

NETWORK

3.3. Fruit Network

Working Groups: *Malus/Pyrus*, *Prunus* and *Vitis*.

The **Fruit Network Coordinating Group** consisted of seven members: Marc Lateur, Belgium and Emilie Balsemin, France, until August 2011 (Interim Co-Coordinator); Daniela Giovannini, Italy; Stein Harald Hjeltnes, Norway; Erika Maul, Germany; Jesus Ortiz, Spain and Matthew Ordidge, United Kingdom.

The **European *Vitis* Database** (<http://www.eu-vitis.de>), maintained by the Julius Kuehn-Institute (JKI), Institute for Grapevine Breeding Geilweilerhof, Siebeldingen, Germany, has been adapted to the EURISCO format and an online interactive uploading module has been implemented. The Database now includes 49 descriptors (EURISCO descriptors plus 14 *Vitis*-specific descriptors) and uploading modules for passport, characterization, SSR and virus data. A photo gallery has also been implemented. The Database has been developed as part of the EC-funded Gen Res project GrapeGen and with complementary ECPGR support.

A new structure for the **ECPGR *Prunus* Database** has been nearly completed by the National Institute for Agronomic Research (INRA), Bordeaux, France, with partial support from ECPGR. Following the departure in August 2011 of the Database Manager, Emilie Balsemin, and the ongoing restructuring of the institute, INRA is expected to reconfirm its commitment to manage the Database and to make it available online.

Models for national genebank management have been provided by Germany and Switzerland and are available from the ECPGR Fruit Network homepage: <http://www.ecpgr.cgiar.org/networks/fruit.html>

Summary of AEGIS development status

Malus/Pyrus WG

The Group will meet in 2012, 5 years after its previous meeting, and AEGIS-related topics will be part of the agenda.

Prunus WG

- European Collection: The procedure to select accessions for the European Collection has been tested with cherry accessions and the Group was finalizing agreed selection criteria. 1116 unique cherry genotypes and 367 duplicate groups were identified. WG members agreed to promote in their respective countries the definition of a proposed list of candidate European Accessions and the lists are planned to be discussed in 2012.
- AQUAS: Minimum standards for *Prunus* conservation were proposed by the AEGIS *Prunus* sub-group in 2008 and re-discussed by the group in 2010. Finalization of the list for formal approval is ongoing. Safety-duplication methodology development is also planned.

Vitis WG

The Group will meet in 2012, nine years after its previous meeting and AEGIS topics will be part of the agenda.

Outlook for 2012

The fourth meeting of the *Malus/Pyrus* Working Group, jointly with two *ad hoc* meetings on Fruit synonyms and descriptors will be held in Weggis, Switzerland, in March 2012. The synonym meeting will focus on clarification of *Pyrus* accession synonyms.

The Second meeting of the *Vitis* Working Group will take place in Siebeldingen, Germany, in September 2012.