

Name of Issue: MOLECULAR MARKERS IN GERMPLASM EVALUATION

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Highlights from the discussion:

Question of repeatability, cost-effectiveness and utilization, implementation of molecular descriptors in descriptor lists

- Level of use
- exchange of data
 - primary population screening
 - more sophisticated – unique descriptors

Agreement on benefits.

Separation of morphologically similar accessions. Nordic experience with retrotransposons.

Question of commercial use of primers – are they "inventing" them just for money, just to sell. Private breeders are trying to sell primers. Experience with wooden plants (vines).

Allowance to use DNA markers in some, but not to be included upon lists.

Discussion showed that markers are definitely useful, but the question remains, to which level. Question of GMOs (Genetically Modified Crops) should they, if detected, be included in the genebanks.

Future/Next step: