

**Working Group on Biochemical and Molecular Techniques
and DNA-Profiling in Particular****BMT/17/24****Seventeenth Session
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**NEW DEVELOPMENTS IN BIOCHEMICAL AND MOLECULAR TECHNIQUES
CPVO REPORT ON IMODDUS: UPDATE ON R&D PROJECTS CO-FUNDED BY CPVO***Document prepared by an expert from the European Union**Disclaimer: this document does not represent UPOV policies or guidance*

The presentation prepared by an expert from the Community Plant Variety Office (CPVO) entitled "CPVO report on IMODDUS: Update on R&D projects co-funded by CPVO" is reproduced in the Annex to this document.

[Annex follows]

CPVO REPORT ON IMODDUS: UPDATE ON R&D PROJECTS CO-FUNDED BY CPVO

Presentation prepared by an expert from the European Union




CPVO
Community Plant Variety Office

**CPVO report on IMODDUS :
Update on R&D projects co-funded by CPVO**

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IMODDUS



Tomato

"Development of a harmonized SNP marker set validated for genetic distinctness testing of tomato varieties of common knowledge."

- Has been considered by the VEM in September 2017.
- Remaining question will be solved within written procedure
- Substantial comments have been made by some experts
- A revised proposal is expected in the course of 2018



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IMODDUS



Apple

"Developing molecular markers allowing the distinction of apple mutants (sports)"

- Granted co-financing in March 2018
 - coordinator : INRA-IRHS, project partner : GEVES (FR)
 - expected to be finalised in spring 2020
-
- Evaluation of differences between Gala and 10-15 mutants
 1. Standardized phenotyping of fruit color : intensity, surface, stripes and metabolites (anthoc.)
 2. Whole genome sequencing
 3. Epigenetic differences assessed genome-wide at the DNA methylation level (combined with transcriptomic data to identify differentially expressed genes)
- identification of genes potentially involved in the phenotypic changes of mutants



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IMODDUS



Oilseed rape

"Test of the potential use of SNP markers on oilseed rape varieties"

- Pre-project with objective to select a reliable marker set as well as an applicable procedure for genotyping on bulk samples
- Final report received end of March 2018
- PPT will be given by GEVES
- Follow up project in preparation for validation of SNP on large set of varieties and elaboration of an adapted model for the management of WOSR collection



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IMODDUS



Durum wheat

"Integration of molecular data into DUS testing in Durum wheat"

- Granted co-financing in December 2017
- The coordinator is the Austrian Agency for Health and Food Safety (AGES).
- Project partners are INIA (ES), GEVES (FR) CREA – SCS (IT), NÉBIH (HU).
- This project is expected to be finalised end 2020



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THE DURDUS PROJECT



Objective:

Develop a standardized method for efficient management of reference collections in durum wheat

- ☞ Combine genotypic and phenotypic data
 - Follows UPOV model 2
 - To reduce the number of plants to be grown in field trials
- ☞ All CPVO entrusted Examination Offices involved: Austria, France, Hungary, Italy, and Spain
- ☞ Use of a commercial DNA SNP-chip



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Austrian Agency for Health and Food Safety, Division for Food Security



DNA SNP-CHIP FOR GENOTYPING

Advantages and Limitations

The method is feasible, easy to use and may be implemented by any EO

- ☞ Genome-wide distribution of SNPs
- ☞ Efficient and suitable for routine analysis
- ☞ Cost-effective: based on an established system

Not suitable to replace field trials

- ☞ Genotype and phenotype are not necessarily correlated
 - A SNP may serve as a marker for a specific characteristic
- ☞ Does not cover the entire sequence information
- ☞ To be evaluated: Potential to reduce the number of comparators

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PROJECT WORKPLAN

Total duration: 36 months

Project launched in January 2018

- ☞ Collection of varieties (finished in January 2018)
- ☞ Genetic analysis with external service provider (finished in March 2018)
- ☞ Data analysis (finished in June 2018)
- ☞ Selecting the varieties to be tested in field trials (finished in July 2018)

- ☞ Conducting the field trials (2018 -2020)
- ☞ Integrating molecular and phenotypic data (2019-2020)

Project closing in December 2020

→ 3 project meetings (July 2018/AT; May 2019/IT; November 2020/FR)

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COLLECTION OF VARIETIES



- In total almost 600 varieties/candidate varieties are genotyped
 1. Varieties covered by Community Plant Variety Rights
 2. Varieties listed in the Common Catalogue
 3. Candidate varieties

Origin of varieties

Main Applicant/Maintainer		
🇦🇹 Austria:	30 Varieties	(incl. 12 Candidate Varieties)
🇫🇷 France:	114 Varieties	(incl. 17 Candidate Varieties)
🇭🇺 Hungary:	21 Varieties	(incl. 12 Candidate Varieties)
🇮🇹 Italy:	209 Varieties	(incl. 19 Candidate Varieties)
🇪🇸 Spain:	118 Varieties	(incl. 23 Candidate Varieties)
🇧🇬 Bulgaria	20 Varieties	
🇨🇭 Switzerland	9 Varieties	
🇨🇷 Croatia	1 Variety	
🇨🇾 Cyprus	4 Varieties	
🇩🇪 Germany	12 Varieties	
🇬🇷 Greece	27 Varieties	
🇵🇱 Poland	2 Varieties	
🇵🇹 Portugal	6 Varieties	
🇷🇴 Romania	2 Varieties	
🇸🇰 Slovakia	8 Varieties	

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TOTAL: 583 Varieties (incl. 83 Candidate Varieties)

GENOTYPING THE REFERENCE COLLECTION



20K wheat array and selection of high quality SNPs for analysis

🇨🇳 20K wheat array

- Allele calling performed on a **durum wheat cluster** file therefore well suited for genotyping the durum wheat reference collection (working collection)
- Chip carries high number of SNPs: **17,262 SNPs available**

🇨🇳 Quality check to select high quality SNPs

- SNPs that showed no amplification discarded (about 6%)
- Monomorphic SNPs discarded (about 40%)
- Threshold for missing values per loci < 5% (about 3% of the SNPs discarded)
 - low number of missing values: 94% of the SNP have less than 2% NA

→ **8,804 high quality SNPs selected to characterize the reference collection**

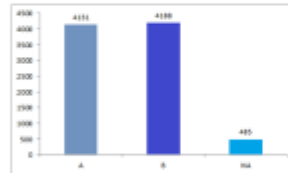
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SNPs ARE SUITABLE TO DESCRIBE DURUM MATERIAL

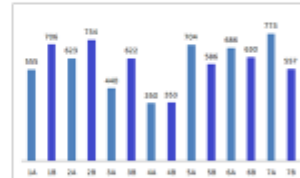


Characteristics of the 8,804 high quality SNPs

- SNPs **distributed on all chromosomes** of the durum wheat genome



Distribution of the SNP per genome



Distribution of the SNP per chromosome

Average **polymorphic information content (PIC)**: **0.22** with 38% of SNPs with PIC > 0.3

→ **SNP approach appropriate to capture diversity in material under investigation**

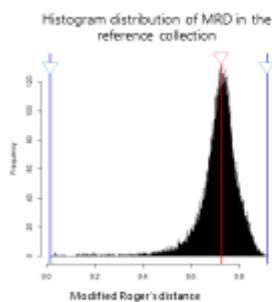
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CHARACTERISATION OF DURUM MATERIAL



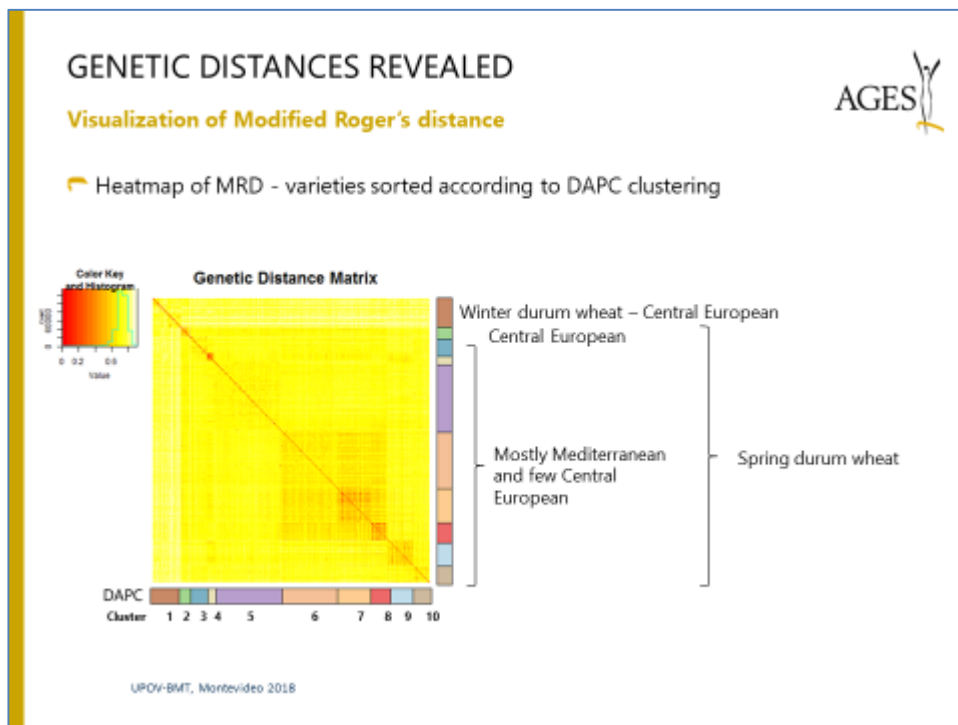
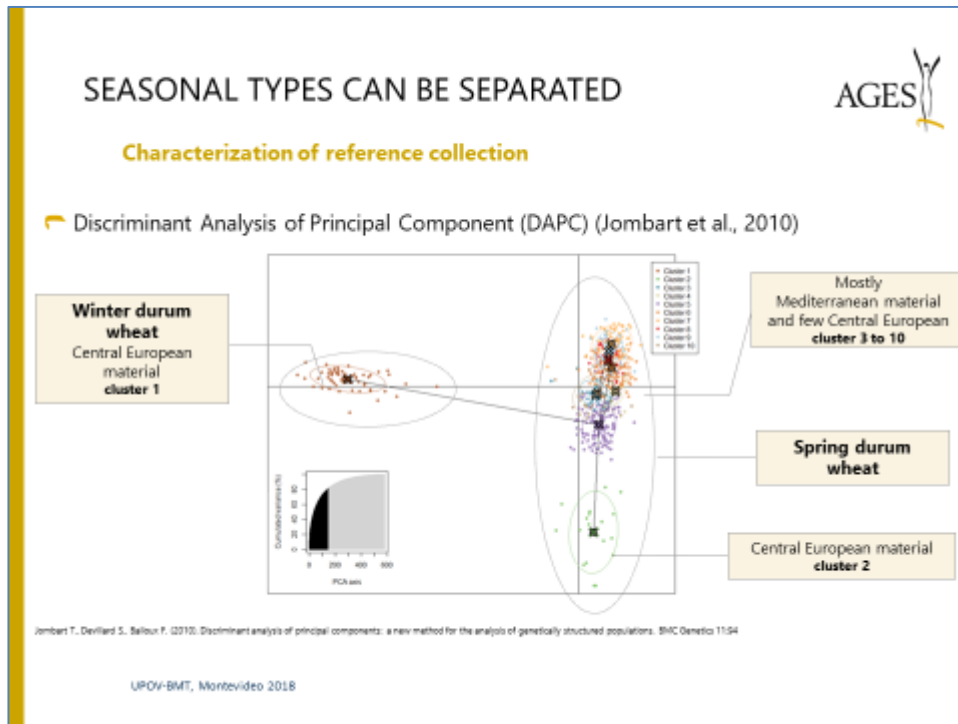
Calculation of genetic distance

- 8,804 high quality SNPs** used to calculate the **Modified Roger's genetic distance (MRD)**
 - MRD ranges from 0 to 1
 - Commonly used for genetic distances calculation in common wheat and durum wheat with SNPs
 - MRD used in UPOV-BMT Model 2 approach implemented in Maize (BMT14/10)



- Large range of variation for MRD within the reference collection
- Average MRD=0.74 with most of the pairs showing a MRD > 0.6
- 129 pairs show short genetic distance with MRD < 0.3

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COMBINING GENETIC AND PHENOTYPIC DISTANCES

Selection of varieties to evaluate in field trials

- Objective: Approach a threshold for all EOs
 - Evaluation of pairs of varieties showing different range of MRD between [0 - 0.5]
 - Focus on spring durum wheat material and evaluation of Central European and Mediterranean varieties
 - Selection of pairs of varieties from the different genetic clusters defined by DAPC
 - Attention was given to have a maximum number of breeders represented in the selection
- Total of 19 pairs consisting of 23 varieties will be field evaluated (AT, ES, HU, IT) following CPVO protocols.

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Thank you for your attention



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[End of Annex and of document]