (Maxted et al. 2006) and the wild harvested plants (WHP) (i.e., non-cultivated species, which are collected from the wild

CONTACT Valeria Negri 💭 valeria.negrigunipg.it 💭 Department of Agricultural, Food and Environmental Sciences, University of Perugia, Borgo XX Giugno 74, 06121 Perugia, Italy "These authors equally contributed to the paper © 2021 Taylor & Francis

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https://www.optima-bot.org/index.php/en/projects/8-category-en-gb/217-the-italian-cwr-whp-database







### PROJECTS

Last Updated: 28 May 2021 Hits: 1986

Area dedicated to the dissemination of phyto-taxonomic research projects in the Mediterranean area.

## https://www.optima-bot.org/



### https://www.actaplantarum.org/flora/flora.php



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The developed lists will be made available in one of the next updates of the 'Portal to the Flora of Italy' (http://dryades.units.it/floritaly/index.php).

 Any wild plant taxon related to a crop can be defined as a CWR, but it is its genetic relatedness with a certain cultivated taxon that conditions how easily it can be used in crop breeding. Following the concept of Harlan and De Wet (1971), only taxa at least partially fertile with the crop (i.e., included in Gene Pool 1 and 2) are commonly considered as CWR.

TAXON 20(4): 509-517. AUGUST 1971

### TOWARD A RATIONAL CLASSIFICATION OF CULTIVATED PLANTS

J. R. Harlan and J. M. J. de Wet

### Summary

AUGUST 1971

The methods of formal taxonomy have not been very satisfactory for the classification of cultivated plants, As a result, the people who deal with cultivated plants the most have developed their own informal and intuitive classifications based on experience as to what constitutes useful groupings. An attempt is made to provide a framework in which both systems can operate with a minimum of confusion. The structure of the total available gene pool is Atracterized by assigning trax to privary, secondary and tettiary gene pools. At the infraspecific level, cultivars are grouped into races and subtraces in an informal way without rigid rules for the use of terms.

In the course of our work at the Crop Evolution Laboratory, we have, of necessity, dealt with cultivated plants and their relatives in a comparative way. The inconsistencies and lack of agreement among taxonomists dealing with the same materials are remarkable, to say the least, and are even more striking when the treatments of different crops are compared. Confusion and disagreement extend over the generic, specific and infraspecific levels.

In the wheats, Percival (1921) used two species, Bowden (1959) three, and Jakubiner (Jakubiner and Dorofeev 1966) 24, but all were classifying essentially the same materials. Snowden (1935) used 31 species of cultivated Sorghum alone, in addition to the wild and weedy ones that are fully compatible genetically with the domesticated sorts. Jakubavesky (1960) reduced these to nine and de Wet and Huckabay (1967) to one. Bukasov (1933, 1939) had well over 200 species in the Tuberarium section of Solanum; Hawkes (1963) reduced these to about half that many, yet retained 64 species in the series Tuberosa Rydb, in which the taxa can be intercrossed and in which there is very little genomic differentiation despite a fairly extensive polypoid series. Some taxonomists assign tocintle to the genus Euchlaena, some to Zea, and some to a race or subspecies of Zea mays. Acgilous is maintained as a genus by some and assigned to Triticum by others.

The number of examples of this kind can be multiplied many times. Faced with this sort of vacillation and indecision among taxonomists, the people who deal with cultivated plants the most – geneticits, agronomists, horticulturalists and foresters – have developed their own informal and intuitive classifications based on experience as to what constitutes useful groupings. They will continue to use their own systems no matter what the taxonomist does or does not do. Bat, there is more involved here than the usual differences in judgement hetween splitters and lumpers. In the first place, cultivated plants are different from wild ones and require special taxonomic treatment. In the second place, there have been no guidelines for consistent groupings of related taxa according

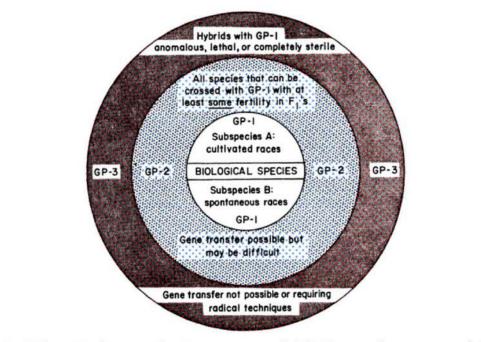


FIG. 1. Schematic diagram of primary gene pool (GP-1), secondary gene pool (GP-2) and tertiary gene pool (GP-3).

Crop Evolution Laboratory, Agronomy Department, University of Illinois, Urbana, Illinois 61801, US.A.

 However, it should be pointed out that not all the interbreeding relationships of wild plants with crops have been assessed yet. For this reason, Maxted et al. (2006) proposed the concept of taxon group (TG) where, broadly speaking, a CWR is considered any taxa belonging to the same genus as the crop, the genus being a proxy for relatedness.

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### Towards a definition of a crop wild relative

### NIGEL MAXTED<sup>1,\*</sup>, BRIAN V. FORD-LLOYD<sup>1</sup>, STEPHEN JURY<sup>2</sup>, SHELAGH KELL<sup>1</sup> and MARIA SCHOLTEN<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup>School of Biosciences, University Of Birmingham, Edgbaston, Birmingham, R15 27T, UK, <sup>1</sup>School of Plant Sciences, The University of Reading, Whiteknights, Reading, R66 64S, UK, <sup>\*</sup>Author for correspondence (e-mail: n-masted/abham.ac.uk; phone: +44-121-414-5571; fax: +44-121-414-5925)

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Key words: Crop wild relative, Definition, Gene pools, Plant genetic resources, Taxon groups

Abstract. Crop wild relatives are an important socie-economic resource that is currently being eroded or even estinguished through careless human activities. If the Conference of the Parties (COP) to the CBD 2010 Biodivenity Target of achieving a significant reduction in the current rate of loss is to be achieved, we must first define what crop wild relatives are and how their conservation might be prioritised. A definition of a crop wild relative to proposed and filturated in the light of previous Gene Pool concept theory. Where crossing and genetic diversity information is unavailable, the Taxon florup concept is introduced to assist recognition of the degree of crop wild relative relatedness by using the existing taxonomic hierarchy.

Abbreviations: CBD – Convention on Biological Diversity; COP – Conference of the Parties to the CBD: CWR – Crop wild relative; FAO – Food and Agricolture Organisation of the United Nations; GM – Genetic modification; GP – Gene pool; PGR – Plant genetic resources; TG – Taxon group

### Introduction

The Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD 1992) and the subsequent International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture (FAO 2001) have proved a watershed in plant genetic resources (PGR) conservation in many ways, particularly by re-focusing conservation activities onto in situ conservation, and the definition provided in the text of the CBD (Convention on Biological Diversity 1992), incorporates two distinct approaches: conservation of wild species in nature and on-farm conservation of domesticated varieties or breeds. Within the context of socioeconomic plant diversity conservation, the change of emphasis away from further collecting of cultivated material for ex situ conservation in gene banks towards the in situ conservation of ouclally adapted land races and the wild relatives of crops within or outside existing protected areas, has necessitated the research and development of new conservation methods (Hawkes 1991; Maxted et al. 1997a). Taxon Group 1a – crop Taxon Group 1b – same species as crop Taxon Group 2 – same series or section as crop Taxon Group 3 – same subgenus as crop Taxon Group 4 – same genus Taxon Group 5 – same tribe but different genus to crop • In order to generate national and international PGR conservation plans, the first step is to create and maintain updated dedicated inventories of taxa.

FullName	Unit	E	Endemism	с	т	R	StatusUnkn own	Native	STATUS	Archeo/Ne o	Introduced	Cultivated	Large-scale cultivation	WorldDistCo pl	Скор	
egopodium podagraria L	TA	1 1	•	1				* N	*							1
rgopodium podagrana 1 gropyron pectiniforme Roem. & Schult.	ITA							N				C			Agropyron cristatum - Crested wheatgrass	T
	ITA							N								
rostis alpina Scop. rostis camina L	ITA							N							Agrostis capillaris L. / Agrostis stolonifera L	
rostis canina L. rostis canina L. subsp. aspromontana Brullo, Scelsi & Spamp	ITA		Italy		т			N						0	Agrostis capillaris L. / Agrostis stolonifera L Agrostis capillaris L. / Agrostis stolonifera L	
		E	Italy		.4.			N						C		
ostis canina L. subsp. canina	ITA				т										Agrostis capillaris L. / Agrostis stolonifera L	
ostis canina L. subsp. monteluccii Selvi	ITA	E	Italy		- 4			N						C	Agrostis capillaris L. / Agrostis stolonifera L	
ostis capillaris L	ПА							N							Agrostis capillaris L. / Agrostis stolonifera L	
ostis capillaris L. subsp. capillaris	ITA							N							Agrostis capillaris L. / Agrostis stolonifera L	
ostis castellana Boiss. & Reut.	ITA, SIC							N							Agrostis capillaris L. / Agrostis stolonifera L	
ostis curtisii Kerguélen	ITA							N							Agrostis capillaris L. / Agrostis stolonifera L	
ostis gigantea Roth	ITA							N							Agrostis capillaris L. / Agrostis stolonifera L	
ostis gigantea Roth subsp. gigantea	ITA							N							Agrostis capillaris L. / Agrostis stolonifera L	
ostis pourretii Willd.	ITA, SAR, SIC							N							Agrostis capillaris L. / Agrostis stolonifera L	
ostis rupestris All.	ITA							N							Agrostis capillaris L. / Agrostis stolonifera L	
ostis rupestris All. subsp. rupestris	ITA							N							Agrostis capillaris L. / Agrostis stolonifera L	
ostis schleicheri Jord. & Verl.	ITA							N							Agrostis capillaris L. / Agrostis stolonifera L	
rostis schraderiana Bech.	ITA							N							Agrostis capillaris L. / Agrostis stolonifera L	Taxon Group
ostis stolonifera L.	ITA, SAR, SIC							N							Agrostis capillaris L. / Agrostis stolonifera L	- Taxon Group
ostis stolonifera L. subsp. maritima (Lam.) Vasc.	ITA							N							Agrostis capillaris L. / Agrostis stolonifera L	- Taxon Group
rostis stolonifera L. subsp. scabrighanis (Boiss. & Reut.) Maire	ITA, SIC							N							Agrostis capillaris L. / Agrostis stolonifera L	- Taxon Group
rostis stolonifera L. subsp. stolonifera	ITA, SAR, SIC							N							Agrostis capillaris L. / Agrostis stolonifera L	- Taxon Group
ostis vinealis Schreb.	ITA							N							Agrostis capillaris L. / Agrostis stolonifera L	- Taxon Group
rostis vinealis Schreb. subsp. vinealis	ITA							N							Agrostis capillaris L. / Agrostis stolonifera L	- Taxon Group
um acutiflorum Loisel.	ITA							N							Alliam - Taxon Group	W34790000000000
um aetnense Brullo, Pavone & Salmeri	SIC	E	Sicily					N						C	Alliam - Taxon Group	
um agrigentinum Brullo & Pavone	SIC	E	Sicily					N						С	Allium - Taxon Group	
um amethystinum Tausch	ITA, SIC							N							Allium - Taxon Group	
sm angulosum L	ITA							N								GP3

 Applying the CWR concept developed by Maxted et al. (2006), a comprehensive list of CWR for Europe and the Mediterranean area was produced, which includes 25,687 native and exotic CWR taxa (Kell et al. 2008); 5,712 taxa are cataloged for Italy in this inventory.

### Crops and Wild Relatives of the Euro-Mediterranean Region: Making and Using a Conservation Catalogue

S.P. KELL, H. KNÜPFFER, S.L. JURY, B.V. FORD-LLOYD AND N. MAXTED

### 5.1 Why Catalogue the Crop Resources of Europe and the Mediterranean?

The combined European and Mediterranean region (the Euro-Mediterranean region) is an important centre for the diversity of crops and their wild relatives a major socio-economic resource and the cornerstone of agrobiodiversity for the region. Major food crops, such as wheat (Triticum destivum L.), barley (Hordeum vulgare L.), cabbage (Brassica oleracea L.) and olive (Olea europaea L.), originated in the Euro-Mediterranean and the wild relatives of these crops, along with several other major crops that have wild relatives in the region, are an important genetic resource for crop improvement and food security. Many minor crops have also been domesticated and developed in the region, such as chickpea (Ctcer artetinum L.), lentil (Lens cultuarts Medik.), sugarbeet (Beta vulgarts L.), almond (Prunus dulcts (Mill.) D.A. Webb) and apple (Malus domestica Borkh.). Other crops of socio-economic importance with wild relatives in the region are forestry species such as Abtes alba Mill., Populus ntora L. and Ouercus tlex L., ornamentals such as species of Dtanthus L., Euphorbia L., Gerantum L. and Primula L. and medicinal and aromatic plants such as species of Anemone L., Campanula L., Heltanthemum Mill., Orchis L. and Verbascum L. Although it is acknowledged that populations of crop wild relatives (CWR) are under threat in the Euro-Mediterranean region, their conservation has historically received relatively little systematic attention. Creating a CWR inventory is the first step in the conservation and effective use of these vital resources - to tackle CWR conservation, we need to know how many taxa there are, what they are and where they are.

Taxon inventories provide the baseline data critical for biodiversity assessment and monitoring, as required by the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) (CBD, 1992), the Global Strategy for Plant Conservation (GSPC) (CBD, 2002), the European Plant Conservation Strategy (EPCS) (Council of Europe

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Table 5.6. List of Euro-Mediterranean nations, showing the total number of crop and CWR species per nation in descending order. The right column shows the number of species as a percentage of the total number of crop and CWR species in the region.										
Nation	No. of crop and CWR species	Percentage of Euro-Mediterranear crop and CWR species								
Turkey	7235	28								
Spain	6669	26								
Italy	5712	22								
France	5528	22								
Greece	4818	19								
Ukraine	4265	17								
Bussia	4259	17								
Germany	4211	16								
Slovakia	3873	15								
Bulgaria	3619	14								
Austria	3563	14								
Czech Republic	3526	14								
Romania	3484	14								
Croatia	3436	13								
Switzerland	3413	13								
Morocco	3409	13								
Portugal	3296	13								
Albania	3030	12								
Algeria	2911	11								
Poland	2751	11								
Hungary	2639	10								
Lebanon	2577	10								
Slovenia	2533	10								
	2633	9								
Syria Sweden	2362	9 0								
Serbia	2362	9.0								
	2359	9								
Norway	2276	9 9								
Armenia	2235	20 00								
United Kingdom										
Israel	2084	8								
Denmark	2056	8								
Tunisia	1882	7								
Georgia	1882	7 7 7 7 7 7								
Moldova	1795	1								
Finland	1771	7								
Egypt	1745	7								
Belgium	1730	7								
The Netherlands	1723	7								
Libya	1547	6								
Estonia	1501	6								
Lithuania	1477	6								
Cyprus	1448	6								
Latvia	1323	5								
Ireland	1299	5								
Azerbaijan	882	3 Continue								

The last updated Italian CWR/WHP list is that one proposed by Landucci et al. (2014), which also includes a
prioritization method applied to Italian territory.

RESEARCH A Prioritized Inventory of Crop Wild Relatives and Wild Harvested Plants of Italy

Published April 28, 2015

Flavia Landucci, Lorenzo Panella, Domenico Lucarini, Daniela Gigante, Domizia Donnini, Shelagh Kell, Nigel Maxted, Roberto Venanzoni, and Valeria Negri\*

### ABSTRACT

The aim of this study was to construct a solid basis for developing a crop wild relatives (CWR) and wild harvested plants (WHP) conservation strategy at the European and national levels. To this end we (i) worked out an annotated and synonymized Working Database of the Italian Vascular Plants, (ii) worked out a full CWR-WHP checklist for Italy, (iii) worked out a prioritized CWR and WHP inventory, (iv) identified native taxa with an ascertained utility for breeding, and (v) on the basis of a gap analysis case study on two Brassica taxa, outlined the first steps to be taken immediately to develop their in situ and ex situ conservation strategy. The Working Database of the Italian Vascular Plants includes a total of 11,710 taxa. Of those, 92.0% form the CWR-WHP checklist. On the basis of the importance of the related crops, their status, and their need of protection and/or monitoring, 1118 taxa were prioritized. Of these, 129 taxa deserve the highest priority in planning a conservation strategy, including 16 that currently have a practical use in breeding. The case study showed that little is still known about relic CWR populations and that not all of them are adequately protected in situ and ex situ. Since information on their abundance, location, distribution, ecological conditions, census, and current conservation is lacking, initiatives should be put into action immediately for developing a national and European conservation strategy.

F. Landucci, L. Panella, D. Gigante, D. Dommin, R. Venanzoni, and V. Negri, Der, of Applied Biology, Univ. of Perugia, Borgo XX Giogno 74, Perugia (612), Ialy; F. Landucci, present address, Dep. of Botany and Zoology, Maaryk Univ., Kotlánki 2, Jenso 61137, Cacch Republic; D. Lucarini, Muwum Botanical Canden, Univ. of Camerino, Vala Obsedan, Camerino 62032, Italy; S. Kell and N. Maxted, Schnel of Biorciences, Univ. of Birmingham, Edglawon, Birmingham Bi5 2177, UK. Received 31 May 2013. \*Corresponding author (valeria.negrigiung) in 1993.

Abbreviations: CBP, Convention on Biological Direvnity; CWR, crop wild relatives; CWR-WHP List, crop wild relatives and wild harvested plants luto fluby; GP, gene pool; GPA, Global Plan of Action; GSPC, Global Strategy for Plant Conservation; TIPGRFA, the International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture; LR, landrace; PGR, plant genetic resources; PList, prioritized Italian crop wild relatives and wild harvested plants list; TG, taxon group; WHP, wild harvested plants.

PLANT DIVERSITY has always been one of the world's most important socioeconomic resources, influencing diet, popular raditions, lundscape diversification, and the architecture of towns and cities in each country. The Mediterranean Basin is one of the most important biodiversity hotpots in the world, including about 25,000 plant species, of which around 13,000 are endemic (4.3% of global plant species, estimated at 30,0000) (Myers et al., 2000). Many plant species of the Mediterranean area are taken into account by international conservation policies such as the Bern Convention and the Habitats Directive (92/43/EEC), because of their limited distribution and the current and potential threats to their survival (Bilz et al., 2011). In addition, the Mediterranean area

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### Bocconea 7 - 1997

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### A Catalogue of the Wild Relatives of Cultivated Plants Native to Europe

An enumeration of the wild genetic resources of native European plants that are grown in Europe for food, forage, ornament, timber and other purposes

### Prepared by

### Vernon H. Heywood & Daniel Zohary

### Introduction

Europe has a long history of plant domestication and a rich heritage of crops cultivated for a diversity of purposes. The number of plants involved is remarkably high yet much of this heritage has been surprisingly neglected. No systematic account of the crop plants developed in Europe and the genetic resources present in their wild relatives has been produced up to the present. This Catalogue aims to fill that gap.

Approximately 10% of the species of the European flora are regarded as being threatened to some degree. Amongst these are wild relatives of numerous cultivated plants, some of which are already facing serious genetic erosion, and in a few cases, a risk of their extinction. The development of new priorities for the conservation of threatened plants is urgently needed in Europe. In these priorities, some of the plants listed here should figure prominently if the continent is not to lose much of the wild genetic basis of economic plants which have had their origins here.

This Catalogue provides a survey of the wild genetic resources of cultivated plants in Europe as circumscribed by Flora Europaea (Tutin, Heywood et al. 1964-1980, Tutin et al. 1993). (See also Fig. 1). In addition, Cyprus and the Canary Islands are also included because they are member states (or part of a member state) of the Council of Europe. Although Turkey is a member state, it was decided not to include Anatolian Turkey in this survey, as its flora is almost as diverse as that of Europe as a whole; and it has such a large number of species (c. 8,000) that it deserves a separate treatment.

The Catalogue enumerates the various cultivated plants (grain crops, fruit trees, vegetables, oil and fibre crops, pot herbs and condiments, medicinal plants, fodder plants, timber trees, and ornamentals) grown in Europe which also have their close wild relatives growing on this continent. For each cultigen the Catalogue specifies, as far as can be ascertained, which are its close wild relatives (the primary wild gene pool); and where they occur in Europe. The survey of the food crops is more exhaustive than that of the other groups, and contains several minor or relict crops. The list of the other cultivated plants is less comprehensive: only the main timber trees, fodder crops, medicinals, and ornamentals have been included.

The total number of wild relatives of cultivated plants of economic importance in Europe is larger than one might suspect. Europe harbours rich wild gene pools of several The occurrence of wild relatives of cultivated plants in Italian protected areas

Pietro Mazzola, Francesco M, Raimondo & Giovanni Scuderi

### Abstract

Mazzola, P., Raimondo, F. M. & Scuderi, G.: The occurrence of wild relatives of cultivated plants in Italian protected areas. Bocconea 7: 241-248. 1997. --- ISSN 1120-4060.

An evaluation of the role played by protected areas in the conservation of the wild relatives of cultivated plants in Italy and Sicily has been carried out, based mainly on bibliographic sources. Of the 163 species and subspecies represented in the whole Italian territory, 147 occur inside protected areas. The figures for Sicily are 113 and 104, respectively. These data are evaluated in relation to the present number and extension of protected areas and with their possible increase.

There is general agreement on the remarkable role that protected areas play in the conservation of our plant heritage, including the ancestors and other close wild relatives of cultivated plants. Indeed, general provisions for preserving the semi-natural and humanmade habitats, where many relatives of cultivated plants occur and are at risk of genetic erosion, can be successfully applied in areas under controlled management, even if special provisions for single taxa are difficult to adopt.

We possess some very basic information on the pattern of distribution of crop plant ancestors occurring in protected areas in Italy and here we attempt to evaluate these data on the present and potential role of natural parks and reserves in Italy, with special reference to Sicily.

The list of the crop plant ancestors that occurs in Italy and Sicily were obtained from the Catalogue of the wild relatives of cultivated plants native to Europe compiled by Heywood & Zohary (1995) for the Council of Europe. While this list needs further development, it is suitable as a first survey for a general overview.

The occurrence of each taxon in any protected areas was examined, taking into consideration all Italian national parks and Sicilian regional parks and reserves.

Species present in the national parks were mostly obtained from literature data (see references) but in Sicily personal unpublished records have also been included.

• Ever since, a thorough taxonomic revision of the Italian flora has been carried out in Italy (Bartolucci et al. 2018; Galasso et al. 2018), with the serious consequence of a broad change of the geographic occurrence of taxa at the territorial level. Additionally, there has been a reassessment of their threat status as well (Rossi et al. 2016, Orsenigo et al. 2018; 2020;). As a consequence, the Italian CWR/WHP lists by Landucci et al. (2014) became obsolete and unusable.

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#### Is legal protection sufficient to ensure plant conservation? The Italian Red List of policy species as a case study GRADIENE ROUD, DIRGHT ONDERSON, CRIMAN MORTAGRANI, GOUGPER PERC

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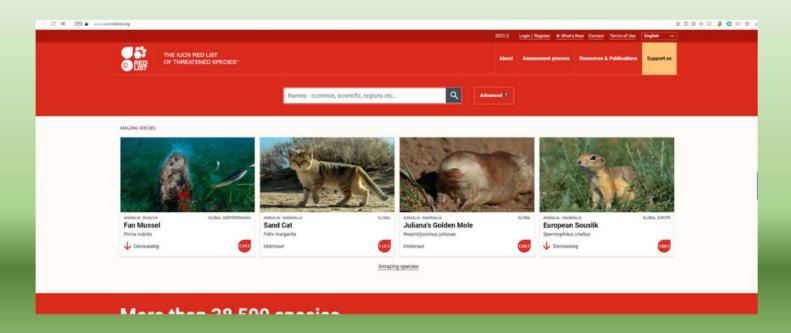
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The updated regional distribution was retrieved from Bartolucc et al. (2018), Galasso et al. (2018) and Pignatti, Guarino, and La Rosa (2017-2019).

- Additional information about origin (i.e., native or introduced, archaeophyte or neophyte status), the indication of endemic status (or not), cultivation, economic importance, uses, gene pool, and protection and/or monitoring need was provided for each taxon according an extensive reference literature and was supplemented with personal knowledge of the authors.
- Finally, the indication of the need of protection and/or monitoring at the national level was integrated following the most recent Italian Red lists (Rossi et al. 2016; Orsenigo et al.2018, 2020) or, when taxa were not included in these lists, the IUCN Red List of Threatened Species (IUCN 2020), database available online.



The wild relative taxa of the most socioeconomical important crops for food and agriculture for Italy and the entire European region were considered.

These were retrieved from the Annex I of the International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture (ITPGRFA)(FAO 2001) and/or by the Italian Institute of Statistics for cultivated areas and yield in the last 5 years (ISTAT 2019).

Another solution that could have been adopted is to use the economic value of the related crop, derived from FAOSTAT (2012-2016) for the Italian agricultural gross production (FAO 2019), and organized according to the classifications of products used for the statistical purposes in FAOSTAT Commodity List

### Then, in order to focus our attention on taxa in high need of protection, we considered the threatened taxa occurring in Red lists.

#### Is legal protection sufficient to ensure plant conservation? The Italian Red List of policy species as a case study

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### Managerr Description and Managerr Description Territory (the scientific of Dissource) **Biological Conservation**

#### Red Listing plants under full national responsibility: Extinction risk and threats in the vascular flora endemic to Italy

Orsenige Simone", Moningranii Chines", Juna Glaseppe', Gargane Domenior">, Perunii Lorenze', Abeli Thomari, Alexandriai Alexandra', Racherta Ganhaigi', Barolacci Fabriain' Bosts Meators', Brallo Costani, Brallo Salvators', Carta Argolins', Canello Meto' Cognet Donardler, Coett Fabin<sup>1</sup>, Donatine Ganatianmeter<sup>1</sup>, Fogg Brune<sup>11</sup>, Gennal MacIde<sup>11</sup>, Gganet Daniela<sup>1</sup>, Bertin Mauru<sup>1</sup>, Lasen Cenare<sup>1</sup>, Magniti Saru<sup>1</sup>, Pentine English V.<sup>11</sup>, Pranser Filippe', Samangela Amadua', Sebaggi Alberte', Minca Advante', Vagge Rile', Vilani Mararanina', Wagnessmener Bahavi F., Wilhard Thomas', Taraglia Nimberte', Depré Bagestie', Mará Carle', Rood Gradame'

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- The 'A' category includes native and allochthonous taxa related to a crop of European and national importance for food and agriculture that need specific protection and/or monitoring measures; taxa in this category are present in at least one of the most recent National Red Lists (Orsenigo et al.2020; Orsenigo et al. 2018; Rossi et al. 2016) or in the IUCN Red List (IUCN 2020).
- The 'B' category includes endemic or subendemic taxa and, although they do not necessarily require specific protection measures, they require monitoring because of their restricted distribution.
- Finally, the 'C' category includes all the remaining native taxa, which, on the grounds of current knowledge, do not need any specific protection measure.

The described procedure allowed to produce an updated version of the 'annotated' Italian CWR/WHP checklist. Distinct lists were then extracted for (i) the Italian Peninsula, (ii) Sardinia, and (iii) Sicily. Lists developed for Sardinia and Sicily were based on the actual occurrence of the taxa in the regions. The two main Italian Islands, both corresponding to administrative regions (Sicily and Sardinia) and Euro+Med territories (De Jong et al. 2015), were focused since they both include large and heterogeneous territories and are characterized by a remarkably high number of endemic species (Bartolucci et al. 2018), thus constituting an emblematic example of the strong spatial and biogeographical diversity typical of Italy.



Agrostis canina L. subsp. aspromontana Brullo, Scelsi & Spamp.	ITA	E	Italy		N		c	Agrostis capillaris L. / Agrostis stolonifera L Taxon Group	TG4
Agrostis canina L. subsp. monteluccii Selvi	ITA	E	Italy	t	N		С	Agrostis capillaris L. / Agrostis stolonifera L Taxon Group	TG4
Allium agrigentinum Brullo & Pavone	SIC	E	Sicily		N		С	Allium - Taxon Group	TG4
Allium anzalonei Brullo, Pavone & Salmeri	ITA	E	Italy		N		с	Allium - Taxon Group	TG4
Allium calabrum (N.Terracc.) Brullo, Pavone & Salmeri	ITA	E	Italy		N		С	Allium - Taxon Group	TG4
Allium castellanense (Garbari, Miceli & Raimondo) Brullo, Guglielmo, Pavone & Salmeri	SIC	E	Sicily		N		С	Allium - Taxon Group	TG4
Allium diomedeum Brullo, Guglielmo, Pavone & Salmeri	ITA	E	Italy		N		С	Allium - Taxon Group	TG4
Allium franciniae Brullo & Pavone	SIC	E	Sicily		N		С	Allium - Taxon Group	TG4
Allium garbarii Peruzzi	ITA	E	Italy		N		C	Allium - Taxon Group	TG4
Allium garganicum Brullo, Pavone, Salmeri & Terrasi	ITA	E	Italy		N		С	Allium - Taxon Group	TG4
Allium hemisphaericum (Sommier) Brullo	SIC	E	Sicily		N		C	Allium - Taxon Group	TG4
Allium julianum Brullo, Gangale & Uzunov	ITA	E	Italy		N		C	Allium - Taxon Group	TG4
Allium lehmannii Lojac.	SIC	E	Sicily		N		C	Allium - Taxon Group	TG4
Allium lopadusanum Bartolo, Brullo & Pavone	SIC	E	Sicily		N		C	Allium - Taxon Group	TG4
Allium nebrodense Guss.	SIC	E	Sicily	C	N		С	Allium - Taxon Group	TG4
Allium obtusiflorum DC.	SIC	E	subendemic		N		С	Allium - Taxon Group	TG4
Allium pelagicum Brullo, Pavone & Salmeri	SIC	E	Sicily		N		С	Allium - Taxon Group	TG4
Allium pentadactyli Brullo, Pavone & Spamp.	ITA	E	Italy		N		C	Allium - Taxon Group	TG4
Allium permixtum Guss.	ITA				N		C	Allium - Taxon Group	TG4
Allium savii Pari.	ITA, SAR				N			Allium - Taxon Group	TG4
Allium trifoliatum Cirillo	ITA, SIC				N			Allium - Taxon Group	TG4
Allium vernale Tineo	SIC	E	Sicily		N		C	Allium - Taxon Group	TG4
Arthenatherum elatius (L.) P.Beauv. ex J.Presl & C.Presl subsp. nebrodense (Brullo, Miniss. & Spamp	p SIC	E	Sicily		N		C	Arthenatherum elatius (L.) P.Beauv. ex J.Presl et C.Presl - Taxon Group	TG3
Asparagus pastorianus Webb & Berthel.	SIC				N			Asparagus officianalis - Asparagus - Gene Pool	TG4
Astragalus alopecurus Pall.	ITA				N				
Astragalus aquilanus Anzal	ITA	E	Italy		N		С		
Astragalus gennarii Bacch. & Brullo	SAR	E	Sardinia		N		C		
Astragalus kamarinensis C.Brullo, Brullo, Giusso, Miniss. & Sciandr.	SAR	E	Sardinia		N		C		
Astragalus maritimus Moris	SAR	E	Sardinia		N		С		
Astragalus nebrodensis (Guss.) Strobl	SIC	E	Sicily		N		C		
Astragalus peregrinus Vahl	SIC				N				
Astragalus peregrinus Vahl subsp. warionis (Gand.) Maire	SIC				N				
Astragalus raphaelis G.Ferro	SIC		Sicily		N		C		
Astragalus siculus Biv.	SIC	E	Sicily		N		с		
Astragalus tegulensis Bacch. & Brullo	SAR	E	Sardinia		N		С		

		Italian		
Category	Italy	Peninsula	Sardinia	Sicily
Total CWR and/or WHP	8,766	7,916 (6,641)	2,745	2,952
	(7,334)		(2,600)	(2,738)
Native	7,117	6,367 (5,164)	2,180	2,431
	(5,758)		(2,062)	(2,252)
Native in need of monitoring or protection (Priority	175 (148)	89 (81)	29 (27)	81 (63)
A + B)				
CWR	8,658	7,812 (6,536)	2,685	2,889
	(7,222)		(2,544)	(2,673)
Native	7,015	6,268 (5,064)	2,120	2,380
	(5,655)		(2,000)	(2,187)
Endemic	1,551	1,012 (733)	309 (261)	393 (314)
	(1,155)			
Non native	1,644	1,544 (1,472)	565 (544)	509 (486)
	(1,571)			
Neophytes	1,323	1,228 (1,201)	401 (394)	
	(1,295)			(1)
				366 (359
Archaeophytes	190 (148)	185 (143)	120 (107)	98 (84)
Not natives only cultivated	136 (133)	136 (133)	45 (44)	46 (44)
In need of monitoring/protection	159 (136)	79 (71)	28 (26)	72 (58)
WHP	1,927	1,855 (1,768)	944 (940)	1,003 (974
	(1,818)			
Native	1,702	1,593 (1,519)	853 (852)	910 (884)
	(1,600)			
Endemic	163 (122)	92 (75)	43 (37)	62 (41)
Non native	225 (218)	215 (208)	91 (88)	93 (90)
Neophytes	193 (189)	184 (180)	68 (67)	74 (73)
Archaeophytes	26 (23)	25 (22)	22 (20)	18 (16)
Not natives only cultivated	7 (7)	7 (7)	2 (2)	2 (2)
In need of monitoring/protection	16 (12)	10 (10)	1 (1)	9 (5)

Table 1. Synoptic table of CWR and WHP for the different defined categories and geographic areas: the number of specific and subspecific taxa is followed by the number of species in brackets.



Simona



Domizia



Daniela



Thanks for your attention

Giulio



Lorenzo



Gianniantonio



Valeria