
Fw: [External Email]melon taxonomy

From Reitsma, Kathleen - REE-ARS <kathleen.reitsma@usda.gov>

Date Thu 11/30/2023 2:25 PM

To Reitsma, Kathleen - REE-ARS <kathleen.reitsma@usda.gov>

Melon REIDs based on information from Kenji Kato, Professor, Faculty of Agriculture, Okayama University, Okayama, Japan

Melon (Cucumis melo) Crop Vulnerability Statement 2020

Pitrat, M. 2008. Melon, p. 283–315. In: J. Prohens, and F. Nuez (eds.). Handbook of Plant Breeding. Springer, New York. Melon (Cucumis melo) Crop Vulnerability Statement 2020

Pitrat, M. 2012. Domestication and diversification of melon, p. 31–40. In: N. Sari, I. Solmaz, and V. Aras (eds.). Cucurbitaceae 2012, Proceedings of the Xth EUCARPIA meeting on genetics and breeding of Cucurbitaceae, Antalya (Turkey), October 15-18th, 2012.

Pitrat, M. 2016. Melon genetic resources: phenotypic diversity and horticultural taxonomy, p. 25–60. In: R. Grumet, N. Katzir, and J. Garcia-Mas (eds.). Genetics and Genomics of Cucurbitaceae. Springer Science+Media, New York.

Pitrat, M., P. Hanelt, and K. Hammer. 2000. Some comments on infraspecific classification of cultivars of melon. Acta Hort. 510:29–36.

From: Jim McCreight <lettucemelon@gmail.com>

Sent: Wednesday, November 29, 2023 12:32 PM

To: Reitsma, Kathleen - REE-ARS <kathleen.reitsma@usda.gov>

Subject: Re: [External Email]melon taxonomy

Thank you. Kathy!

Jim

On Wed, Nov 29, 2023 at 10:26 AM Reitsma, Kathleen - REE-ARS <kathleen.reitsma@usda.gov> wrote:
Excellent, Jim!

I will hopefully be able to process these before the end of December.

Sincerely,

Kathy

Kathleen Reitsma
Curator of Vegetable Crops
North Central Regional Plant Introduction
[1305 State Avenue](#)
[Ames, Iowa 50014](#)
[United States](#)

Phone: 515-294-3212

Fax: 515-294-1903

Email: kathleen.reitsma@usda.gov or kreitsma@iastate.edu

Visit our Station's homepage at: <https://www.ars.usda.gov/midwest-area/ames/plant-introduction-research/>

From: Jim McCreight <lettucemelon@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, November 29, 2023 11:23 AM
To: Reitsma, Kathleen - REE-ARS <kathleen.reitsma@usda.gov>
Cc: Zhangjun Fei <zf25@cornell.edu>
Subject: Re: [External Email]melon taxonomy

Kathy,

The accessions appear to be Japanese cultivars with specific variety/cultivar names. The suggested changes are based solely on that information. Attached is the Excel file from my search for them in GRIN.

Jim

On Wed, Nov 29, 2023 at 9:07 AM Reitsma, Kathleen - REE-ARS <kathleen.reitsma@usda.gov> wrote:

Hello Jim!

Good to hear from you.

Taxonomic changes can be made GRIN, but it is helpful if there is a publication or evaluation/research that can be cited to document the recommended changes. I can also include your email below indicating your concurrence with the taxonomic change recommended by the researcher.

One concern, though, is if these taxonomic changes are based only on the GWAS on a single seedling from the accession. Many of the melon accessions are diverse (especially with the open pollination history). We have some accessions which have mixtures of fruit types - cantalupensis, flexuosus, and agrestis types all within a single population.

Please send me a list at your convenience. I can review the other information associated with the accessions to see if it supports the change to agrestis .

Sincerely,

Kathy

Kathleen Reitsma
Curator of Vegetable Crops
North Central Regional Plant Introduction
[1305 State Avenue](#)
[Ames, Iowa 50014](#)
[United States](#)

Phone: 515-294-3212

Fax: 515-294-1903

Email: kathleen.reitsma@usda.gov or kreitsma@iastate.edu

Visit our Station's homepage at: <https://www.ars.usda.gov/midwest-area/ames/plant-introduction-research/>

From: Jim McCreight <lettucemelon@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, November 29, 2023 10:54 AM
To: Reitsma, Kathleen - REE-ARS <kathleen.reitsma@usda.gov>
Cc: Zhangjun Fei <zf25@cornell.edu>
Subject: [External Email]melon taxonomy

[External Email]

If this message comes from an **unexpected sender** or references a **vague/unexpected topic**;

Use caution before clicking links or opening attachments.

Please send any concerns or suspicious messages to: Spam.Abuse@usda.gov

Kathy,

A Japanese melon scientist has requested the taxonomy of sixteen (16) East Asia accessions be corrected to *C. melo* ssp. *agrestis* (they are all listed in GRIN as ssp. *melo*). We overlooked them when working on the melon GWAS work with Zhangjun Fei as part of the CucCAP grant. It appears most are Makuwa types, which was placed under ssp. *agrestis* in Pitrat's 2000 classification scheme. The accessions came into the system from 1955 through 1969 when ssp. *agrestis* was generally considered by Americans a wild type, small fruited, and inedible. I concur with his request. Is this change/ correction possible? Let me know if you would like the list of accessions.

Thanks,

Jim

This electronic message contains information generated by the USDA solely for the intended recipients. Any unauthorized interception of this message or the use or disclosure of the information it contains may violate the law and subject the violator to civil or criminal penalties. If you believe you have received this message in error, please notify the sender and delete the email immediately.