European Small Berries Genetic Resources, GENBERRY

GENBERRY project promotes conservation and characterization of genetic diversity of small berries, particularly strawberry and raspberry. This project is supported by the European Commission (DG-AGRI).

WP1: European genetic resources maintained by the 8 partners
- Out of the 806 genotypes, the majority of them (485) is present in only one site.
- These European collections represent a large diversity of the cultivated strawberry: old European and American genotypes as well as new genotypes from both New and Old World.

WP2: Passport data and descriptors
- Passport data: classical passport data have been chosen (mainly from FAO/IPGRI Multi Crop Passport Descriptors).
- Primary descriptors: for comparison between sites, descriptors independent of the cultural technique and the type of the plants were chosen. The list was based on the comparison of the description of 15 genotypes between different locations using descriptors from UPOV and COST836 (Monika Hoefer, JKI-GE, pers. Comm.).

WP3: Genetic diversity
- In the first year of the project, three labs evaluated the diversity of a sample of 12 genotypes using about 60 microsatellites. These 12 genotypes were chosen because they represented a large diversity from red varieties obtained in the New and Old World to new cultivars obtained from different countries.
- Results highlighted the interest of SSRs that amplify only one of the four genomes of the cultivated strawberry (CH4M002) compared to UDF005.

Conclusion
After the first year of study, passport data and descriptors including the genetic descriptors will be chosen for building a European database.