

Morphoagronomic Characterization of Landraces and Local Germplasm in the Spanish National Pear Bank in Zaragoza.

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The Spanish national pear germplasm bank is located in Zaragoza and is curated by the AgriFood Research Center of Aragon (CITA).

In the last years a big effort has been taken to complete the morpho-agronomic characterization of the 38 most common landraces and local accessions in the bank along with 38 international reference varieties. This characterization has been based on 53 descriptors (16 quantitative and 32 qualitative) adopted from Bioversity International and UPOV, focused on flower, leaves and fruit characters. Other 5 agronomic traits concerning season of flowering and maturity were also recorded.

Pictures and scanning of leaves, flowers and fruit have been done to complete the characterization with wide image documentation.

All data have been used to build UPGMA dendrogram grouping varieties according to their morphological closeness, establishing genealogical relationships as well as the identification of most of the accessions.

At this moment, a basic molecular characterization with 8 SSRs is being completed and results will be used to establish a relationship between phenotypic and genetic distance matrices.