



# Partnership in Action

## CABI's activities in Chile

Regional Consultation 2016

10-11 February 2016

Andrés France



# Overview

- Current Situation
- History of collaboration CABI- Chile
- Projects
- Agricultural Production – Main commodities
  - Government priorities
  - Main crops- commodities
  - Challenges

# Project – Activities implemented in Chile



- Early work between the Austral University and the International Mycology Institute (IMI) in forest mycology, since 1985 Chile became member country of CABI in 1995.
- The National Agricultural Research Institute (INIA) is named as the liaison institution with CABI.
- First visit of the Insect Pathology leader of CABI to Chile in 1996.
- CABI support the initial work in Insect Pathology at INIA and the preparations of related projects to EU and Darwin Initiative.
- Dr. Moore support the formation of a Insect Pathology Program at INIA

# Project – Activities implemented in Chile



- The Darwin Initiative project (2006-2009): Conserving and using entomopathogenic fungi and nematodes within Chile. Three years of successful partnership.
- Advise on the recently formed Chilean Bank of Microbial Genetic Resources.
- The Darwin Initiative project (2015-2017): Restoring the native flora and associated microflora of Robinson Crusoe Island
- Recently focusing on control of invasive species at Archipelago Juan Fernández.



# The Darwin Initiative project: Conserving and using entomopathogenic fungi and nematodes within Chile

[www.cabi.org](http://www.cabi.org)  
**KNOWLEDGE FOR LIFE**

# Surveys of Chile 2007

– Present

Surveys for insect killing  
microorganisms from  
extreme habitats in Chile

The objective – to find  
environmentally fit  
organisms to control insect  
pests



KNOWLEDGE FOR LIFE



# Chile

# Surveys of Chile

Chilean soil samples baited out with waxmoths, nematodes and sclerotia

1500 soil samples from  
very north to very  
south of Chile, from  
sea level to  
 $>4500$  m



# Chile

Over 600 insect-killing isolates, from a range of habitats. Stored at the Centro Tecnológico de Control Biológico, Chillán.

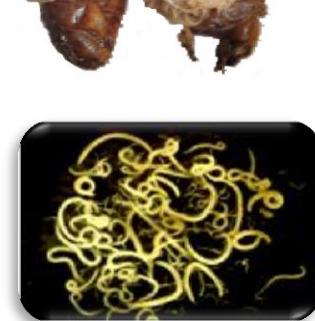
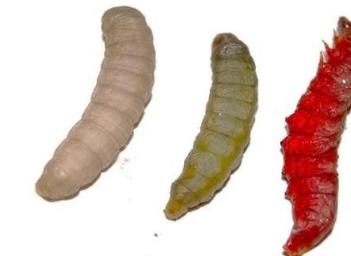


Chile

## Bioassays

Testing against a range of insect pests in Chile

Collected over 500 isolates of entomopathogenic fungi and 101 isolates of entomopathogenic nematode (including three new species of nematode and one new species of gut-residing bacteria)



# New species:

*Heterorhabditis atacamensis*



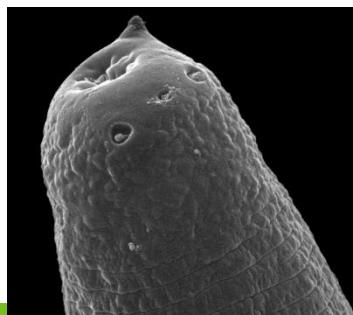
23° 11' 16.7"



*Steinernema australe*



*Steinernema unicornum*



44° 35' 48.8"

52° 48' 7.2"



# Developing management capacity

- A fully curated long-term collection place in Chile.
- Training in taxonomy, long term collection, sampling, cryopreservation and microbial production.
- A large numbers of new isolates of Entomopathogenic Fungi (520) and nematodes (101) from a range of ecosystems, including climatic and topographic extremes.
- Numerous presentations and workshops provided by project staff to a range of audiences (primary school children, scientists and farmers).



# Developing management capacity

- Grade and undergraduate Thesis.
  - Scientific presentations and posters at conferences and congress.
  - Numerous media articles in newspaper, radio and TV).
  - A photo-diary on [www.youtube.com](http://www.youtube.com)
  - A project video on  
[www.youtube.com/watch?v=OSAObl2K9il](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=OSAObl2K9il)
  - A 16-minute film on the project in Spanish and English.
  - A significant rise in awareness of biodiversity within Chile along with a substantial increase in scientific capacity within the host country.

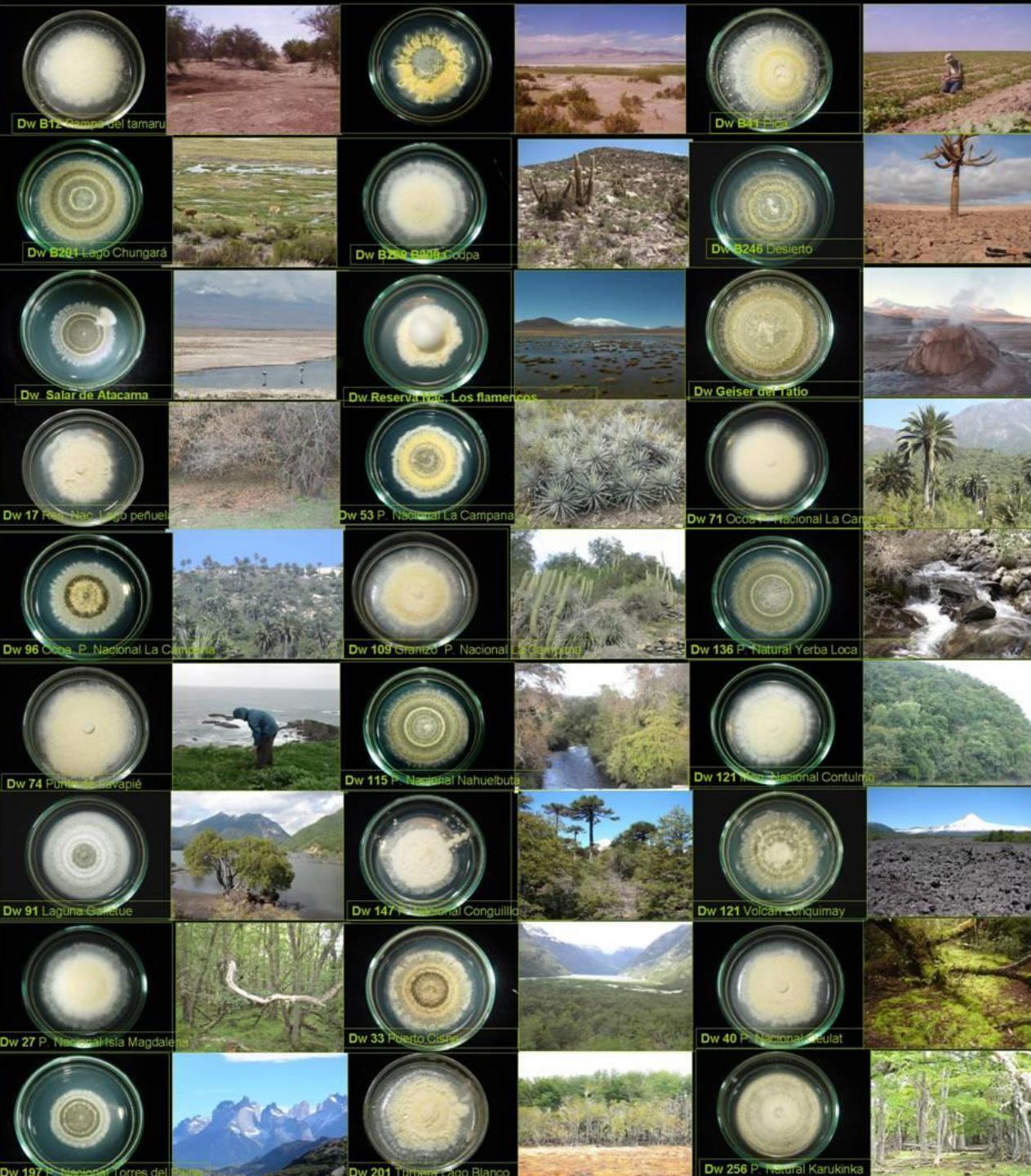


## IN SEARCH OF DARWIN'S NEMATODES

IN SEARCH OF DARWIN'S NEMATODES

Dave Moore and Steve Edgington, CABI Europe-UK, Silwood Park, Ascot, Berks, SL5 7TA, UK  
(D.Moore@cabi.org; S.Edgington@cabi.org) and Andrés France y Loreto Merino, Instituto de Investigaciones Agropecuarias (INIA), Avenida Vicente Méndez, Casilla 426, Chillán, Chile (afrance@inia.cl; lmerino@inia.cl) ask why did Charles Darwin select finches for special study, when he could have used nematodes?





## Cooperation:

# Microbial Culture Collections

# Chilean Network of Microbial Culture Collections: Numbers and field of expertise

Culture Collections in Chile registered at the WFCC

- Four Culture Collections ca. 3000 strains: Bacteria, Yeasts and Fungi
- Agriculture, Biotechnology, Environmental, and Human and animal healthy related microorganisms

Cledir Santos - CCCT, UFRO; Email: [cledir.santos@ufrontera.cl](mailto:cledir.santos@ufrontera.cl)

Mariella Rivas - ACF, Uantof; Email: [mariella.rivas@uantof.cl](mailto:mariella.rivas@uantof.cl)

Eduardo Alvarez Duarte - ChFC, Uchile; Email: [ealvarezd@med.uchile.cl](mailto:ealvarezd@med.uchile.cl)

Andrés France - CChRGM, INIA; Email: [afrance@inia.cl](mailto:afrance@inia.cl)

Patricio Godoy - CCHFL, UACH; Email: [patricio.godoy@uach.cl](mailto:patricio.godoy@uach.cl)

# Microbial Culture Collections in Chile registered at the WFCC



Culture Collection of the Biotechnology Center-CUC (WDCM 830)  
Jaime Rodriguez  
Centro de Biotecnología, Universidad de Concepción  
Concepción, Chile



Chilean Fungal Collection-CCF (WDCM 1077)  
Eduardo Alvarez Duarte  
ICBM - Facultad de Medicina Universidad de Chile Santiago, Chile

Chilean Microbial Genetic Resources Collection-CChRGM (WDCM 1067) Andrés France  
Instituto de Investigaciones Agropecuarias Chillán, Chile

Chilean Culture Collection of Type Strains-CCCT (WDCM 1111)  
Cledir Santos  
BIOREN-UFRO, Universidad de La Frontera Temuco, Chile

# New Initiatives

## Restoring the native flora and associated microflora of Robinson Crusoe Island (RCI)

- DARWIN INITIATIVE
- To increase in-situ conservation of biodiversity on RCI.
- Management of invasive plants and the re-establishment of threatened native species.
- To increase ex-situ conservation of biodiversity on RCI by conserving native plant species in a new seed bank facility.
- To enhance capacity within the local RCI community to conserve biodiversity.
- To promote local community participation in developing and implementing habitat restoration plans in degraded areas of RCI.





## Possible lines of cooperation

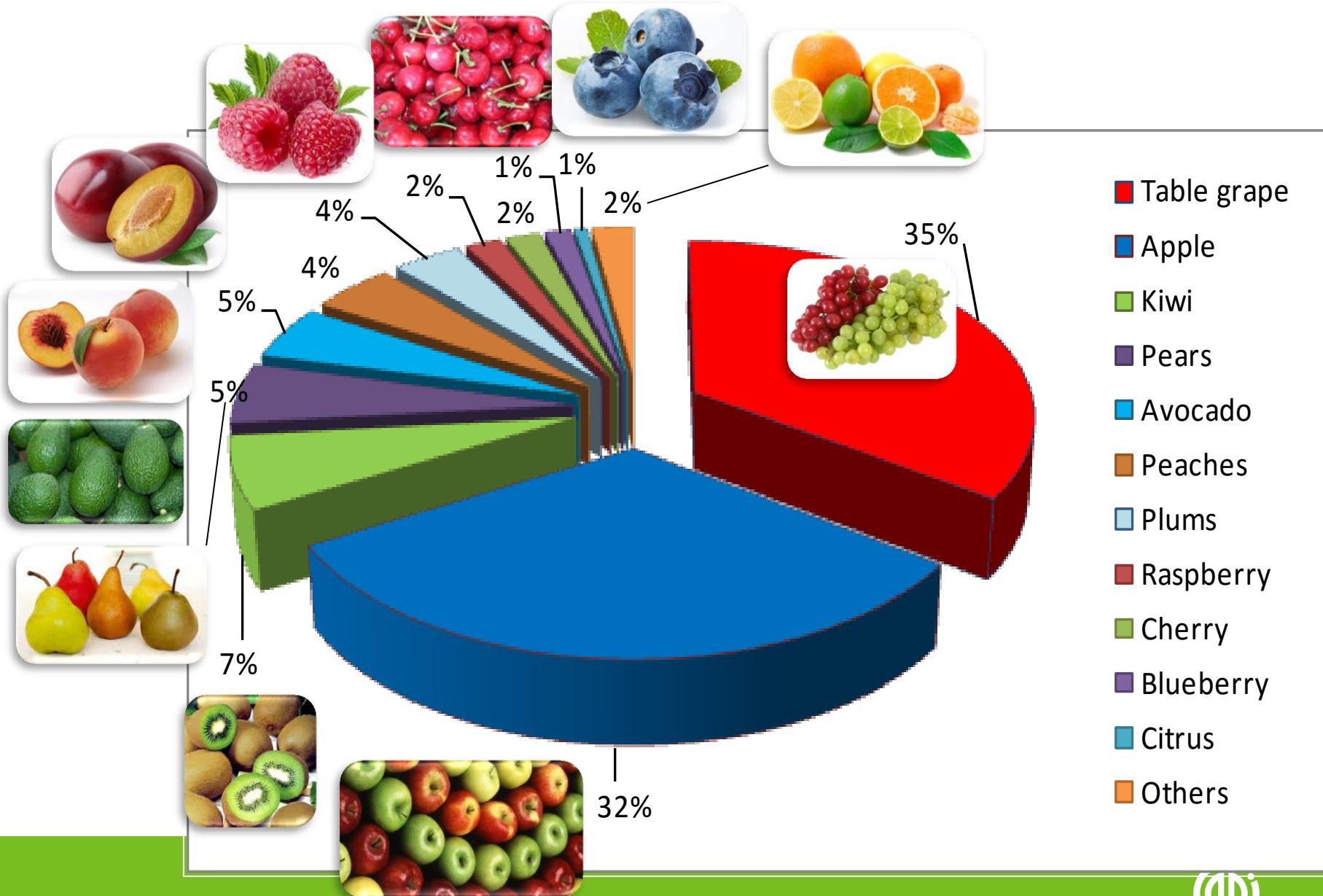
- Sustainable production and integrated pest and disease management.
- Products free of chemicals or no residue .
- Use of biological control.
- Improve the technology of small farmers.
- Environment protection.
- Invasive species control.
- Endemic organisms protection.

# Challenges faced by Chile

A scenic view of a vineyard in Chile. In the foreground, there are rows of green grapevines trained in a fan-like pattern. The ground is dry and brown. In the background, there are several large, brown, arid mountains under a clear blue sky with a few wispy clouds.

- Distance from the main markets.
- Agriculture is highly dependent of the climate and latitude.
- The country is mainly mountains, desert and cold estepa.
- Doesn't have major sources of traditional energy.
- Chile is the country with more free trade agreements in the world.
- Major exporter of fruit, seed and wine.

# Proportion of fresh fruits exported



# National top priorities in agriculture

A scenic view of a valley with green vineyards on hillsides and a winding road.

- Fresh fruit, wine and forest production.
- Sustainable production.
- Pesticide reduction and cero residue .
- Use of biological control.
- Climatic change and mitigation.
- Improve irrigation and precision agriculture.
- Environment protection.
- Invasive species control.

# Thank you

