

Genetic Resources Institute, Azerbaijan



Genebank at a Glance

Acronym	GRI
Country	Azerbaijan
Year established	2004
Conservation methods and facilities	Seed, field collection
Number of staff	122
Total number of accessions	14,724
Number of accessions distributed annually	700

Recent Highlights

- The medium- and long-term storage chambers of the genebank safeguard seeds from over 10,000 accessions, encompassing both cultivated plants and their wild relatives. Additionally, the genebank has safety duplicated more than 2,000 of these accessions.
- In the last ten years, resources from the genebank have played a crucial role in developing 19 new plant varieties, with 11 of these now having organized seed production.
- Both recently developed and traditional plant varieties have been featured in field seminars for farmers, and new breeding programs have been initiated with a focus on meeting farmers' preferences and requirements.
- The genebank conducts in-depth evaluation and research on crop diversity, employing a wide range of advanced methods and modern equipment. These techniques cover areas such as molecular genetics, physiology, biochemistry, technology, and immunogenetics.
- In the last decade, over 5,000 accessions have been evaluated, leading to the discovery of more than 300 valuable donors with agronomic traits and stress resilience.
- As an active participant in the BOLD project, the genebank set ambitious goals, which include increasing the number of accessions in the genebank, conducting comprehensive characterization and assessment of all accessions using internationally recognized descriptors and pursuing genetic and genomic research.

