

UK Plant Genetic Resources Group Meeting
DATE & TIME: Friday 23rd June 2023, 10:30 – 13:00
LOCATION: John Innes Centre, Norwich

Nigel Maxted , Uni of Birmingham (NM – Chair)	Amelia Greenham , Defra (AG)
Charlotte Allender , Uni of Warwick (CA)	Solomy Kaweesi , Defra (SK)
Lin Huang , Aberystwyth University (LH)	Gaynor McKenzie , JHI (GM)
Catrina Fenton , Garden Organic (CF)	Caroline Liddell , Defra (CL)
Kalani Seymour , Plant Heritage (KS)	Wendy Maxim , Defra (WM)
Matt Ordidge , Uni of Reading (MO)	Elizabeth Scott , NIAB (ES)
Sean May , Uni of Nottingham (SM)	Noam Chayut , JIC (NC)
Feli Fernandez , NIAB EMR (FF)	Lydia Smith , NIAB (LS)

23/13 Apologies (NM)

John Dickie c– Kew, Abi Johnson – NIAB EMR, Frances Gawthrop – Tozer Seeds, Alex Prendergast – Natural England, Ed Cockman – Defra

The meeting was chaired by Charlotte Allender (CA) and Nigel Maxted (NM).

23/14 Minutes of the meeting held on 15th March 2023 (CA)

Minutes agreed.

23/15 Actions and Matters arising (CA)

- (ONGOING) Secretariat to liaise with the wider group to review previous membership and invite key industry stakeholders to future meetings – update under 23/16
- NM to review TORs to ensure they are still fit for purpose – update under 23/16
- Secretariat to circulate the Digital Sequence Information (DSI) PowerPoint to group – actioned.
- CWR Horizon Europe Application and UK CWR Conservation to be added to next meeting's agenda for NM to give a more detailed presentation – actioned.
- CA to lead a task group to feedback concerns and share solutions on ongoing phytosanitary issues when distributing and receiving germplasm – Charlotte to contact those who expressed interest in joining the task group.
- To add 'link between ex situ and in situ genebanking and collections' as an agenda item for next meeting – actioned.

23/16 Review of Terms of reference and group's invite list (CA)

- The current membership list was reviewed by the group with agreed actions below:
 - Lydia to contact Elsoms Seeds, Processors and Growers Research Organisation (PGRO), and Sam Brooke from British Society of Plant Breeders (BSPB).
 - Kalani to approach the National Trust and Royal Horticultural Society (RHS) to gauge interest and identify potential representatives for NM to formally invite.
 - Amelia to contact Agri-Food and Biosciences Institute (AFBI).
 - Nigel to contact Joan Cottrell from Forestry Commission and Mike Parker from Scottish Agricultural Science Agency (SASA).
 - Lin to contact the National Botanic Garden of Wales
 - Sean to share the list of members from 2001 to help identify previously active organisations and ensure their areas of interest are covered in future meetings for wider inclusion.
 - (ONGOING) Nigel suggested reviewing the terms of reference after the above actions are complete to ensure they are still fit for purpose, especially for new members. To be discussed at October's meeting.

- 23/17 Defra Update (CL)**
- ECPGR, 17th Steering Committee – the 5-year work programme was launched. A new knowledge exchange network for European genebank managers, led by Lykke Steffensen, the Executive Director of NordGen, was also set up with those interested in joining asked to let Caroline know.
 - International meetings upcoming:
 - CGRFA, 19th Regular Session, 17-21 July 2023
- 23/18 Defra Scheme work and Rapid Evidence Assessment Update (AG)**
- The REA report by ADAS which will provide evidence that feeds into scheme work is expected soon. It will be circulated to the group for comments before it can be published on gov.uk.
[Action: Amelia to share the report with the group for feedback.](#)
- 23/19 CWR Horizon Europe Application and UK CWR Conservation (NM)**
- No progress with the CWR Horizon Europe Application and the funding from the European Commission for CWR conservation yet.
[Action: Item to be added to the next meeting's agenda for Nigel to give a more detailed presentation.](#)
- 23/20 Link between ex situ and in situ genebanking and collections (NM)**
- [Action: Nigel to give a detailed update at October's meeting.](#)
- 23/21 PGR applications / Project updates (All)**
- Each member of the UKPGR group gave an update on current projects and activities they were undertaking.
- 23/22 AOB (NM)**
- None
- 23/23 Date of next meeting/ Summer Technical (all)**
- Wednesday 18th October 2023 at Defra, London