

Participatory strategies for conserving Sardinia's agrodiversity: the BRGAgris model

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Introduction

Sardinia has a long agricultural tradition based on local varieties and traditional cultivation practices. These crops represent not only an economic and nutritional resource but also a key element of the island's cultural identity. Preserving this agrodiversity is crucial to maintain ecosystem resilience and adaptation capacity under climate change.

Legal Framework

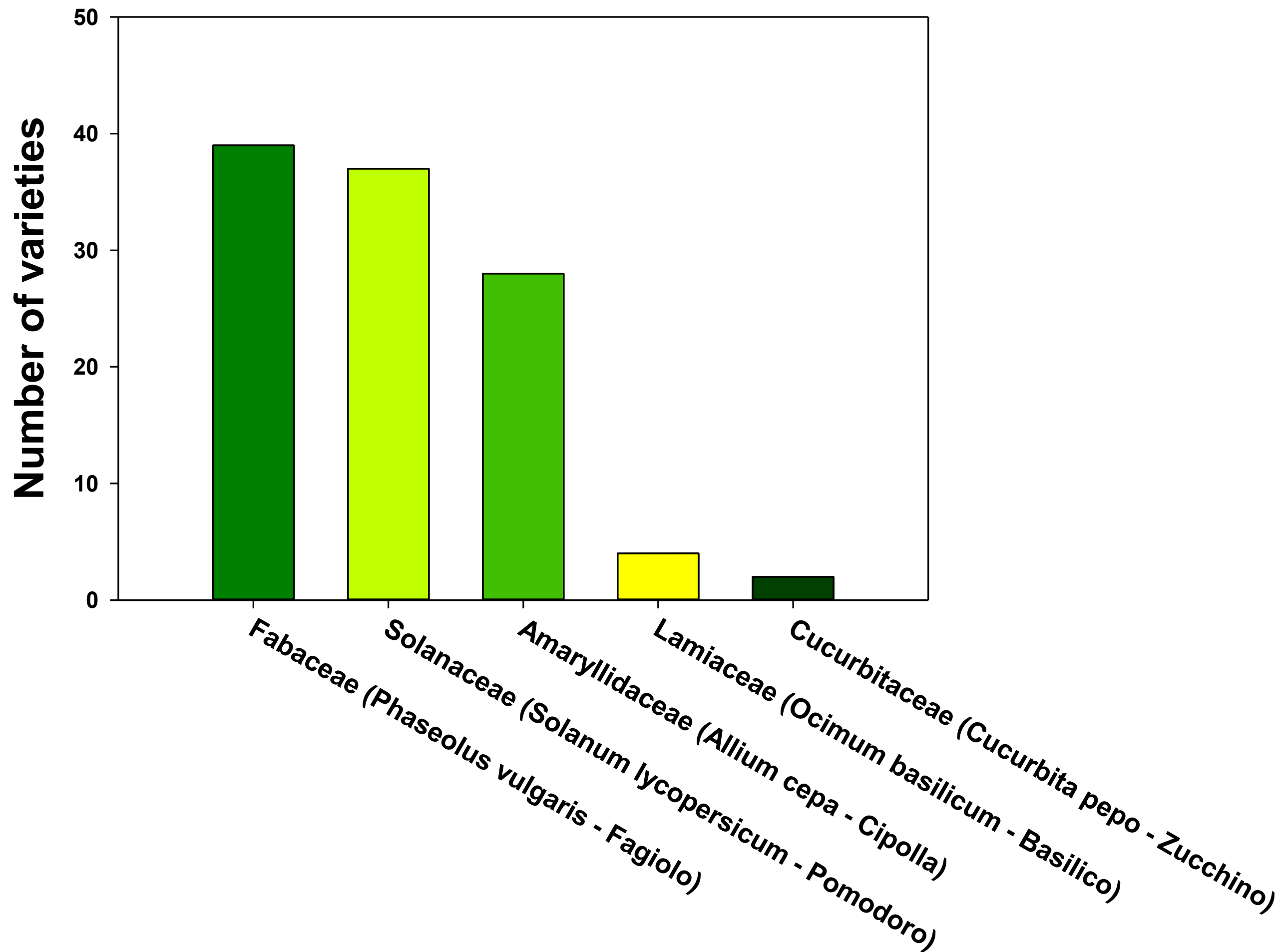
Regional Law No. 16/2014 promotes the protection and enhancement of Sardinian agrodiversity through the establishment of the Regional Register of Agrobiodiversity. This regulation supports the conservation and sustainable use of local genetic resources, encouraging both *in situ* and *ex situ* conservation actions.

The BRGAgris Model

Founded in 2022, the Regional Germplasm Bank for Agriculture and Food (BRGAgris) is coordinated by AGRIS Sardegna. BRGAgris networks bring together research institutions - BG-SAR (University of Cagliari), CBV (University of Sassari), CNR institutes ISPAAM and ISPA, and Fo.Re.S.T.A.S. (Regional Forestry Agency)- to promote the conservation, documentation, characterization, and valorisation of Sardinian plant genetic resources. This collaborative approach integrates scientific research with local agricultural knowledge.

Participatory Approach

The BRGAgris model adopts a participatory strategy, actively involving farmers, researchers, and local communities in seed collection, evaluation, and cultivation of traditional varieties. This cooperation fosters knowledge exchange, promotes the recovery of neglected crops, and strengthens the link between scientific institutions and territories.



Conclusions

BRGAgris demonstrates how cooperation between science and farmers can effectively strengthen agrobiodiversity conservation. The model supports the transmission of local knowledge, enhances the use of traditional varieties, and contributes to preserving Sardinia's agricultural heritage for future generations.

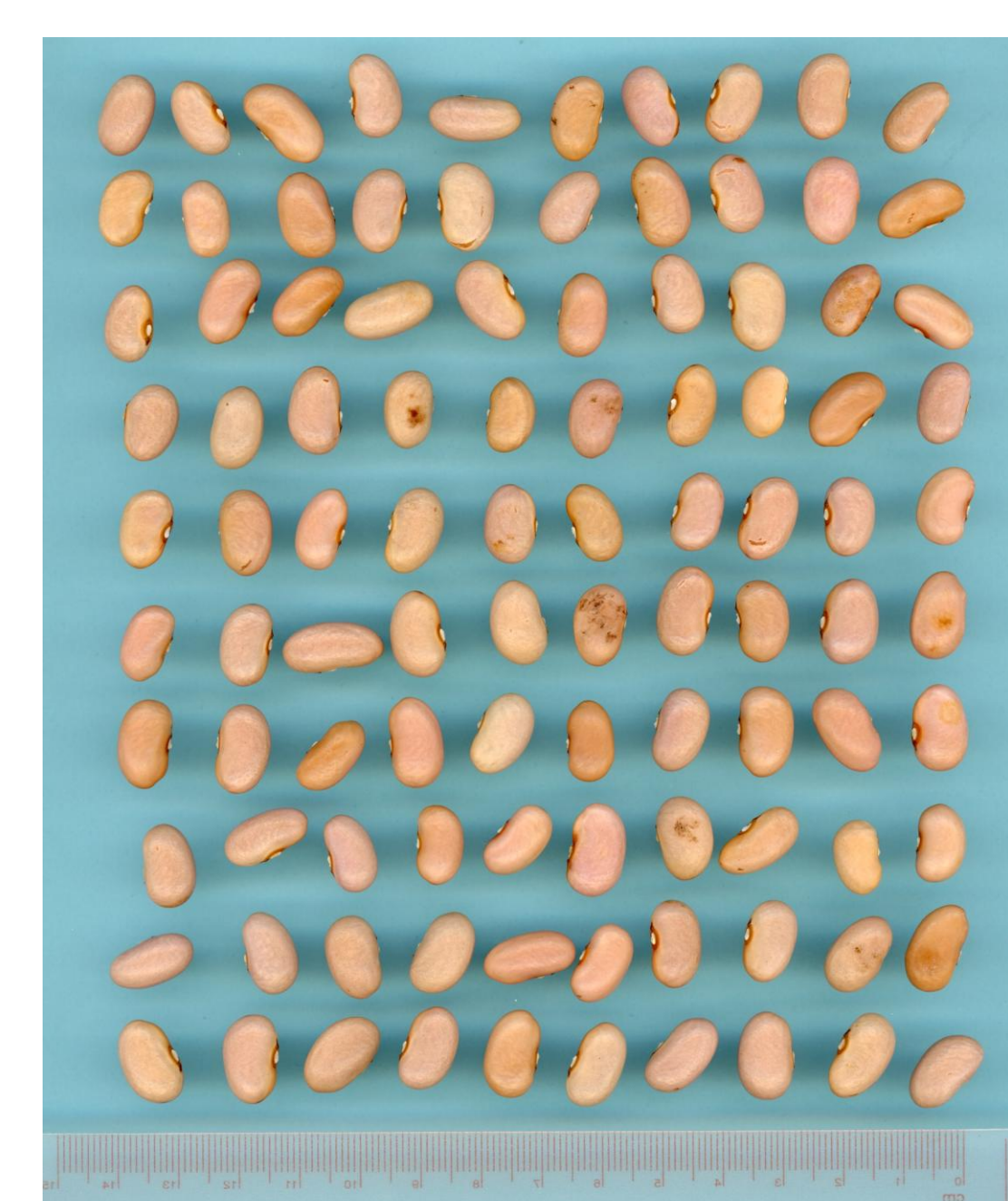
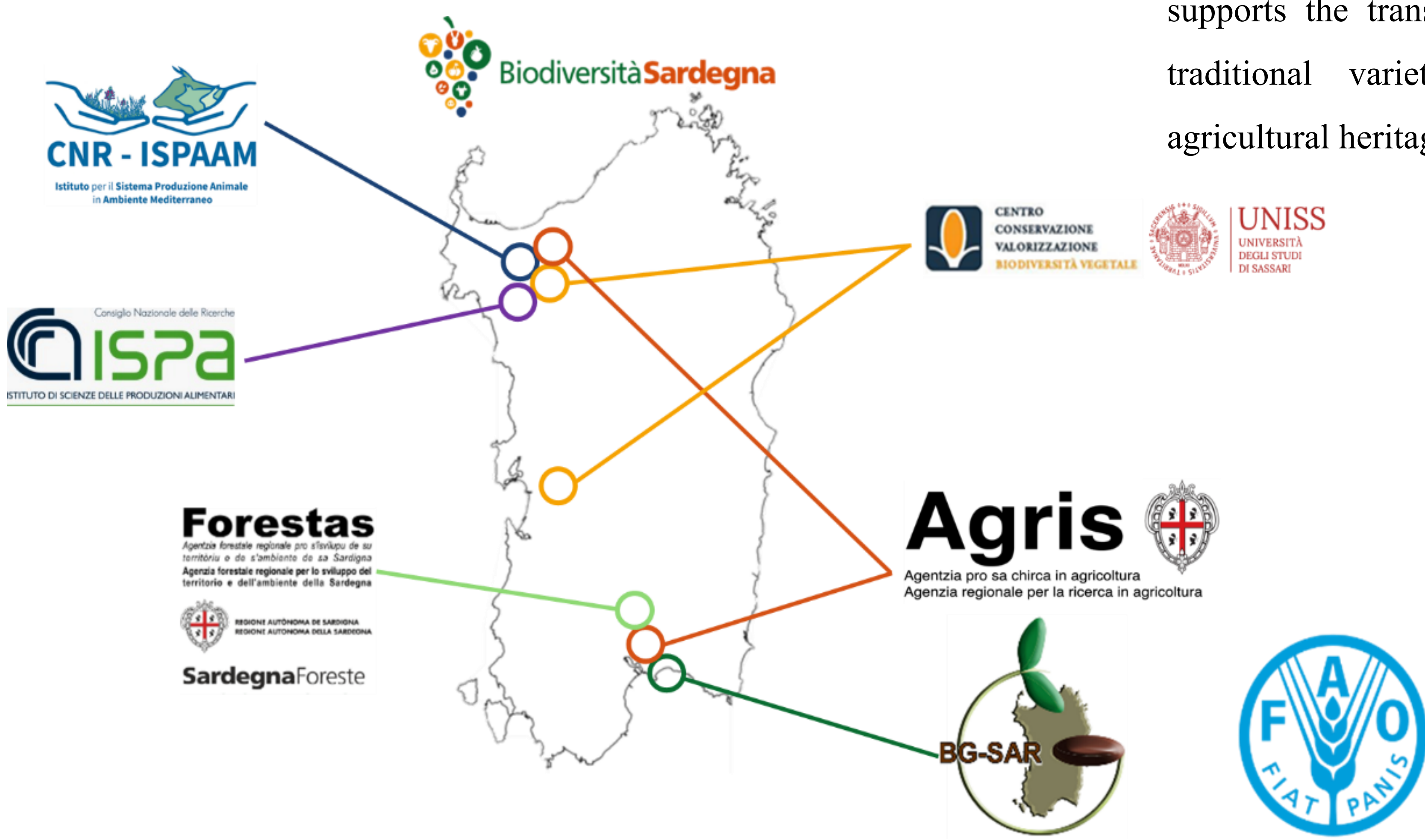


Image acquisition of seeds of *Phaseolus vulgaris* for morphocolorimetric analysis.

Acknowledgements: this project was funded by Regione Autonoma della Sardegna.