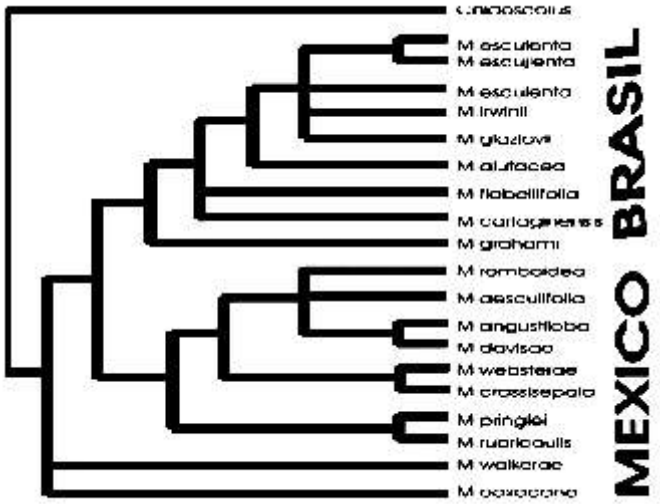
TAILORING BIOLOGICAL TECHNOLOGIES FOR THE SUSTAINABLE USE OF CASSAVA GENETIC RESOURCES

Genus Manihot - Species Diversity and Cassava Evolution in Brazil

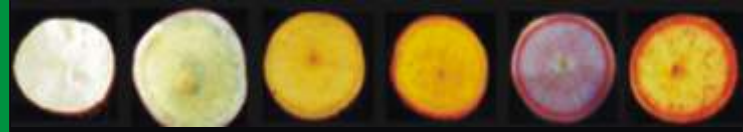
Eight out of 98 species of *Manihot* occur in Brazil, making this country the major center of species diversity of this genus. Brazil is also the house of the cassava ancestor. Embrapa Genetic Resources and Biotechnology retain the largest herbarium documentation and *Manihot* species depository in the World. These resources have been shared all over the world and more than 25% of the World Cassava Germplasm Collection maintained in CIAT is originated in Brazil.

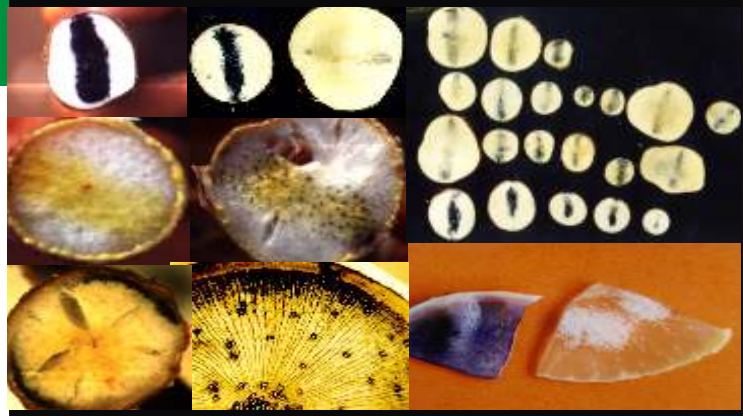
Visit:
http://plantwall.cenargen.embrapa.br/elcen2web/elc2html/elc2bd01a.asp?id=61



Cassava Domestication and Agrobiodiversity in Amazon:

The southwest border of Amazon-Cerrado, in the Paraguay-Brazil center of species domestication, occur the largest populations and genetic diversity of *M. esculenta spp flabellifolia,* the cassava ancestor. Local population in the Amazon maintains the largest diversity in cropping and landraces of cassava with unusual traits which have been appropriated for diverse agricultural systems and uses of cassava.





Innovating Cassava Conservation Strategy in Brazil:

Strategies oriented to conservation of cassava and *Manihot* species in Brazil include field plots of populations of cassava ancestor and *Manihot* species, maintenance of genetic genetic stocks of the cultivated species, *in vitro* collection of genetic *stocks carrying special traits*, artificial seed conservation system for *special* genetic stocks and core collection of the cultivated species.

Tailoring Biological Technologies to Improve Cassava Crops and Local Food Processing in Amazon

Traditional and local processing cassava includes cassava sour (rich in vitamin A), leaf powder, several kinds of farina, cassava starch ball conservation, and cassava pops. Innovative processing technologies, which include concentrating carotenoid in powder formulations and production of cassava glucose syrup derived from sugary cassava have been designed to improve small farmers nutrition and income .

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More information available:
CD ROM: Celebrating Cassava Diversity.
Books: CASSAVA BIOTECHNOLOGY
CASSAVA THE BREAD OF BRAZIL.

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Tiragem: 1000 exemplares.

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