

# The role of CGN in a national network conserving Dutch biocultural heritage

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## Background

In the Netherlands there are many initiatives which are concerned with the conservation and use of the Dutch biocultural heritage. These initiatives are often not well organized, have different goals and are largely based on volunteering. This results in a poor knowledge diffusion affecting all sorts of issues, from maintenance of crops to acquisition of budget.

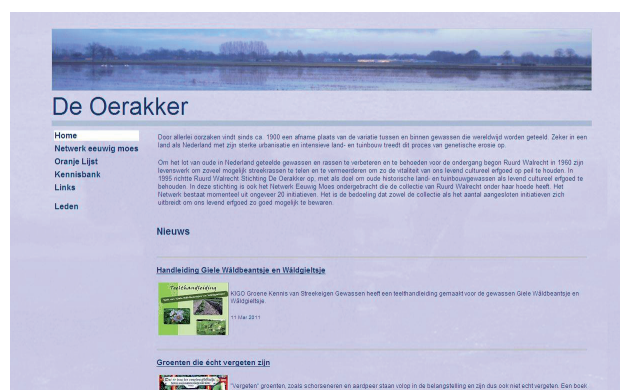
In 2006 the establishment of the network Eternal kale was initiated to enhance the cooperation of these initiatives. At present it consists of 50 NGO's.

## The role of CGN

- Facilitating internal and external communication
- Maintaining the website [www.deoerakker.nl](http://www.deoerakker.nl)
- Developing a list of old Dutch varieties: the Orange List
- Functioning as a safety back-up for collections
- Helping with the regeneration of material
- Collecting relevant information on biocultural heritage for a searchable database on the website [www.groenkennisnet.nl](http://www.groenkennisnet.nl)



Available old varieties in the Orange list.



The website of the Network, including the Orange List.

## The Orange List

The Orange List is an evolving list of more than 3000 vegetable varieties grown between 1850 and 1940 in the Netherlands. The names, descriptions and photo's of these varieties have been found in variety lists, seed catalogues, literature and via personal communications. Information on possible availability of these old varieties has been added by searching EURISCO and heirloom seed websites.



Members of the network inspecting the regeneration of the network's bean collection at CGN.