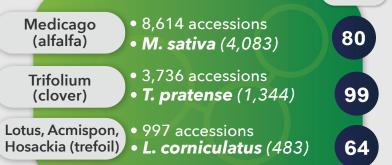
Temperate-adapted forage legume genetic resources

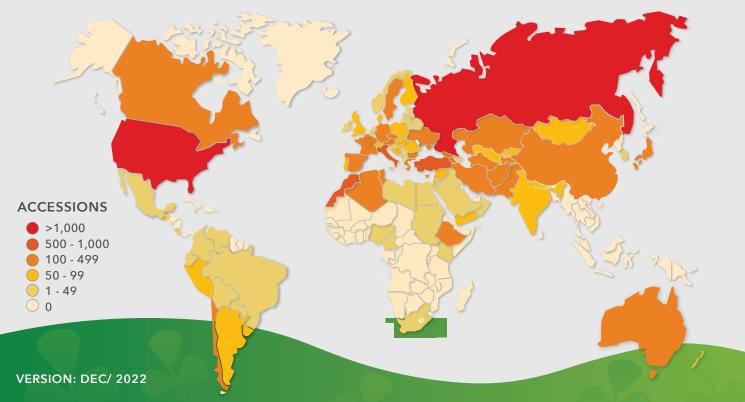
PROJECT OVERVIEW

Temperate-adapted forage legumes are among some the most significant cultivated crops in the world. The USDA National Plant Germplasm System (NPGS) manages a large diverse germplasm collection (>13,000) of alfalfa, clover, trefoil and many of their crop wild relative accessions (plant lines). The goal of this, and other NPGS projects, is to acquire, conserve, characterize, evaluate, document, and make available agriculturally important plant germplasm to researchers and educators worldwide.

♥ SOURCE OF ACCESSIONS









- U.S. ARS
- **DOM IDENTITY & INTEGRITY**

• U.S. Other Fed. Agency



Maintaining genetic identity and integrity in accessions is a high priority. All regenerations are carefully labelled, digitally imaged, and correctly classified using DNA marker technologies. During regeneration of seed, insect-proof cages are used to prevent cross-pollinations and sentinel plots are now regularly used to screen potential movement of transgenic traits into the collections.

CHARACTERIZATION & EVALUATION

Highly heritable characters are collected for germplasm accessions during regenerations with additional subsets of the collection evaluated for agriculturally important traits. Traits might include disease/insect resistance, heat/drought tolerance or focus on forage quality and could be incorporated into modern day cultivars by breeding.

