

ELEVEN YEARS OF EUCARPIA CRUCIFERAE NEWSLETTER

A.B. Wills and T. Hodgkin

Scottish Crop Research Institute, Invergowrie, Dundee. DD2 5DA, UK

Members attending the Eucarpia meeting 'Cruciferae 1974', held at the Scottish Horticultural Research Institute, 25-27 September 1974, decided that a Cruciferae Newsletter should be produced as a means of rapid communication between colleagues working on cruciferous crops.

Dr C North (Scottish Horticultural Research Institute) and Mr R N H Whitehouse (Scottish Plant Breeding Station) undertook editorship, and they published the first issue in 1976. Since then an issue has been produced each year. Issue No 1 contained 20 articles by 28 individual or joint authors while the most recent, No 11, had 84 articles and 189 authors. Over the same period the number of recipients of Eucarpia Cruciferae Newsletter has increased from 96 to more than 500. These include 85 corporations and 205 Universities, Colleges and Institutes, in 41 countries (see table).

The topics covered in articles submitted to Eucarpia Cruciferae Newsletter reflect the changing trends in scientific interests and commercial priorities. For example, the subjects in No 11 included: gene transfer; in vitro culture; somatic hybrids; male sterility; self-incompatibility; glucosinolates in seed and vegetative tissues; interspecific and intergeneric hybridisation; and gene banks and genetic resources. Twenty-seven articles were directly concerned with oilseed brassica crops.

Until now the Newsletter has been distributed free of charge to recipients. Publication and mailing costs for issues Nos 1-5 were largely covered by an initial grant from the Board of Eucarpia and donations from the National Seed Development Organisation Ltd, Cambridge. Subsequently, commercial organisations in receipt of the Newsletter have made donations to cover the costs, which have now reached £1750 for No 11. The present editors are anxious to maintain free distribution so that it can be available to research workers in any country, and because of the labour and costs involved in the administration of subscription charges.

Table. Distribution of Eucarpia Cruciferae Newsletter

Country	No sent
Argentina	4
Australia	13
Bangladesh	1
Belgium	1
Brazil	6
Bulgaria	2
Canada	41
China, Peoples' Republic of	10
Czechoslovakia	2
Denmark	8
Egypt	3
Ethiopia	3
Finland	3
France	33
Germany, Democratic Republic	3
Germany, Federal Republic	28
Greece	1
Hungary	2
India	45
Indonesia	1
Italy	7
Japan	24
Korea	1
Nepal	1
Netherlands	35
New Zealand	6
Norway	3
Pakistan	1
Poland	14
Rumania	1
Singapore	1
Spain	12
Sweden	10
Switzerland	3
Taiwan	1
Thailand	1
Turkey	3
United Kingdom	92
United States of America	99
Union of Soviet Socialist Republics	1
Yugoslavia	2