

# National Genebank of the Lebanese Agricultural Research Institute



## Genebank at a Glance

Acronym NGB-LARI

Country Lebanon

Year established 2013

Conservation methods and facilities Seed

Number of staff 6

Total number of accessions 2,365

Number of accessions distributed annually 100



## Recent Highlights

- The genebank protects 950 wild species through habitat restoration, research, and innovation. *Aubrieta libanotica*, an endemic species, was reintroduced, after road construction threatened its habitat.
- In partnership with the Crop Trust through the Crop Wild Relatives Project, the genebank collected and conserved vital crop wild relatives and contributed to the pre-breeding and release of a drought-resistant durum wheat variety.
- The genebank seed conservation efforts led to the discovery of seven previously unreported species and the relocation of one species missing for 183 years. In collaboration with ICARDA, the genebank reintroduced lost landraces to post-war areas, supporting local farmers.
- Breeding programs have been supported by providing access to a diverse range of crop diversity. Breeders can use these resources to develop new crop varieties that are more resilient, productive, and adapted to changing environmental conditions.
- The genebank conducts training of students in genetic resources conservation to help spread knowledge and expertise in the field. Moreover, it is engaged in educational and outreach activities to raise awareness about the importance of biodiversity and crop diversity conservation.



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