



The European Legume Hub

Empowering the legume development community

www.legumehub.eu

Scientia est potentia: knowledge is power. But understanding empowers.

The Legume Hub is a major output of the Legumes Translated project. Legumes Translated is about empowering decision-makers with knowledge to improve legume-based value chains. The project compiles and synthesises knowledge from practice and research for farmers, processors and others in the value chain. The European Commission's plan for the development of protein crops¹ includes increased "*sharing of knowledge/best practice in supply chain management and sustainable agronomic practiceson a dedicated knowledge platform*". The European Legume Hub is a contribution to this goal.

The Legume Hub philosophy: shared knowledge, shared ownership

The Legume Hub (the Hub) is about open access to knowledge, insights and understanding. It is a community for sharing knowledge. It is about practice- and research-based experts working together to support the sustainable development of our food systems. The Hub's registered users are a community of members of the European Legume Hub Association that governs the Legume Hub.

The Legume Hub: a source of verified knowledge and insight for all

The Legume Hub provides timely, scientifically valid (peer-reviewed), and comprehensive information for practitioners. These include breeders, farmers as growers and users of legumes, processors for feed and food purposes, and all involved in the related parts of the value chains. It is an open platform for exchange of knowledge and support between scientists, plant breeders, farmers and others interested in the improvement of legume production in Europe. The Legumes Hub is a free public service. This supports the free public access to knowledge used in the production of our food. The content is available to everyone.

Using the Legume Hub to publish and disseminate knowledge

The Hub is a self-publishing platform for its registered users. It is also a dissemination platform for existing publications. It gives maximum recognition to its contributors, their projects, and their organisations. The Hub itself uses written, spoken and visual media. All registered users are members of the Community/Association and may contribute content to the Hub. Members may also provide a personal profile that is published on the Hub. Articles produced and published through the Hub form the core of the knowledge base. Each article remains the property of its author, attributed to its author(s) and their organisations. Each is peer-reviewed and citable as a scientific or technical publication.

¹ European Commission 2018. Report from the Commission to the Council and European Parliament on the development of plant proteins in the European Union. COM (2018) 757.



Contributors can also use the Hub to provide access to existing publications, in so far as copyright allows. In addition, authors can extend their involvement by joining the editorial board and by contributing to the review of the Hub's content and its direction. All editorial work is acknowledged on the Legume Hub in each user's personal profile. All contributors may refer professionally to their role as author and/or editor in reporting to research funders and when reporting the impact and the relevance of their work to practice.

A common publishing platform for project consortia

A very important feature of the Hub is its function as a common publishing platform and framework for project consortia as well as individuals. Projects as well as individuals can be registered and every contribution that a member makes can be attributed to projects. The Hub is organised to conserve project identities while at the same time providing a common platform that continues after projects end, all within a common community-led framework.

The European Legume Hub Association: mutual ownership for continuity

The registered users of the Hub form the Legume Hub Community which is incorporated as the European Legume Hub Association. They collectively own the Legume Hub, which is formally held in trust and legally represented by the member organisation that administers the Hub. The Donau Soja GmbH provides this function. All users may join the Association. The Association has a board elected by its members. The board oversees the registration of members, develops policy on content, organises peer review, and provides guidance for the management of the Legumes Hub.

Responding to the Legume Hub Association, Donau Soja acts as a caretaker to make sure that the Legumes Hub is independently maintained, updated and advertised.

Sustaining the Legume Hub requires continued investment at two levels:

- (i) extending its content, and
- (ii) maintaining and updating its management and infrastructure.

All contributors and potential contributors can as members build their contribution effort and use of the platform into their general investment in project dissemination and communications. To ensure the Hub continues to serve these contributors and users, we are working on approaches to sustaining the background investment in the infrastructure.

The European Legume Hub Association works to ensure that the Legume Hub is well-known as a route to impact for EU-funded research consortia. The Association also provides of a voice to its members as scientists and technologists in public debate about the development of legume-supported cropping.

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