

**FOR INFORMATION**

**Communications Report**

**Purpose**

To inform members of the status of the Trust's ongoing communications activities.

**Background**

Communications covers the full range of activities which the Trust uses to convey its messages – including website, electronic updates, press coverage etc. The Trust's communications should project professionalism, urgency, and a strong sense of mission, and demonstrate the link between our issue and themes of importance not just to the scientific community, but to a broader public and certainly to funders – e.g. agriculture, biodiversity, climate change, environment, poverty eradication.

**Recent Activity**

*Publications:* The Trust published its 2006 Annual Report in July. As last year, this was published electronically only, allowing for a considerable saving on printing and postage costs (supplied separately). The Annual Report is available from the Trust website at: <http://www.croptrust.org/main/publications.php>

*Crop Diversity Topics:* Crop Diversity Topics are mailed to the entire database of Trust contacts, of c. 1400 addresses. Two Crop Diversity Topics have been produced since EB1 ([Annex A](#)):

- Dinosaurs and Diversity
- Note from the Neolithic

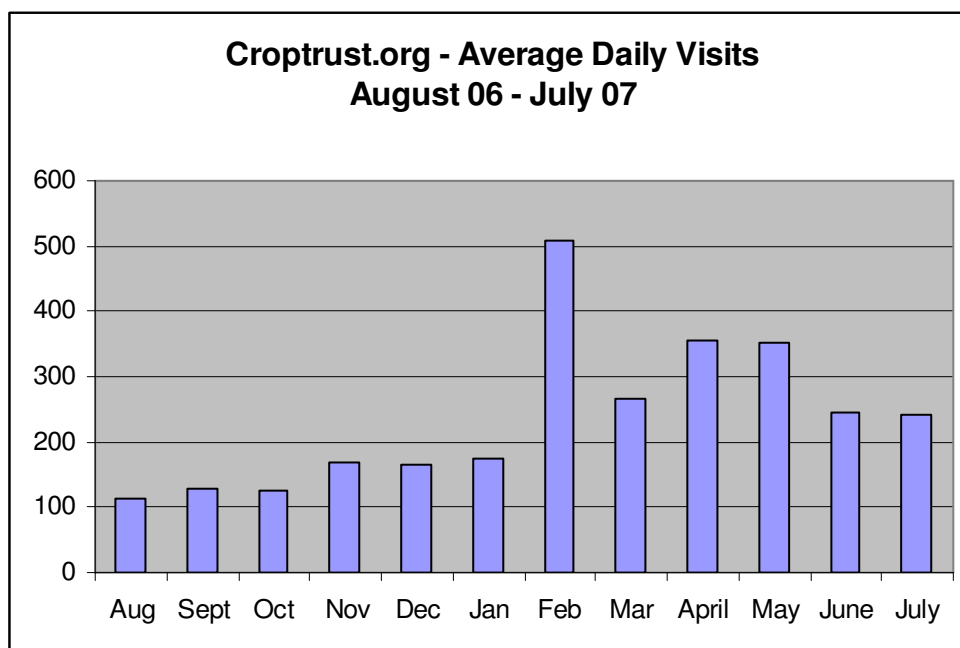
These can be found on the Trust website at <http://www.croptrust.org/main/topics.php>

In addition to Crop Diversity Topics, one communication was sent to the entire mailing list from the Executive Secretary's personal e-mail account. This detailed the scope of activities to be funded through the Gates grant, the long term funding to IRRI, and the appointment of the Executive Board. This is the second time we have used this device to communicate significant news, and used sparingly, such a personal communication complements the Topics and elicits a very significant response.

*Svalbard Global Seed Vault:* The Seed Vault continues to generate a steady stream of press interest. The story has been pitched for feature articles to a number of magazines, and a guided visit planned for August. Currently some 20 journalists are expected to join Cary Fowler and the Norwegian Minister for International Development in a visit to the vault. Planning for the February opening is already underway. Details of these plans will be provided verbally at the meeting.

*Website:* The Trust's website continues to be updated and enhanced regularly. At EB1 it was reported that the daily average number of visitors had risen to 165-175 with an anomalous high of over 500 in February, due to the press coverage of the Svalbard Global

Seed Vault. Since then the average has stayed above 200, with average daily visits for the 5 months of March to July standing at 291. This has, however, been a busy period for press interest, as it includes the release about the Gates Foundation funding in April.



*Press coverage:* In April the Trust put out an international press release on the partnership between the Global Crop Diversity Trust and the UN Foundation in developing the Global System Project with funding from the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation ([Annex B](#)). This gained considerable coverage internationally, and resulted in a number of interviews with the Executive Secretary.

The Svalbard Global Seed Vault continues to generate exceptional coverage, even in the absence of news stories.

A further press release about the authorizing language in the US Farm Bill was given limited distribution, in order to support the work being undertaken on Capitol Hill ([Annex C](#)). More detail on this is provided in Board paper 9 - Fundraising Report.

See [Annex D](#) for highlights of media coverage. Examples will be made available at the meeting.

**Action**

That members discuss the Trust communication activities and outcomes and provide feedback.

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- [Annex A](#)      Crop Diversity Topics - *Dinosaurs and Diversity* and *Note from the Neolithic* (4 pages)
  - [Annex B](#)      Press Release – Global system project funding announcement (3 pages)
  - [Annex C](#)      Press Release - US Farm Bill (2 pages)
  - [Annex D](#)      Highlights of global media coverage (1 page)

## DINOSAURS AND DIVERSITY

### How Great the Loss?

Adams' apple is extinct. And his beans are gone too. Both apple and bean varieties bearing the name of an early president of the United States have vanished. In fact, of the 7100 named varieties of apples growing in the U.S. in the 1800s, some 6800 are probably now extinct. Ninety-five percent of almost 600 garden bean varieties, 95% of more than 500 cabbage varieties, and 81% of 400 tomato varieties have also disappeared.

Simply to say that they have disappeared fails to convey the finality of the situation. "Death is one thing; an end to birth is something else," as biologists Soule and Wilcox once pointed out. For the Ansaunt pear, described by the leading fruit expert of the early 20th century as having flesh more "buttery" than any other pear and possessing a "rich sweet flavor, and a distinct but delicate perfume," there is no more birth. It's extinct.

Given the business the Trust is in, we are used to fielding one very natural but difficult question, "How much diversity has been lost?"

Percentages such as those just provided cannot give an accurate portrayal of the loss of crop diversity, or the loss of potentially important traits. The Adams apple may be extinct, but it was not the only red apple in the world. Red didn't disappear. Many - theoretically even all - the individual genes found in Adams apple could still exist, spread amongst the still-surviving varieties.

All plants are biologically related. Rice, wheat, and maize, for example, are grasses and as such are closely related. Darwin explained such connections with his theory of "common descent". We're all cousins. Indeed, chickens, as we just discovered, are related to the long-gone *Tyrannosaurus rex*. And you and I share genes with rice, wheat and the potted plant by the window. Perhaps as many as 50%. If this estimate is roughly accurate, then 50% of the genetic diversity of a crop will continue to exist no matter how many varieties are lost, as long as you and I are still alive.

So there's one admittedly mischievous answer to the question. No one seriously fears losing the ubiquitous genes shared by cabbages and kings, however. Losing genes associated with unique and potentially important characteristics in crops is an entirely different matter. This is the diversity that will enable crops to adapt to the challenges already present as well as to new and unknown threats that will inevitably arise.

In the 1900s, the commercialization and increasing globalization of agriculture, as well as the marketing and distribution of seeds by commercial and government agencies, combined to produce motive and method for the replacement of numerous diverse crop varieties with a smaller number of more genetically homogeneous, scientifically-bred varieties. Garrison Wilkes likened the process to "taking stones from the foundation in order to repair the roof." The new varieties unintentionally undermined the biological basis upon which they were built. Production leapt forward, but much crop diversity was lost, as noted by ample anecdotal accounts. But "because no one can say exactly how much diversity once existed, no one can say exactly how much has been lost historically," as FAO's first global assessment of the state of crop diversity pointed out,

Likewise we cannot say with precision how much has been saved. Three independent surveys of scientists undertaken in the 1980s and 1990s each concluded, however, that a high percentage of existing diversity of major crops has been collected and is in genebanks - as much as 95% for wheat, rice, maize and potato. Other crops are less well represented. Perhaps a fifth of sorghum diversity and up to half of sweet potato diversity remains to be collected and formally conserved.

Genebanks contain thousands of varieties that can no longer be found on anyone's farm. The social and environmental conditions that gave rise to them in the first place are quickly disappearing and are unlikely to reappear. It is fortunate that many varieties were collected and placed in managed collections, otherwise the extent of genetic erosion would have been far, far greater.

For the same reasons that so much diversity was lost in the last century, the remaining diversity found on farms today and not in genebanks would have to be considered seriously endangered. Only now, there is a new threat: climate change.

The Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change paints a gloomy picture where up to 30% of earth's species will be at an increased risk of extinction as global temperatures rise. Profound climatic shifts will unavoidably exert pressure on the remaining crop diversity not yet safeguarded in genebanks, including the "wild relatives" of domesticated crops that have been an important source of disease and pest resistance and have even salvaged a number of our major crops.

The time has come to acknowledge both the old and familiar threats to crop diversity as well as the new challenges, collect samples of the remaining diversity, safeguard all of it in genebanks, and guard those banks.

## **Lost and Found**

The honest answer to the question of how much diversity has been lost is "we just don't know". There was never a complete inventory of what there was "in the first place". The word "gene" has only been around since 1900; clearly we have no quantitative measures of the genetic diversity that existed before that.

We live in a world of wounds, as the ecologist Aldo Leopold once remarked. Both Adams apple and *Tyrannosaurus rex* have departed. But apple varieties are not the same as dinosaurs and therein lies a distinction worth pondering. The diversity of apples and other crops can be saved in a secure and lasting manner. The global system the Trust is helping develop will do just that, protecting the diversity that will enable crops to adapt to and survive future changes in the environment. Dinosaurs didn't have such a system, and they didn't stand a chance.

The important question is therefore not how much crop diversity has been lost - we'll never know - but how much still exists and what we are going to do about it. We can decide to get serious about conserving what's left, or follow the lead of *T. rex* and take our chances.

## **To Learn More About the Topic**

FAO. The State of the World's Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture. Rome: 1998.  
**<http://www.fao.org/ag/AGP/AGPS/Pgrfa/pdf/swrfull.pdf>**

Guarino, Luigi. Approaches to Measuring Genetic Erosion. Bioversity International  
**<http://apps3.fao.org/wiews/Prague/Paper3.jsp>**

## NOTE FROM THE NEOLITHIC

*Sweden's King Carl XVI Gustaf, known for his concern for the environment, will convene a Royal Colloquium on 'Past Climate Change: Human Survival Strategies' this week. The King has invited 10 international scholars to join him in Greenland for the event. The Trust's Executive Director, Cary Fowler, will be among that number, presenting an address on 'Crop Diversity: Neolithic Foundations for Agriculture's Future Adaptation to Climate Change'. The text of his address will be published later in the year by AMBIO, the Journal of the Royal Swedish Academy of Sciences. This issue of Crop Diversity Topics provides a short synopsis.*

Some 13,000 years ago, our ancestors began to make a slow transition from a predominantly hunting and gathering existence to one dependent on agriculture. Scholars have long speculated about why, after so long on earth, humans began to make this momentous shift almost simultaneously in different places around the world from Asia to the Near East and Africa, to Central America.

Different explanations have been offered. Indeed there were surely multiple reasons. One thing is certain: in the relatively short period of approximately 10,000 years, people domesticated potatoes in the Andes, maize in Central America, sorghum in Africa, wheat in the Near East, rice in Asia, and a host of other crops in each region.

Climate change was at least the backdrop if not one of the catalysts. Some have speculated that the rapid cooling event, the "Younger Dryas" from 13,000 to 11,500 years ago, following the end of the last major Ice Age 15,000 years ago, served to concentrate human populations just as it made hunting and gathering less productive, leading to increased attention to and dependency on cultivating plants.

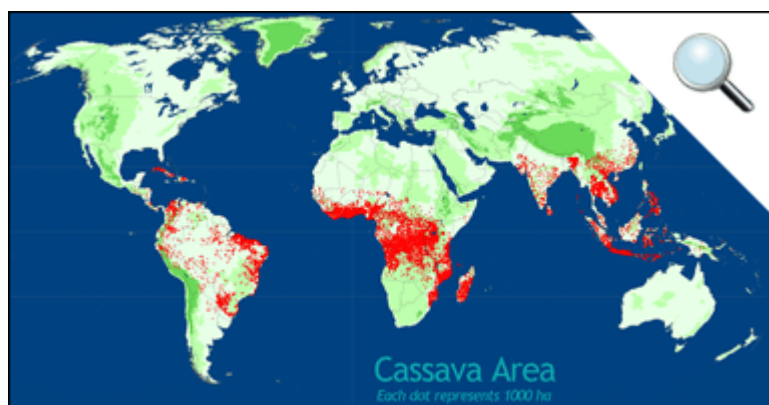
Another thing is certain: people and plants were on the move.

### Climate Change Déjà Vu

The entire Near East system (barley, wheat, pea, lentil, vetch, faba bean, flax, vine fruits) spread along shores of the Mediterranean, along the Danube and down the Rhine, east to northern India, and south across Arabia, Yemen and into Ethiopia. By 4,000 years ago, it had made it to China.

The "Columbian Exchange," post-1492, in which New World crops such as maize, beans, squash and tomato, crossed the Atlantic, and Near Eastern and other crops were taken to the Americas, marked another chapter in the globalization of agriculture and adaptation of crops to new environments and climates.

Just take a look at this map showing the distribution of cassava, which originated in the Amazon, and is now grown across three continents (with Africa now producing three times the amount grown in Latin America).



Credit: Robert Hijmans, IRRI

An even more extreme example is maize, which originated in southern Mexico and is now grown in almost every country in the world. Talk about climate change!

*This period, from the beginnings of agricultural domestication to our time, delineates the most dramatic period of climate change ever seen - from a crop perspective.*

Even if the global climate were not changing, domesticated crops faced dramatic "climate change" as they moved with people - as rice, for example, came to be grown in more than 110 countries, from its birthplace along the Yangtze River to fields along the Mississippi River, from humid tropical rainforests to mangrove swamps and arid deserts. Imagine the change in climate and environment soybean experienced as it journeyed from China to Brazil, as Andean potatoes encountered Irish mist, and as maize came to be the staple crop in eastern and southern Africa.

To some extent, the climate change we are now confronting must seem like déjà vu to our crops. But there are several differences that play both to our own strengths as well as to our weaknesses.

The climate change that crops effectively encountered in ancient times, as they moved with people, was gradual compared with the speed of change currently forecasted. It took several thousand years, for example, for wheat to move from the Near East to China, plenty of time for natural selection to facilitate the adjustment. A similar or even greater magnitude of change might now unfold within decades, posing an unprecedented challenge of adaptation for agriculture and society. How will we cope not just with enormity of the change but also with its rapidity?

Half of the solution lies in the hands of our plant breeders, whose expertise can be used to produce new crop varieties in an evolutionary blink of the eye.

The other half? The remaining crop diversity available for use.

Remarkably, we have a living historical record of crop adaptation to climate change, dating back to Neolithic times, a virtual library of life. The contents of our genebanks - some 1.5 million distinct samples - are what remain of a 13,000-year experiment, of the interaction of crops with environment, climate and culture. Earlier cultures had no access to this wider legacy - and so for example a change to a warmer, drier climate spelled doom for Mesopotamia some 4000 years ago, and the collapse of Mayan civilization coincided with the driest period in the history of the region. Neither civilization had the ability to adapt its crops - and neither coped with changes in climate.

If we are wise enough to conserve these collections, we will have a treasure chest of the very traits that crops used in the past when they successfully confronted climate change - the traits they will need in the future to adapt again to new climates and environments. This is the message from the Neolithic. Like a note from the past washed up on shore, it's found in bottles - and packets - in genebanks around the world.

### **To Learn More About the Topic**

G. Dow, N. Olewiler and C. Reed. (2005) **"The Transition to Agriculture: Climate Reversals, Population Density and Technical Change."** Simon Fraser University.

Harlan, Jack R. (1995) *The Living Fields: Our Agricultural Heritage.* Cambridge University Press.

Simmonds, N.W. (1976) *Evolution of Crop Plants.* Longman.



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**EMBARGOED FOR RELEASE UNTIL 00:01 GMT ON 19 APRIL 2007**

**GATES FOUNDATION FUNDS EFFORTS TO RESCUE 95 PERCENT  
OF WORLD'S ENDANGERED CRITICAL CROP BIODIVERSITY**

**Historic Effort to Secure Biodiversity of 21 Most Important Crops Includes Many  
“Orphan Crops” – Crops Critical to Poor but Often Neglected by Modern Plant  
Breeding**

ROME, ITALY (19 April 2007)—Recognizing that the fight against hunger cannot be won without securing fast-disappearing crop biodiversity, the Global Crop Diversity Trust and its partner the United Nations Foundation announced today a joint initiative to safeguard 21 of the world's most critical food crops through securing their seeds. The Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation is funding the initiative with a US\$37.5 million grant, the largest crop biodiversity preservation grant ever made, which includes US\$7.5 million in matching funds from the government of Norway. Among the crops covered are many “orphan crops” – crops particularly important to the poor but largely neglected by modern plant breeding, despite the need for high-yielding, nutritious varieties.

“This initiative will rescue the most globally important developing-country collections of the world's 21 most important food crops,” said Cary Fowler, Director of the Trust. “It will secure at-risk collections in poor countries and document their astonishing diversity, making it available to meet the food needs of the poor.” The initiative will also help bolster implementation of the new Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources.

The unprecedented effort will secure over 95 percent of the endangered crop diversity held in developing country genebanks, many of which are under-funded and in disrepair. In addition, it will fund a comprehensive global information system that will allow plant breeders everywhere to search genebanks worldwide for traits needed to combat new diseases and cope with climate change.

“Our effort to help hundreds of millions of small farmers and their families overcome poverty and hunger rests in part on food security,” said Sylvia Mathews Burwell, President of the Gates Foundation's Global Development Program. “But there can be no food security without first securing the basis of our food production – the genetic diversity of every crop, in particular those most important to the poor that unfortunately are neglected by modern plant breeding. We invite others to join us in securing this resource of immeasurable value.”

“By providing access to crop genetic information, plant breeders across Africa may be able to adapt their crops to varieties that will grow in different climate conditions. Investing in this future may help stave off potential catastrophic damage to some agricultural systems due to climate change. Not only will this partnership combat hunger and protect crop diversity, but it also helps nations prepare

for the impacts of climate change,” said Timothy E. Wirth, president of the United Nations Foundation.

The genetic diversity found within each crop is the raw material that enables plant breeders and farmers to develop higher yielding, more nutritious, and stress-resistant varieties. It is also the cornerstone of successful adaptation to climate change, providing the raw material for new “climate-ready” crop varieties. But much of this diversity, held in developing country gene banks, is threatened by decades of under-funding and neglect, as well as by wars and natural disasters.

“It is virtually impossible to exaggerate the importance of crop diversity. It is a vital part of the solution to many of the world’s great challenges, from environmental conservation to climate change and food security,” said Norway’s Minister of International Development Erik Solheim. “Put simply, crop diversity allows us to grow food, and this partnership with the Gates Foundation provides an opportunity to meet a host of food security challenges far into the future.”

### **Homes for Orphan Crops; Seed Database for Farmer’s Worldwide**

Among the 21 priority crops covered by the Gates-funded initiative are many “orphan crops.” Particularly important to the poor, these crops have been largely bypassed by modern plant breeding, despite the need for high-yielding, nutritious varieties. Some orphan crops, such as yam, cannot be grown from seeds, but need to be cultivated from cuttings, roots, or cell cultures, making their conservation more complex and expensive.

Therefore, the grant will finance research into inexpensive conservation techniques for such crops, including cassava, potato, sweet potato, yam, taro and coconut. These new technologies are expected to reduce conservation costs by 75 percent and improve the security of collections of such crops.

The initiative will also transform communications for plant-breeders and farmers around the world. It will fund an information system that will include 4,000,000 samples of more than 2,000 species of more than 150 crops—amounting to 85 percent of the diversity of all agricultural crops. The initiative will fund development of a state-of-the-art genebank management software system, enter at least 100,000 new samples into the database, and evaluate at least 50 priority collections for 100 different traits—thus uncovering hidden genetic resources.

“This is the largest grant to support crop diversity ever made. We can now foresee a time when orphan crops have secure homes, and when plant breeders across Africa have access to the same crop genetic information as do their counterparts in Europe and North America,” Fowler said.

The new initiative also ensures that developing countries and international agricultural research centers will be able to send at least 450,000 distinct seed samples to the Svalbard Global Seed Vault. Carved into the Arctic permafrost in Svalbard, Norway, this depository of last resort for agricultural diversity is scheduled to open in March 2008.

Finally, of the total grant, US\$15 million will go to the Trust’s endowment. Its proceeds will be used to maintain the collections of the 21 most important crops.

“Rescue and salvage operations are the beginning. The Trust’s endowment will ensure the health and availability of these collections in perpetuity,” Fowler said.

The Global Crop Diversity Trust is the only international organization with the global mandate of supporting the conservation and availability of crop diversity in perpetuity. It is building an endowment, the proceeds of which will ensure, forever, the conservation and use of the most important crops for human food security.

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The mission of the Global Crop Diversity Trust is to ensure the conservation and availability of crop diversity for food security worldwide. Although crop diversity is fundamental to fighting hunger and to the very future of agriculture, funding is unreliable and diversity is being lost. The Trust is an independent international organization, established through a partnership between FAO and Bioversity International, on behalf of the CGIAR. The Trust is the only organization working worldwide to solve this problem. For further information, visit [www.croptrust.org](http://www.croptrust.org).

The UN Foundation was created in 1998 with entrepreneur and philanthropist Ted Turner's historic \$1 billion gift to support UN causes and activities. The UN Foundation builds and implements public-private partnerships to address the world's most pressing problems and also works to broaden support for the UN through advocacy and public outreach. The UN Foundation is a public charity. For a complete listing of UN Foundation programs or to learn more about the United Nations Foundation, visit [www.unfoundation.org](http://www.unfoundation.org).

Guided by the belief that every life has equal value, the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation works to reduce inequities and improve lives around the world. In developing countries, it focuses on improving health, reducing extreme poverty, and increasing access to technology in public libraries. In the United States, the foundation seeks to ensure that all people have access to a great education and to technology in public libraries. In its local region, it focuses on improving the lives of low-income families. Based in Seattle, the foundation is led by CEO Patty Stonesifer and Co-chairs William H. Gates Sr., Bill Gates, and Melinda French Gates. For further information, visit [www.gatesfoundation.org](http://www.gatesfoundation.org).

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**United States Congress Agriculture Committee Approves Contribution of \$60 Million to Conserve the World's Most Important Food Crops**

WASHINGTON, DC (July 24, 2007)—The House Agriculture Committee unanimously adopted an amendment to the 2007 Farm Bill (H.R. 2419) to authorize \$60 million in funding by the United States for the Global Crop Diversity Trust to benefit U.S. and global agriculture.

The announcement comes on the heels of Dr. Norman Borlaug receiving the Congressional Gold Medal for his revolutionary work in agriculture that is thought to have saved more than 1 billion people from hunger.

An increasingly unpredictable and changing climate and a rapidly growing world population are placing unprecedented demands on agriculture. In offering the amendment, Subcommittee Chairman Congressman Dennis Cardoza (D-CA) said: “The Global Crop Diversity Trust may be one of the most important international organizations many of you have **never** heard of. The Trust ensures the conservation and availability of diversified crops, which is critical to defeating hunger and achieving food security worldwide.”

“Conserving the vast diversity of crop varieties is the only way to guarantee that farmers and plant breeders will have the raw materials needed to improve and adapt their crops to meet these challenges—and provide food for us into the future,” said Cary Fowler, Executive Director of the Global Crop Diversity Trust.

The Trust has raised \$135 million to date, through support from governments around the world (including \$6.5 million from the U.S.), businesses, and foundations such as the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation and the UN Foundation. The Cardoza Amendment authorizes the U.S. Agency for International Development to make a contribution on behalf of the U.S. of up to \$60 million over five years. The authorization puts the Committee firmly on record as supporting the mission of the Trust and the goals of crop preservation and diversification.

The Agriculture Committee is the second House committee to endorse funding for the Trust in the Farm Bill. In late June, the Committee on Foreign Affairs, in its consideration of the Trade Title of the Farm Bill, adopted a provision urging that “the President should provide significant financial resources to the Global Crop Diversity Trust to ensure the conservation of crop diversity which can yield significant benefits to United States farmers.”

The bill is scheduled to move to the floor to be considered by the full House of Representatives this week, perhaps as early as Wednesday. House Speaker Nancy Pelosi has already announced her support for the bill.

The funds will enable the Trust to ensure the conservation of the world's most important crop diversity collections, as well as maintain a global safety back-up – dubbed the “doomsday seed vault” by the media - dug into frozen rock in a mountain in the Norwegian Arctic. No country in the world is self-sufficient in crop diversity, and the Trust will build the capacity of seed collections in developing countries, ensure that collections are effectively documented, make the information regarding crop genetic data publicly available, and ensure international coordination of these efforts.

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The mission of the Global Crop Diversity Trust is to ensure the conservation and availability of crop diversity for food security worldwide. Although crop diversity is fundamental to fighting hunger and to the very future of agriculture, funding is unreliable and diversity is being lost. An independent international organization, established through a partnership between Bioversity International, a CGIAR center, and FAO, the Trust is the only organization working worldwide to solve this problem. For further information, visit [www.croptrust.org](http://www.croptrust.org).

## Highlights of global media coverage

### **Wire Services**

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**Agencia EFE:** La Fundación Gates donará 30 millones de dólares para proteger los cultivos  
**Agence France Press:** Gates grant to help poor countries contribute to doomsday seed vault  
**NTB:** Gates-penger til frølagring på Svalbard  
**Reuters:** Third World crops get \$37.5 mln gene storage bank

### **Newspapers**

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**Chronicle of Philanthropy:** Gates Gives \$30-Million to Preserve World's Crops  
**Dagens Nyheter Weekend:** Gates-penger til Svalbard  
**Delta Farm Press:** World trust would protect crop diversity in wake of disaster  
**El Mundo:** 37 millones de dólares para recuperar la biodiversidad agrícola  
**Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung:** Arche Noah für Nutzpflanzen  
**The Guardian (Nigeria):** Bill Gates foundation announces \$37.5 million agric initiative  
**Il Sole-24 Ore:** Maxidonazione di Gates alla banca delle sementi  
**International Herald Tribune:** \$37.5 million pledged to preserve rare crop varieties  
**La Stampa:** L'Arca di Noè dei vegetali in una grotta vicino al Polo  
**Libération:** L'arche de la dernière chance végétale; Biodiversité  
**New York Times:** Global Effort to Save Endangered Crops Gets \$37.5 Million  
**St. Louis Post-Dispatch:** 'Doomsday vault' near North Pole will keep species safe from war, disaster  
**Süddeutsche Zeitung:** Gates-Stiftung will Vielfalt der Nutzpflanzen erhalten  
**Svalbard Posten:** Bill Gates sponser frølageret

### **Magazines**

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**Canadian Gardening:** Safe and Secure  
**Der Spiegel:** Gates finanziert Pflanzen-Arche-Noah  
**L'Express:** Les graines de Gates; Biodiversité  
**National Geographic:** Norway's Ark  
**New Scientist:** Home for Orphans  
**Panorama:** L'arca di Noè della biodiversità  
**Wired Magazine:** In the Event of Global Disaster, the Ultimate Crop Backup System

### **Online**

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**Le Nouvel Observateur:** Effort sans précédent pour sauver la diversité des culture  
**Focus-Online:** Eine Arche Noah für Pflanzen  
**News@Nature:** Money given to save genetics of food  
**Scidev.net:** Seeds of capacity building in Africa's agriculture

Access to these media articles and others is available from the Trust website at:  
<http://www.croptrust.org/main/press.php>