Traditional knowledge on management of plant genetic resources of common bean (*Phaseolus vulgaris* L.) by farmers in Kosova

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**Summary**

Common Bean (*Phaseolus vulgaris* L.) is cultivated all over Kosova in the home gardens and also in the agriculture fields. A survey of individual households was carried out during June to November 2006 with 69 farmers growing Common Bean in Kosova. The study was carried out when Common Beans was under cultivation until harvested. The territory of Kosova was divided into five (5) sub-regions according to the climatic and territorial specifications. The sub-regions were divided into three (3) municipalities by five (5) localities (replications). The plots/farmers were chosen randomly. During the visit to a farm we interviewed the farmers following a survey questionnaire.

The aim of this survey was to find out traditional use and conservation of Common Bean. There was not any literature on production techniques and management of Common Bean in Kosova. Depending on the localities where Common Beans were cultivated, it is known with various vernacular names e.g. “fasule (sounds like Phaseolus translation: common bean, dialect: literary), pasul (translation: common bean, dialect: demotic), bathë (translation: bean, region: Gjilani and Prishtina), pasuli i jonë (translation: our bean, region: Mitrovica), pasul Mulliqi (translation: Mulliqis’ bean, region: Peja), pasul i vadës (translation: bean under irrigation cultivation, regions: all), pasul i njomë (translation: snap bean, regions: all), pasul kokërr madh (translation: bean with big seed size, regions: Peja, Prizreni & Gjilani), pasul kokërr vogël (translation: bean with small size seed, regions: all), pasul Istogu (translation: Istogis’ bean, region: Peja), pasul Tetove (translation: Tetoves’ bean, region: Gjilani), etc”. Also the way of preservation of bean by farmers was different from region to region. The effort from framers to use traditional knowledge and to maintain diversity of plant genetic resources in cultivation seems to be impossible due to demographic changes and economic development and risk too lose this diversity is too high.

Key words: common bean, farmers, traditional knowledge, conservation, cultivation.