

Supplemental data for:

Aldarvish, M., Al Kaddour, A., Bourgol, A., Ramazan, Y., Hallak, Y., Cavers, S., Cottrell, J. (2023). Wild relatives of fruit trees in Syria: genetic resources threatened by conflict. *Genetic Resources* 4 (7), 56–62. doi: [10.46265/genresj.ETES2274](https://doi.org/10.46265/genresj.ETES2274).

QUESTIONNAIRE for Participants

(Can be collected through physical interviews or through online based on COVID-19 situation in the targeted locations)

Date:

1- Before taking part in this survey, please confirm that you have read and understood the Participant Information Sheet and that you have signed the Consent Form

I confirm that I have read and understood the Participant Information Sheet and have signed the Consent Form

2- Project details

The purposes of collecting your contact details are a) so that we can identify the locations where **wild relatives of fruit trees** are grown, b) so that we can contact you (with your permission) for further information about factors caused deterioration of **wild relatives of fruit trees**, and c) so we can plan for the best procedures to protect the wild species of fruit trees against genetic erosion. The information you provide will be entered into a database and will only be accessed by authorized personnel involved in this research project.

Interview Questions

3- What is your profession?

- Senior farmer
- Agricultural researcher
- Agricultural expert
- Agriculture Engineer
- Previous researcher in ICARDA

4- Your age

- 17 or less 18-25 26-35 36-45 46-55 56-65 66-75 76 or more

5- Your gender

- Female
- Male

6- Are you aware of any wild relatives of fruit trees that were once widely available in the local area that are exposing to deterioration?

- Yes
- No

7- If you answered 'yes', please provide as much information about these wild relatives of fruit trees below.

Location	Family name	Name of Genus	Name of species	Availability of wild relatives of fruit trees in your village/local area (select only one answer)	Where are these wild species spread in your area (village)?
				<input type="checkbox"/> Available (If high numbers of farmers are still growing this species) <input type="checkbox"/> Rarely available (If few farmers are still farming this species) <input type="checkbox"/> Not available <input type="checkbox"/> Extinct	<input type="checkbox"/> Forest locations (% of its spread in this location) <input type="checkbox"/> Beside of roads (%of its spread in this location) <input type="checkbox"/> Located in rocky parts of farms as neglected species (%) <input type="checkbox"/> Still located in the farms (%) <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Pls specify)- Pls add the % <i>Note: The total percentages for all the above location should be 100 %</i>

8- What are the reasons for the decline of wild relatives of fruit trees in the area? You may select more than one answer.

- The spread of cultivation to new areas and the need to grow economic crops.
- Frequent droughts and climatic changes
- Overgrazing

- Floods
- Desertification and expanding of buildings towards forest locations and arable lands
- Overuse (massive unmanaged gathering)
- Deforestation, including collection of wood for fuel
- Neglecting by local authorities
- Lack of knowledge about the importance & value of these species
- The interest of the younger generation for local wild fruit landraces use is very low
- Consequences of Syrian crisis (lack of law enforcement)
- Other (Pls specify)

9- Has the crisis in Syria further degraded these wild species?

- Yes
- No

10- If yes, please provide the more details (reasons caused more deterioration)

11- Do you exchange seeds or seedling/cuttings of wild relatives of fruit trees species with other growers in your community or outside your community ?

- Yes
- No
- Sometimes

12- Are you interested in conservation of wild relatives of fruit trees species?

- Yes
- No
- Not sure

13- In your opinion, what are the most important methods for conservation and protection of these species? You select only one answer (the most important method).

- Seed collection conservation of these species in local gene bank
- Establishment of protection practical procedures in the locations of these species against reasons caused this deteriorating
- Establishment of local collection for Multiplication of these species
- Awareness campaigns about importance for protecting and conservation of these species
- Public awareness campaigns
- Exchanging seeds with other farmers
- Other (pls specify)

14- Do you have seeds or cuttings of these species?

- Yes
- No

15- If yes, do you agree to provide a free seed sample or cuttings to be used for implementation of this research?

- Yes
- No
- Not sure

16- If yes, which species you can provide?

Name of species	Quantity (gram or kg for seeds) / # cuttings

17- Please use the space below to provide any further comments if you wish.

Thank you for your highly valued participation.