GLOBAL CROP CONSERVATION AND USE METRICS

JUTE
(*Corchorus* L.)

CROP TRUST

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Global crop conservation and use metrics

JUTE
(*Corchorus* L.)

With support from

CROP TRUST

International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture

Federal Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Regional Identity

Description

This report provides an up-to-date overview of the global status of *ex situ* conservation of genetic resources of jute and its wild relatives, including key metrics on:

- global statistics on crop production and trade;
- the identity and composition of genebank collections;
- the Multilateral System (MLS) status of accessions in these collections;
- storage, regeneration, and safety duplication status;
- documentation, information systems, and research resources;
- germplasm distribution;
- varietal registrations and releases; and
- crop networks and partnerships

Introduction and background on jute mallow

Jute (mainly *Corchorus olitorius* L., but also *Corchorus capsularis* L.) is one of the most important sources of natural fiber, accounting for over 80% of bast fiber production globally (Islam *et al.*, 2017). Jute has been cultivated for centuries in both Africa and Asia; it occurs as a wild plant on both continents as well, though the greatest species variation is found in Africa (Roy and Luftar, 2012). These annual herbaceous plants in the mallow family are now cultivated throughout tropical Asia and Africa, either as a source of fiber or as a vegetable (including edible mucilaginous leaves, young stems, and fruits) (Afokpe *et al.*, 2024). Rich in proteins, vitamins, and essential amino acids, jute mallow is an important vegetable in Africa, and is particularly valuable during hot, rainy months when other leafy greens like collards and cabbage cannot grow (Nyadanu *et al.*, 2017).

Based on the most recently available production statistics from FAOSTAT, reporting for the year 2023, jute is cultivated in at least 19 countries on over 1.5 million hectares worldwide, producing

3.7 million tonnes at a value of USD 1.6 billion (FAO, 2025a). These statistics do not differentiate between fiber and food jute, although fiber use likely comprises the majority of production. The largest producers include Bangladesh, India, Cambodia, Uzbekistan, China, and Nepal, each producing over 10,000 tonnes per annum.

International trade in jute amounts to around 278,000 tonnes exported per annum, with Bangladesh, India, and Tanzania reporting exporting over 12,000 tonnes each year (FAO, 2025a). Among the 99 countries reporting importing jute, the top recipients include India, Pakistan, Nepal, China, and, all importing over 16,000 tonnes each year. Global consumption statistics for jute are not tracked in FAOSTAT.

Table 1. Global status of jute production, trade, and public interest. Production and trade statistics from FAOSTAT (2015 to 2018 average). Number of countries refers to the count of countries where the crop is reported as within the top 95 percent of crops in terms of contribution to production, trade, or food supply. The evenness metric quantifies evenness of production, trade, or availability in food supplies across world regions, where 0 equals highly uneven and 1 equals completely even. The international interdependence metric quantifies degree of production, trade, or availability in food supplies outside of the primary region of diversity of the crop, where 0 equals low estimated international interdependence and 1 equals high estimated international interdependence. Wikipedia metric is public pageviews over one year (2019) of the taxon name of the crop. All values from Khoury *et al.* (2023).

Metric	Global value	Number of countries where significant contributor	Evenness of contribution across world regions	Estimated international interdependence
Harvested area (ha)	1,462,128	1.00	0.05	0.02
Total production (tonnes)	3,342,944	1.00	0.05	0.03
Gross production value (current thousand USD)	1,227,847	1.00	0.04	0.00
Export quantity (tonnes)	276,789	1.00	0.07	0.14
Export value (current thousand USD)	191,791	1.75	0.08	0.22
Import quantity (tonnes)	294,231	2.50	0.20	0.62
Import value (current thousand USD)	233,742	2.75	0.23	0.67
Number of public pageviews on Wikipedia over one year	101,513			

Identity and composition of *ex situ* collections

Based on the latest data in global genetic resource databases, germplasm collections of jute and its wild relatives (i.e., genus *Corchorus* L.) are present in at least 53 institutions worldwide, collectively maintaining 11,624 accessions (Table 2, Table 3; Supplementary Table 1). This is somewhat more than the number of accessions reported for the crop (9,823) in the major germplasm collections listed in *The Third Report on the State of the World's Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture* (FAO, 2025b).

The institutions are mainly distributed in Asia and Africa. The World Vegetable Center maintains an international collection for the (vegetable) crop (with 3.6% of total accessions worldwide), while the largest national and other collections are in Bangladesh (36.5% of total accessions), India (29.8%), and Benin (13.5%), as well as Kenya, Uzbekistan, Ghana, Russian Federation, and Egypt; these international and national collections collectively maintain over 90% of documented accessions worldwide.

The International Board for Plant Genetic Resources (IBPGR)/International Plant Genetic Resources Institute (IPGRI) Register of Base Collections, which included collections that had formed (or had been proposed for) agreements with the international institutions based on long-term conservation of crop genepools on global or regional bases during the 1970s through 1990s (IBPGR/IPGRI, 1993; Thormann et al., 2019), listed, for jute, the Bangladesh Jute Research Institute (BJRI) as a global collection with an agreement dated 1988. This genebank currently maintains one of the largest jute collections worldwide, based on contemporary germplasm databases (Table 2).

Corchorus L. (Malvaceae) contains around 30 species, although some classifications include over 100 species, native to tropical, subtrop-

Table 2. Major *ex situ* collections of jute genetic resources. Top 20 institutions listed in descending order by total number of accessions. Number of accessions and storage condition information from Genesys and FAO WIEWS (2025), with supplementary information as noted. Multilateral System (MLS) status from Plant Treaty GLIS (2025) and from Genesys and FAO WIEWS (2025).

Institution Code	Institution name	Number of accessions	Percent of total	Cumulative percent	Number of accessions in long term storage (-18-20 C)	Number of accessions included in MLS (from Plant Treaty GLIS)	Number of accessions included in MLS (from genebank collections databases)
BGD001	Bangladesh Jute Research Institute (BJRI)	4,245	36.5%	36.5%	4,245	0	0
IND001	National Bureau of Plant Genetic Resources	3,468	29.8%	66.4%	3,468	0	0
BEN097	Unité de Génétique, Biotechnologie et Science des Semences	1,566	13.5%	79.8%	Not listed	1,566	0
TWN001	World Vegetable Center	422	3.6%	83.5%	306	77	300
KEN212	Genetic Resources Research Institute	224	1.9%	85.4%	Not listed	0	0
UZB006	Uzbek Research Institute of Plant Industry	168	1.4%	86.8%	Not listed	0	0
GHA091	Plant Genetic Resources Research Institute	166	1.4%	88.3%	Not listed	17	20
RUS001	N.I. Vavilov All-Russian Research Institute of Plant Industry	162	1.4%	89.7%	Not listed	0	0
EGY087	National Gene Bank	147	1.3%	90.9%	8	0	0
VNM049	Plant Resources Center	111	0.9%	91.9%	Not listed	0	0
NGA010	National Centre for Genetic Resources and Biotechnology	98	0.8%	92.7%	98	98	98
SDN002	Agricultural Plant Genetic Resources Conservation and Research Centre	94	0.8%	93.5%	94	0	0
GBR004	Millennium Seed Bank - Royal Botanic Gardens Kew	69	0.6%	94.1%	Not listed	0	2
MDG048	Laboratoire des semences et ressources phytogénétiques, FOFIFA	66	0.6%	94.7%	Not listed	0	0
JPN183	NARO Genebank	58	0.5%	95.2%	51	0	0
ZMB048	National Plant Genetic Resources Centre	58	0.5%	95.7%	58	47	0
PAK001	Plant Genetic Resources Program	44	0.4%	96.1%	Not listed	0	44
THA300	Genebank	42	0.4%	96.4%	Not listed	0	0
USA016	Plant Genetic Resources Conservation Unit, Southern Regional Plant Introduction Station, University of Georgia, USDA-ARS	31	0.3%	96.7%	Not listed	0	0
ZWE049	Genetic Resources and Biotechnology Institute-Department of Research and Specialist Services	29	0.2%	96.9%	Not listed	22	0
	Other institutions (n = 33)	356	3.1%	100.0%	191	18	37

Table 3. Composition of *ex situ* collections of jute genetic resources. Main *ex situ* collections data from Genesys and FAO WIEWS (2025). Primary and secondary regions information from Khoury *et al.* (2023) and subsequent research for this summary. Botanic gardens data from BGCI PlantSearch (2025).

Metric	Number	Percentage
Total number of accessions in genebank collections	11,624	
Number of institutions holding genebank collections	53	
Number of distinct taxonomic names in genebank collections	30	
Number of accessions of crop wild relatives (CWR) in genebank collections	929	8.0%
Number of accessions of weedy materials in genebank collections	55	0.5%
Number of accessions of landraces in genebank collections	3,280	28.2%
Number of accessions of breeding materials in genebank collections	368	3.2%
Number of accessions of improved varieties in genebank collections	51	0.4%
Number of accessions of other materials in genebank collections	25	0.2%
Number of accessions not marked with an improvement type in genebank collections	6,916	59.5%
Number of countries where germplasm has been collected for genebank collections	60	
Number of accessions in genebank collections from the primary region(s) of diversity	3,752	32.3%
Number of taxa in botanic garden collections	28	
Number of botanic gardens holding collections of crop or its wild relatives	68	

ical, and warm temperate regions throughout the world (Benor, 2018; WFO, 2025). The majority of species are native to Africa and Australia (Benor, 2018). Jute mallow (*Corchorus olitorius* L.) is considered native to Sub-Saharan Africa as well as South, Southeast, and West Asia, while white jute (*Corchorus capsularis* L.) is native to South and Southeast Asia (USDA, 2025; WFO, 2025).

A published genepool concept is not available for either cultivated species of jute, but phylogenetic studies have identified four major clades within the genus (Benor, 2018). Within one of these clades, *C. olitorius* has been determined to be most closely related to *Corchorus orinocensis* Kunth and *Corchorus pilosus* Kunth, and is also related to *Corchorus africanus* Bari, *Corchorus brevicornatus*, *Corchorus pseudocapsularis* Schweinf., *C. capsularis*, *Corchorus pseudo-olitorius* Islam & Zaid, *Corchorus urticifolius* Wight & Arn. and *Corchorus cunninghamii* F.Muell.

Data compilation for this report on jute genetic resources included all taxa in *Corchorus*. Along with the two main crop species, 28 species as well as hybrids and accessions only identified to the genus level are present in germplasm collections (Supplementary Table 2). These include large collections of the crop species as well as of *Corchorus aestuans* L., *Corchorus trilocularis* L., and *Corchorus tridens* L., and accessions only determined to the genus level.

Landraces make up the largest proportion of collections (28.2%), followed by wild relatives (8%), and breeding material (3.2%) (Table 3); these percentages are rough estimates based on available data, noting that 59.5% of accessions do not have biological status data. *Corchorus* germplasm has been collected from at least 60 countries, with approximately 32.3% of accessions originating from the primary regions of diversity of jute mallow (i.e. Sub-Saharan Africa and South and Southeast Asia); these statistics are also estimates, as 4.7% of jute landrace accessions and 5.6% of wild relative accessions do not contain information even of the country where the accession was collected. Information on botanic garden collections from BGCI PlantSearch indicate that 68 botanic gardens collectively conserve 28 *Corchorus* taxa; comparing these to genebank collections, 4 are present only in botanic gardens.

Multilateral System status of accessions in *ex situ* collections

The genus *Corchorus* is not listed in Annex I of the International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture (Plant Treaty) and is thus not included in its Multilateral System of Access and Benefit Sharing (MLS). This said, institutions can voluntarily place their collections under the MLS. Of the 11,624 accessions conserved globally, approximately 3.9% are held in international institutions (mainly the World Vegetable Center), 2.6% of which are included in the MLS of the Plant Treaty, with the remainder maintained in national and other collections (Table 4).

As of 2025, 1,845 accessions are formally included in the MLS according to the Plant Treaty's GLIS database, and 2,378 accessions have been assigned Digital Object Identifiers (DOIs). Per the relevant fields in the global genetic resources databases, 501 accessions (4.3% of world total) are listed as included in the MLS; this is likely an underestimate, noting that 90.5% of accessions do not have MLS status data.

Table 4. Representation of jute accessions in international and national institutions, number of accessions with DOIs, and representation of accessions in the Multilateral System of Access and Benefit Sharing of the International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture. Main *ex situ* collections data from Genesys and FAO WIEWS (2025). DOI and MLS data from Plant Treaty GLIS (2025).

Metric	Number	Percentage
Number of accessions in genebank collections in international institutions	452	3.9%
Number of accessions in genebank collections in national or other institutions	11,172	96.1%
Number of accessions in genebank collections in Annex I	0	0%
Number of accessions with DOI (Plant Treaty GLIS 2025)	2,378	
Number of accessions included in the Multilateral System (MLS) (Plant Treaty GLIS 2025)	1,845	
Number of accessions included in the Multilateral System (MLS) (genebank collections databases)	501	4.3%
Number of accessions included in the Multilateral System (MLS) that are in international collections (genebank collections databases)	308	2.6%
Number of accessions not included in the Multilateral System (MLS) (genebank collections databases)	603	5.2%
Number of accessions without information regarding inclusion in the Multilateral System (MLS) (genebank collections databases)	10,520	90.5%

Storage conditions, regeneration status, and safety duplication

As expected for an orthodox seed crop, the great majority (at least 96.4%) of *Corchorus* accessions are conserved as seed, with 76.1% of these accessions listed as conserved under long-term cold-storage conditions (Table 5). Information on storage in general is missing for 3.6% of all accessions, and information on seed storage type (i.e., long, medium, or short term) is missing for 3.9% of seed accessions.

Current regeneration status and needs cannot be directly derived from the global germplasm databases. FAO WIEWS, reporting for the *Third State of the World's Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture* (FAO, 2025b) for the years 2014 to 2019, documented 3,970 jute accessions regenerated during this time by reporting institutions, with 2,532 accessions identified as needing regeneration and 132 of these lacking funds to conduct the regeneration.

Analysis of the location of safety duplication sites of jute germplasm, as listed in Genesys, indicates that at least 6.8% are safety duplicated in an active collection (i.e., apart from potentially being duplicated at the Svalbard Global Seed Vault [SGSV]) outside of the country of the main collection (Table 5). The actual extent of safety duplication of *Corchorus* accessions worldwide, when also considering safety duplication within the same country, may be higher than this estimate, given that some national genebanks, such as the Russian Federation, typically provide safety backup of their collections in a different location within the country. Information from the SGSV database from 2025 indicates that approximately 6.1% of total accessions worldwide are duplicated in Svalbard.

Table 5. Storage conditions of jute *ex situ* collections, regeneration status, and safety duplication status. Main *ex situ* collections data from Genesys and FAO WIEWS (2025). Regeneration status information from FAO WIEWS (2025); data from 2014 to 2019. Safety duplication out of the country data based only on Genesys (2025) data. Svalbard Global Seed Vault data from SGSV portal (2025).

Metric	Number	Percentage
Number of accessions held in seed storage in genebank collections	11,201	96.4%
Number of accessions held in short-term seed storage in genebank collections	1	0.0%
Number of accessions held in medium-term seed storage in genebank collections	2,249	20.1%
Number of accessions held in long-term seed storage in genebank collections	8,519	76.1%
Number of accessions held in seed storage of undefined type in genebank collections	432	3.9%
Number of accessions held in field storage in genebank collections	1	0.0%
Number of accessions held in in-vitro storage in genebank collections	1	0.0%
Number of accessions held in cryo storage in genebank collections	2	0.0%
Number of accessions held as DNA in genebank collections	4	0.0%
Number of accessions held in other storage in genebank collections	0	0.0%
Number of accessions not marked with a storage type in genebank collections	422	3.6%
Number of accessions in genebank collections regenerated 2014-2019	3,970	88.1%
Number of accessions in genebank collections in need of regeneration 2014-2019	2,532	56.2%
Number of accessions in genebank collections in need of regeneration without budget for regeneration 2014-2019	132	2.9%
Number of accessions safety duplicated out of the country in genebank collections	195	6.8%
Number of accessions in genebank collections safety duplicated in Svalbard	709	6.1%

Documentation, information systems, and research resources

The World Vegetable Center published a descriptor in 2015 (WorldVeg, 2015). Descriptors have also been proposed in the scientific literature (Loumerem and Alercia, 2016).

The estimated completeness of passport information for jute accessions listed in Genesys is 5.7 on a scale of 0 (no data) to 10 (complete data), which indicates that some data is available, but also that there are significant gaps that it would be valuable to fill. At least one jute characterization and evaluation dataset is available via Genesys, covering a total of 113 accessions. Genomic resources have been developed for the (vegetable) jute germplasm collection in Benin, which have enabled the development of a core collection (Tchokponhoué *et al.*, 2025). Four metrics of the current degree of digital sequence information (DSI) for jute (from the National Center for Biotechnology Information USA database), two metrics of published literature on the crop (Google Scholar and PubMed Central), and one metric of the degree of research resources such as herbarium specimens (from the Global Biodiversity Information Facility - GBIF), are listed in Table 6.

Table 6. Documentation, information systems, and research resources for jute. Passport data completeness index (PDCI) from Genesys (2025), based on the methods outlined in van Hintum *et al.* (2011). Global Biodiversity Information Facility data from GBIF (2025). All other metrics data from Khoury *et al.* (2023).

Metric	Number
Passport data completeness index (range 0-10) as a median value across accessions in genebank collections	5.7
Number of genes as recorded in NCBI's Entrez database as of 2022	418
Number of genomes as recorded in NCBI's Entrez database as of 2022	2
Number of nucleotides as recorded in NCBI's Entrez database as of 2022	112,089
Number of proteins as recorded in NCBI's Entrez database as of 2022	87,738
Number of publications listed in Google Scholar with taxon name in title published between 2009 and 2019	490
Number of publications listed in PubMed Central with taxon name in text as of 2022	966
Number of research materials as recorded in GBIF (2025)	50,522

Germplasm distributions and varietal registrations and releases

Germplasm distributions and varietal development statistics for jute are listed in Table 7. Germplasm distribution data from FAO WIEWS and the Plant Treaty Data Store reflect different reporting scopes: FAO WIEWS primarily reports distributions from national genebanks, while the Plant Treaty Data Store includes all transfers made under the SMTA, encompassing distributions made by genebanks as well as by breeding programs and other organizational types (Khoury *et al.*, 2025). Distributions as reported in the FAO WIEWS dataset were made from institutions in five countries, with the largest numbers of samples distributed from institutions in Bangladesh, Nigeria, and Kenya, and were primarily to within-country national agricultural research centers and to other (unspecified) users (Khoury *et al.*, 2025). In the Plant Treaty dataset, the providers of samples were located in China, Tanzania, and Nigeria, and the recipients of the most samples were

located in Tanzania, China, and Ghana. The differences in numbers of samples distributed as recorded by FAO WIEWS versus the Plant Treaty Data Store is likely a reflection of the lack of inclusion of the crop in Annex 1 of the Plant Treaty (Khoury *et al*., 2023).

In addition to these distribution statistics, since 2013 the World Vegetable Center has distributed many jute mallow samples to farmers, mainly in East Africa, through seed kits (Stoilova *et al.*, 2019).

Table 7. Jute germplasm distributions and varietal registrations and releases. FAO WIEWS distributions data is annual average over years 2014 to 2019. Plant Treaty Data Store distributions data is annual average over years 2015 to 2021. Evenness metric quantifies evenness of germplasm distributions across world regions, where 0 equals highly uneven and 1 equals completely even. International Union for the Protection of New Varieties of Plants (UPOV) PLUTO data is annual average over years 2014 to 2018. FAO WIEWS varietal releases data is annual average over years 2015 to 2019. All metrics data from Khoury *et al.* (2023), with Plant Treaty Data Store additions for more recent years (2019 to 2021).

Metric	Number
Average annual number of accessions distributed worldwide as recorded in FAO WIEWS	435.5
Average annual number of samples distributed worldwide as recorded in FAO WIEWS	631.1
Average annual number of samples distributed worldwide as recorded in the Plant Treaty Data Store	34.7
Number of countries receiving germplasm as recorded in the Plant Treaty Data Store	2.3
Evenness of distributions across world regions as recorded in the Plant Treaty Data Store	0.7
Average annual number of varietal registrations worldwide as recorded in UPOV's PLUTO	0.2
Average annual number of varietal releases worldwide as recorded in FAO WIEWS	2.2

Networks and partnerships

Currently active networks focused on the crop include:

- The African Orphan Crops Consortium
- The African Vegetable Biodiversity Rescue Plan

JUTE MALOW IN MARKET, BENIN – MICHAEL MAJOR

Conclusions

Jute continues to be a very important fiber and vegetable crop in several world regions, and may become more important in future food systems for both human nutrition and sustainable agriculture needs. Its genetic resources are bolstered by the activities taking place in collections in national and subnational agricultural research organizations (particularly in Bangladesh, India, and Benin) as well as at the World Vegetable Center. Available data indicates that these collections, in combination, are diverse and extensive, although they do not represent the full range of crop varieties as well as species and populations of wild relatives that could be conserved *ex situ* and made available for use. Lack of inclusion of the crop in Annex 1 of the Plant Treaty constrains international access to germplasm, with only around 4.3% of total accessions worldwide currently included in the MLS. There are considerable amounts of associated research resources, and there has been significant activity in germplasm distributions for the crop. Further efforts are required to: identify/determine species within current *ex situ* accessions; regenerate accessions in need; fully secure these accessions in long-term seed storage conditions and safety backup all unique accessions, including at the SGSV; and provide more complete accession-level passport information as well as generate further characterization and evaluation datasets.

JUTE FARMER, BENIN – MICHAEL MAJOR

Methods and materials

Primary data sources for the metrics reported in this summary include: Genesys; World Information and Early Warning System on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO WIEWS); Botanic Gardens Conservation International PlantSearch database (BGCI PlantSearch); Global Information System of the International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture (Plant Treaty GLIS); Data Store of the International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture (Plant Treaty Data Store); Svalbard Global Seed Vault portal (SGSV portal); International Union for the Protection of New Varieties of Plants (UPOV) PLUTO database; FAOSTAT; National Center for Biotechnology Information's Entrez database (NCBI Entrez); Google Scholar; PubMed Central; Wikipedia; and the Global Biodiversity Information Facility (GBIF). Some of these data were acquired from literature/databases including Khoury et al. (2023) and Khoury et al. (2025). Data processing, metric calculation, and table generation were conducted in R, with code available on this GitLab repository. Extended methods are available here.

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JUTE MALLOW ACCESSION, BENIN – NEIL PALMER

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Supplementary information

Supplementary Table 1: Full list of *ex situ* collections of jute mallow genetic resources, in descending order by total number of accessions. Number of accessions and storage condition information from Genesys and FAO WIEWS (2025), with supplementary information as noted. Multilateral System (MLS) status from Plant Treaty GLIS (2025) and from Genesys and FAO WIEWS (2025).

Institution Code	Institution name	Number of accessions	Percent of total	Cumulative percent	Number of accessions in long term storage (-18-20 C)	Number of accessions included in MLS (from Plant Treaty GLIS)	Number of accessions included in MLS (from genebank collections databases)
BGD001	Bangladesh Jute Research Institute (BJRI)	4,245	36.5%	36.5%	4,245	0	0
IND001	National Bureau of Plant Genetic Resources	3,468	29.8%	66.4%	3,468	0	0
BEN097	Unité de Génétique, Biotechnologie et Science des Semences	1,566	13.5%	79.8%	Not listed	1,566	0
TWN001	World Vegetable Center	422	3.6%	83.5%	306	77	300
KEN212	Genetic Resources Research Institute	224	1.9%	85.4%	Not listed	0	0
UZB006	Uzbek Research Institute of Plant Industry	168	1.4%	86.8%	Not listed	0	0
GHA091	Plant Genetic Resources Research Institute	166	1.4%	88.3%	Not listed	17	20
RUS001	N.I. Vavilov All-Russian Research Institute of Plant Industry	162	1.4%	89.7%	Not listed	0	0
EGY087	National Gene Bank	147	1.3%	90.9%	8	0	0
VNM049	Plant Resources Center	111	0.9%	91.9%	Not listed	0	0
NGA010	National Centre for Genetic Resources and Biotechnology	98	0.8%	92.7%	98	98	98
SDN002	Agricultural Plant Genetic Resources Conservation and Research Centre	94	0.8%	93.5%	94	0	0
GBR004	Millennium Seed Bank - Royal Botanic Gardens Kew	69	0.6%	94.1%	Not listed	0	2
MDG048	Laboratoire des semences et ressources phytogénétiques, FOFIFA	66	0.6%	94.7%	Not listed	0	0
JPN183	NARO Genebank	58	0.5%	95.2%	51	0	0
ZMB048	National Plant Genetic Resources Centre	58	0.5%	95.7%	58	47	0
PAK001	Plant Genetic Resources Program	44	0.4%	96.1%	Not listed	0	44
THA300	Genebank	42	0.4%	96.4%	Not listed	0	0
USA016	Plant Genetic Resources Conservation Unit, Southern Regional Plant Introduction Station, University of Georgia, USDA-ARS	31	0.3%	96.7%	Not listed	0	0
ZWE049	Genetic Resources and Biotechnology Institute-Department of Research and Specialist Services	29	0.2%	96.9%	Not listed	22	0

Institution Code	Institution name	Number of accessions	Percent of total	Cumulative percent	Number of accessions in long term storage (-18-20 C)	Number of accessions included in MLS (from Plant Treaty GLIS)	Number of accessions included in MLS (from genebank collections databases)
BRA003	Embrapa Recursos Genéticos e Biotecnologia	22	0.2%	97.1%	Not listed	0	0
ZMB030	SADC Plant Genetic Resources Centre	22	0.2%	97.3%	22	0	0
TZA016	National Plant Genetic Resources Centre	21	0.2%	97.5%	21	0	0
UGA132	Plant Genetic Resource Centre	20	0.2%	97.7%	20	0	0
UGA528	Uganda National Genebank	20	0.2%	97.8%	Not listed	0	0
ERI003	National Agricultural Research Institute	19	0.2%	98.0%	19	0	0
SAU015	Plant Genetic Resources Bank	19	0.2%	98.2%	Not listed	0	19
MMR015	Myanmar SeedBank	18	0.1%	98.3%	Not listed	0	0
NGA026	Obafemi Awolowo University	18	0.1%	98.5%	Not listed	0	0
ZAF062	RSA National Plant Genetic Resources Centre	18	0.1%	98.6%	18	0	0
NER001	Institut national de la recherche agronomique du Niger	17	0.1%	98.8%	17	0	0
BGD003	Bangladesh Agricultural Research Institute	15	0.1%	98.9%	15	0	0
USA995	National Center for Genetic Resources Preservation	14	0.1%	99.0%	Not listed	0	0
BWA015	National Plant Genetic Resources Centre	11	0.1%	99.1%	11	0	0
DEU146	Genebank, Leibniz Institute of Plant Genetics and Crop Plant Research	11	0.1%	99.2%	11	0	0
ETH085	Ethiopian Biodiversity Institute	10	0.1%	99.3%	Not listed	0	0
ITA436	Istituto di Bioscienze e Biorisorse, Consiglio Nazionale delle Ricerche	10	0.1%	99.4%	Not listed	0	0
ISR002	Israel Gene Bank for Agricultural Crops, Agricultural Research Organisation, Volcani Center	9	0.1%	99.5%	3	0	0
SWZ015	National Plant Genetic Resources Centre	9	0.1%	99.5%	9	0	0
AUS165	Australian Grains Genebank, Agriculture Victoria	8	0.1%	99.6%	8	8	8
ETH013	International Livestock Research Institute	8	0.1%	99.7%	Not listed	8	8
TUN029	Banque Nationale de Gènes de Tunisie	7	0.1%	99.7%	7	0	0
BGD028	Bangladesh Institute of Nuclear Agriculture (BINA)	6	0.0%	99.8%	Not listed	0	0
PHL008	Bureau of Plant Industry, Department of Agriculture	6	0.0%	99.8%	Not listed	0	0

Institution Code	Institution name	Number of accessions	Percent of total	Cumulative percent	Number of accessions in long term storage (-18-20 C)	Number of accessions included in MLS (from Plant Treaty GLIS)	Number of accessions included in MLS (from genebank collections databases)
JOR105	National Agricultural Research Center	4	0.0%	99.9%	Not listed	0	0
LBY006	National Bank for Plant Genetic Resources	3	0.0%	99.9%	Not listed	0	0
NPL069	National Agriculture Genetic Resources Centre-Genebank	3	0.0%	99.9%	3	0	0
AUT001	Austrian Agency for Health and Food Safety	2	0.0%	99.9%	2	0	0
QAT004	Biotechnology Center, Ministry of Environment	2	0.0%	100.0%	2	2	2
LBN020	Lebanese Agricultural Research Institute	1	0.0%	100.0%	1	0	0
NAM006	National Plant Genetic Resources Centre	1	0.0%	100.0%	1	0	0
PHL024	Bureau of Plant Industry-Davao National Crop Research and Development Center	1	0.0%	100.0%	Not listed	0	0
TUR034	Field Crop Central Research Institute	1	0.0%	100.0%	1	0	0

Supplementary Table 2: Full list of taxonomic names in *ex situ* genetic resource collections, in descending order by number of accessions conserved. Germplasm data from Genesys and FAO WIEWS (2025).

Taxon	Number of accessions (from genebank collections databases)
Corchorus olitorius L.	5,962
Corchorus capsularis L.	4,042
Corchorus L.	614
Corchorus aestuans L.	321
Corchorus trilocularis L.	286
Corchorus tridens L.	185
Corchorus fascicularis Lam.	74
Corchorus pseudo-olitorius Islam & Zaid	27
Corchorus aestuans var. *aestuans*	22
Corchorus hybr.	21
Corchorus urticifolius Wight & Arn.	21
Corchorus depressus (L.) Stocks	11
Corchorus pseudocapsularis Schweinf.	6
Corchorus hirtus L.	5
Corchorus siliquosus L.	5
Corchorus aspleniifolius Burch.	3
Corchorus brevicornutus Vollesen	3
Corchorus pinnatipartitus Wild	3
Corchorus pascuorum Domin	2
Corchorus cunninghamii F. Muell.	1
Corchorus elderi F. Muell.	1
Corchorus erodioides Balf. f.	1
Corchorus hirsutus L.	1
Corchorus junodi (Schinz) N. E. Br.	1
Corchorus kirkii N. E. Br.	1
Corchorus reynoldsiae Halford	1
Corchorus schimperi Cufod.	1
Corchorus sericeus Ewart & O. B. Davies	1
Corchorus sidoides F. Muell.	1
Corchorus sublatus Halford	1

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