



GRIN-Global: The Genebank Information Management Tool

Managing Crop Collections: GRIN-Global

The cost and technical challenges of developing and maintaining a genebank management and information system can be daunting. The Crop Trust and the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) have addressed these challenges through the evolution of the classic Germplasm Resource Information Network (GRIN) software into a new scalable and flexible system, called GRIN-Global.

GRIN-Global Features:

- Fully developed schema handles most genebanks' data requirements
- Enables data exchange between spreadsheets and the GRIN-Global database
- Open source software
- Vetted for MS SQL Server

For Genebanks:

Provides a tool for managing germplasm collections and the respective data

- Provides a complete genebank inventory management application
- Enables flexibility in delegating user ownership and permission rights
- Views, forms, and wizards can be customized
- Interface will soon accept data transfers from mobile applications
- Can be displayed in any language (when translation is provided, English default)

For Researchers:

Provides immediate access to Plant Genetic Resource (PGR) information

- Incorporates easy-to-use interface for extracting and manipulating PGR information and requesting germplasm
- Provides access to a worldwide plant taxonomy database

Frequently Asked Questions

What is GRIN-Global?

GRIN-Global is a system designed for genebanks to store and manage information associated with plant genetic resources and to deliver that information globally. Researchers, educators, and breeders around the world can request germplasm through the GRIN-Global websites (or GRIN-Global data that has been uploaded to the Genesys portal).

How many GRIN-Global databases are there?

More than 20 institutions are either currently using GRIN-Global in production or are evaluating it. GRIN-Global runs on servers managed by each genebank. See map above.

Current Users:

- Bolivia (INIAF)
- Chile (INIA)
- CIMMYT (CGIAR)
- Czech Republic (VURV)
- Portugal (INIIV)
- USDA - NPGS

APG)

- Azerbaijan (NPCGR)
- Canada (PGRC)
- CIAT (CGIAR)
- CIP (CGIAR)
- ICRISAT (CGIAR)
- IITA (CGIAR)
- Colombia (CORPOICA)
- Mexico (INIFAP)
- Oman (OAPGRC)

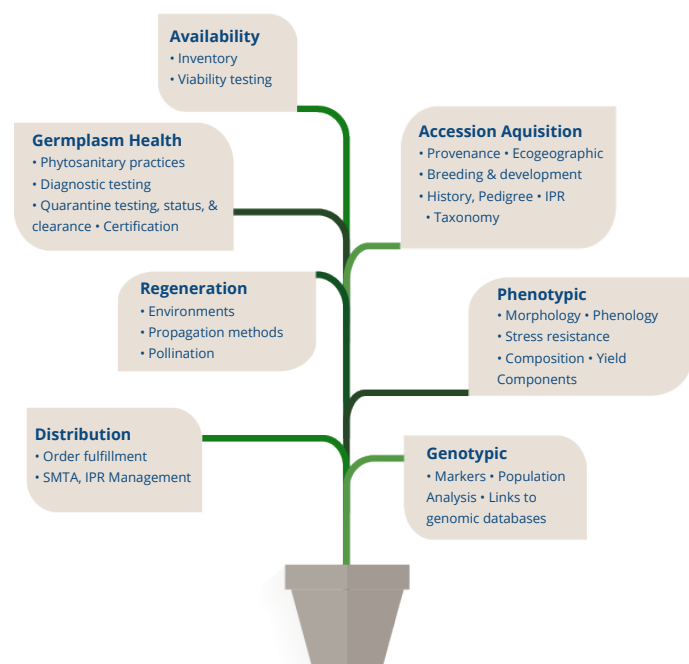
• Tunisia (BNG)

- ICRAF (CGIAR)
- Ecuador (DENAREF)
- Lebanon (LARI)
- Jordan (NCARE)
- Uruguay (INIA)
- Bioersity International (CGIAR)
- Africa Rice (CGIAR)
- CATIE

Evaluating:

- Australia (AGG &

What data is stored in GRIN-Global?



GRIN-Global is an Open Source Project

GRIN-Global is still evolving as developers review the source code and make modifications to share with the global community. However, the schema is based on the robust GRIN database that has been used by the USDA's National Plant Germplasm System since 1983.

Are there licensing fees?

There are no licensing fees.

GRIN-Global Support

There is an International Help Desk to coordinate questions from the global community. You can contact the helpdesk by e-mail (please see below). The USDA provides a website with extensive documentation and links to various resources at www.grin-global.org

Help Desk Services:

- Documentation & training
- Installation & technical support
- Tracks bug & enhancement requests

I have a small collection. Can I use GRIN-Global?

GRIN-Global is a client-server application that is typically hosted on an organization's server. Small institutes can opt to load the GRIN-Global database on a stand-alone PC, but most generally install the software in a networked environment. Contact the International Help Desk for advice.

Where can we download files to get started?

The USDA GRIN-Global website contains links to the installation files and instructions for installing GRIN-Global.



Participants in the GRIN-Global workshop, Czech Republic Genebank, February 2016.

Contact Us:

GRIN-Global Help Desk

Send an e-mail to:
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Learn more about
 GRIN-Global on our
 website:

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