

Nottingham Arabidopsis Stock Centre (NASC)

<http://arabidopsis.info/>

Sean May

Sean.May@nottingham.ac.uk

Director



Marcos Castellanos-Urbe

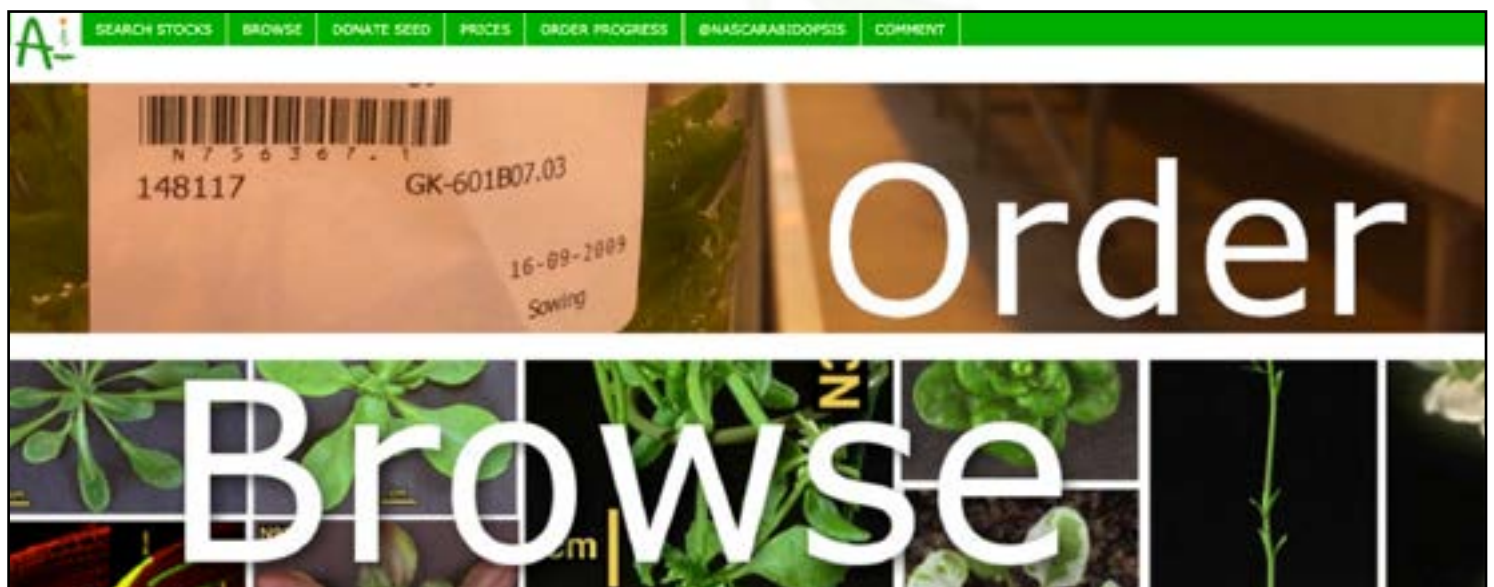
Operations Manager

Recent activities and newly developed tools and/or resources

NASC saw a temporary decline in the numbers of stocks ordered during early 2020. This was particularly noticeable for China during February and some European labs from March as individual groups and departments ramped down their work. That said, orders from countries such as Germany did not noticeably slow, and many institutes worldwide rebounded rapidly in the spring. Most noteworthy was the dramatic resurgence in orders from China from the first week of April 2020.

In terms of numbers of individual stocks delivered for 2020, the highest recipient countries were China, Germany, Sweden, and Switzerland. Orders have remained relatively high throughout the pandemic to a grand total of 68,700 stocks sent in 2020, showing that Arabidopsis research has proven to be a robust area of science even in the 'year of living dangerously / year that time forgot'. During early 2021, outgoing numbers of stocks have been slightly lower than in 'normal' years reflecting the unfortunate 3rd wave across many countries (and associated restrictions).

NASC/ABRC collaboration via exchange of donated and bulked seed stocks and associated data has not been slowed by the pandemic, even if the mail has been. International mail issues have repeatedly impacted ease of stock distribution to many countries during the various lockdown periods. This speed of distribution has been made even more taxing due to an increased need for phytosanitary certification during 2020. If your seeds have taken a little longer to reach you than normal, we apologise. Please do contact us if you have not received seed in a reasonable time and we will follow up. Some especially good news for 2020/21 is that we have enjoyed a larger than normal rate and diversity of new Arabidopsis seed donations into the collection – thank you!



Not all new donations have been Arabidopsis. During lockdown we have co-ordinated with John Sedbrook (Illinois) - representative of the Thlaspi community, to incorporate (new for 2021) a more extensive and diverse Thlaspi collection. On top of the stocks already distributed for many years we now have the following collections [numbers of lines]: Machova_ / Czech Republic [63]; Wrench / UK [7]; Wirth / Germany [29], Galanti European WGS lines [200], Esfahanian / US [260], Sedbrook / Canada [100], with more on the way (e.g. from Russia).

If you know of any Arabidopsis or other model organism lines that would be usefully held at the Stock Centres, please let us know – we may have overlooked them.

In funding news, our 5-year renewal grant was submitted to the BBSRC/UKRI (November 2020, Bioinformatics and Biological Resources Fund) and was successfully funded – a big thank you to everyone involved.

For up-to-date details on stock donations or anything else that you wish to know, please do visit the NASC site, or contact curators@arabidopsis.info at any time.

If we (NASC and ABRC) can help you or promote your research to the community by distributing seed on your behalf, then please do contact us - don't wait for us to come to you.

