

The Central Genebank of Cuba

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Genebank at a Glance

Acronym	INIFAT
Country	Cuba
Year established	1982
Conservation methods and facilities	Seed, <i>in vitro</i> , cryo-preservation, field collection
Number of staff	26
Total number of accessions	3,402
Number of accessions distributed annually	50-70

Recent Highlights

- As part of BOLD, the genebank is actively involved in the agromorphological characterization of germplasm of national significance, the expansion of genetic diversity through the acquisition of new germplasm, the examination of factors and variables associated with seed preservation for each species and the comprehensive documentation of the genebank in both FAO WIEWS and Genesys.
- The genebank is committed to promoting quality management practices to improve operational efficiency. It places a strong emphasis on staff training, collaborating with both national and international institutions to enhance knowledge and expertise.
- The genebank plays an important role in sustaining agricultural development and food security in Cuba by providing farmers with diversity lost during climatic disasters and participating in and developing culinary and biodiversity fairs, thus contributing to the rescue of traditional and cultural knowledge.
- More than 142 cultivars of 46 species have been developed, including tropicalized cultivars of onion, broccoli, cauliflower, cabbage, lettuce, chili peppers, and peppers. More than 70% of these varieties are distributed all over the country by the National Movement of Urban, Suburban, and Family Agriculture.