

WHERE DID IT COME FROM?

WHAT IS BIODIVERSITY? Biodiversity represents all the world's living organisms. Information in their cells dictate why they look, taste, smell and act differently. This diversity is the *biological wealth* upon which all life depends.

WHY CARE ABOUT GENETIC DIVERSITY?

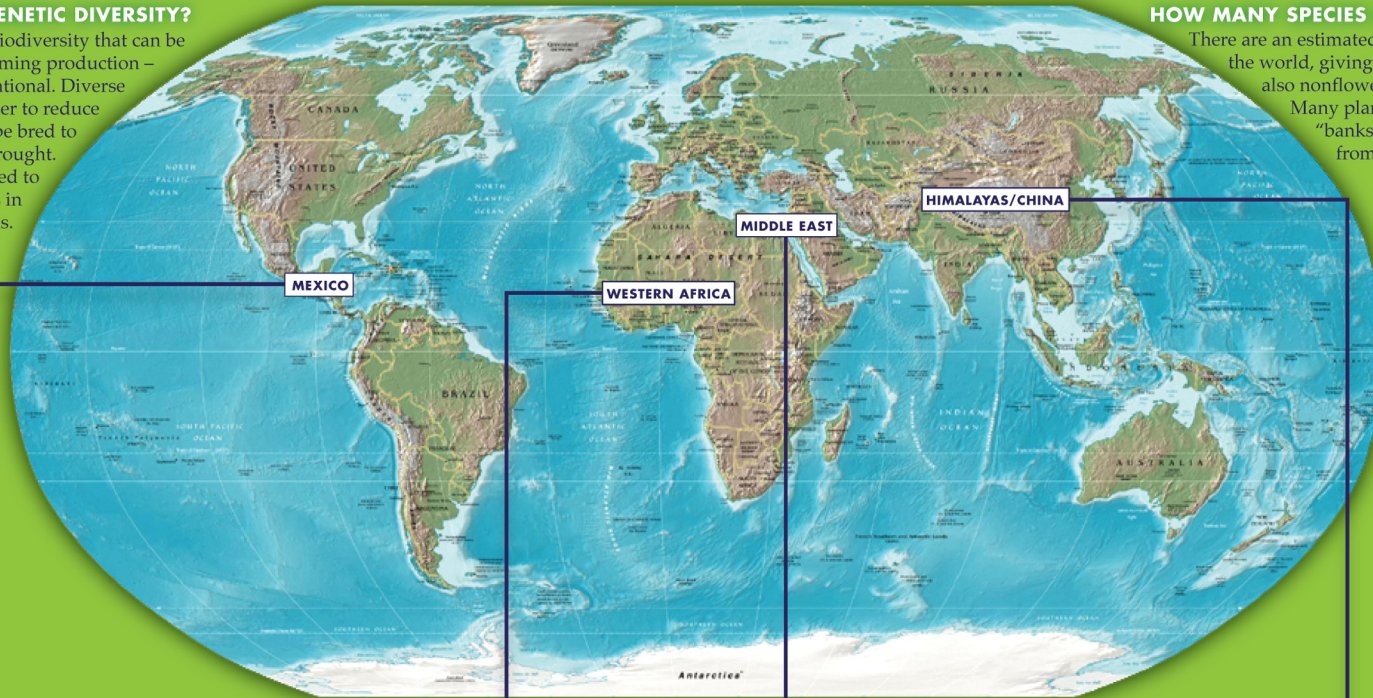
Genetic diversity determines biodiversity that can be used to enhance agricultural farming production – either organic or conventional. Diverse varieties can be sown together to reduce crop failure. New varieties can be bred to better survive diseases and drought. These approaches have led to dramatic increases in crop yields.

HOW MANY SPECIES ARE THERE?

There are an estimated 250,000 different flowering plants in the world, giving rise to most of our foods. There are also nonflowering plants, like ferns and mosses. Many plant species are endangered, but “banks” have been created to keep seeds from these species.

WHERE DID THE DIFFERENT SPECIES ORIGINATE?

Different crop species originated in different regions of the world. Those varied sites usually have a wide diversity of species – resources important to preserve for future food security.



MAIZE

HOW IS IT USED?

Primarily animal feed; used in human food as tortillas, polenta; corn oil

PRODUCTS



TACO SHELLS

MILLET

HOW IS IT USED?

95% consumed as food in Asia/Africa; in U.S. primarily used in animal feed, bird seed

PRODUCTS



BIRD SEED

SORGHUM

HOW IS IT USED?

Worldwide 1/3 for human food; in U.S. used as animal feed, paper products, construction materials

PRODUCTS



PORRIDGE

TEFF

HOW IS IT USED?

Ethiopian fermented pancakes; animal forage; ground cover

PRODUCTS



INJERA (ETHIOPIAN FLAT BREAD)

BARLEY

HOW IS IT USED?

Mainly livestock feed; also in food, beverages like cereals, beer, malted milk; barley bran reduces cholesterol

PRODUCTS



BARLEY SOUP

WHEAT

HOW IS IT USED?

20% of world's calories for humans; used in bread, cookies, pasta, crackers; byproducts for animals

PRODUCTS



PASTA

RYE

HOW IS IT USED?

Second to wheat in leavened bread production; animal feed

PRODUCTS



LOAF OF RYE BREAD

RICE

HOW IS IT USED?

Staple food for over half of world's population; rice hulls, bran and straw used for animal feed

PRODUCTS



BOWL OF RICE

OATS

HOW IS IT USED?

Used in cereals and breads; animal feed; straw for bedding; oat bran reduces cholesterol

PRODUCTS



OATMEAL COOKIES