International Potato Center Genebank, CIP, Peru

Genebank at a Glance

Full name	International Potato Center Genebank
Country	Peru
Year established	1972
Conservation methods and facilities	Seed, *in vitro*, cryopreservation
Number of staff	100
Total number of accessions	17,000
Number of accessions distributed annually	1,200

Recent Highlights

- The genebank holds more than 5,000 accessions of potato and sweetpotato in liquid nitrogen (at –196°C).
- In December 2023, CIP will start the construction of a large, fully equipped and automated cryobank, with a view to offering NARS of Latin America a space where they can deposit safety copies of their cryo-collections under a black box agreement and high-quality standards. This kind of "cryo-vault" will be a keystone for the reliable and sustainable long-term conservation of the most important clonal crop and recalcitrant seed collections of Latin America.
- The genebank is conducting a comprehensive analysis of 2,470 wild potato accessions, representing 92% of the collection, using approximately 20,000 SNP markers from the GGP Potato V4 Illumina Infinitum platform.
- A new invasive pest and disease complex has emerged in Latin America. The tomato potato psyllid (TPP), a pest native to North America, is a vector for the bacterium *Candidatus* Liberibacter solanacearum. In collaboration with Peruvian scientists, field screenings of a curated subset from the potato collection are underway to identify genotypes resistant to TPP. The first field screening showed significant variability in the reaction to TTP pressure, raising the expectation that resistant genotypes can be identified.
- A pre-breeding project is being established collaboratively between the Accelerated Breeding Initiative and the CGIAR Initiative on Genebanks. Sweetpotato wild relative accessions that showed resistance to sweetpotato virus disease (SPVD) were selected to create a segregating population that will be used to identify genes coding for SPVD resistance.

CGIAR

www.cipotato.org/genebankcip/

CGIAR - Project Partner