

# Coordinating Organic Plant Breeding Activities for Diversity

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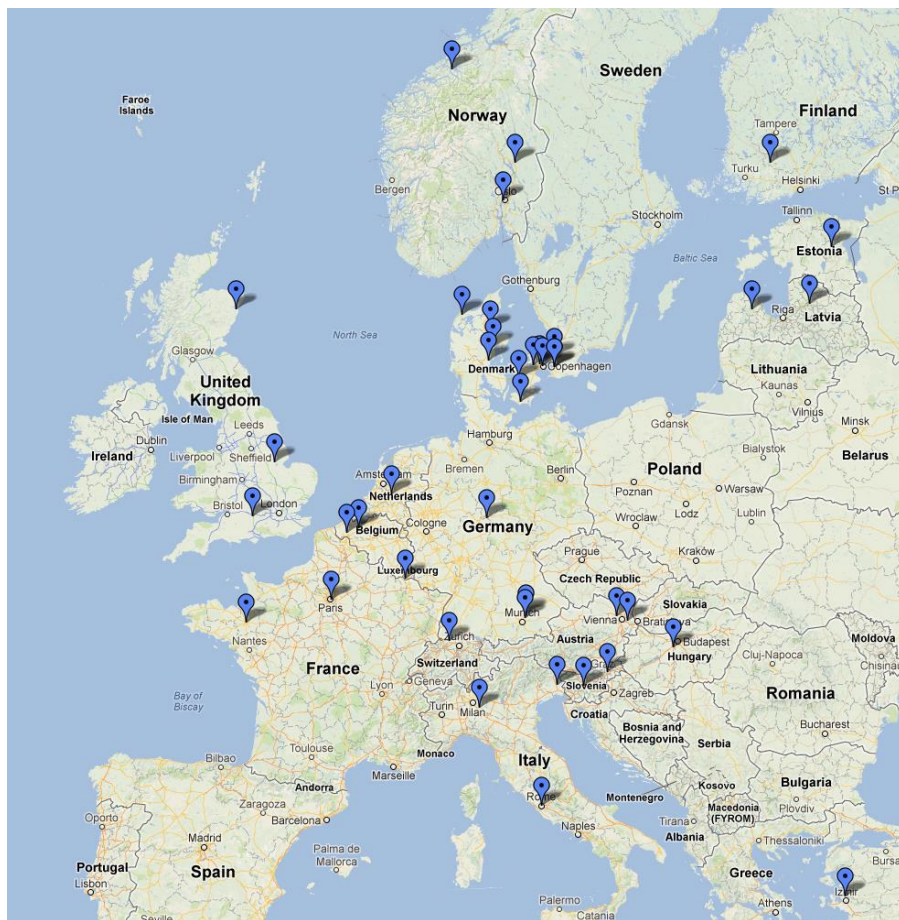
The Organic Research Centre

Project co-ordinator

# COBRA – Why?

- Key problem is the lack of suitable plant varieties adapted to the specific conditions of organic systems.
- Only be resolved if organic plant breeding efforts are better coordinated and the potential of plant genetic diversity is unlocked.

# COBRA: Where?



- 41 partners,
- 18 Countries
  - 31 Full partners
  - 10 Associate partners
  - Industry and research partners
- Total cost >€4M
  - €2.9M from COII
  - €1.2M from other funds

# COBRA – How?

- to support and develop organic plant breeding and seed production in Europe
- Focus on increasing the use and potential of plant material with High genetic Diversity
- Through coordinating, linking and expanding existing breeding and research.

# COBRA – How?

Addressing five problem areas:

- issues of seed health;
- response to multiple stresses, acting simultaneously on the crops;
- improvements in breeding efficiency;
- structural issues such as funding for breeding and the regulatory framework; and
- networking and coordination

# COBRA – What?

- Working with a number of arable crops
  - Cereals
    - wheat
    - barley
  - Grain legumes
    - pea
    - faba bean

# COBRA – When?

- 3 year project
- March 2013 – March 2016
- Nearing completion
- This conference will highlight the work of COBRA



# Welcome

