Through the support of IBPGR the first steps have been taken to establish a European Pisum database. To date, passport data from 18 collections have been obtained and collated. Selected descriptors have been used to prepare a common catalogue of $\underline{\text{Pisum}}$ accessions. Currently this catalogue contains 22,850 entries. It includes data of the World Base Collection for Pisum (Nordic Gene Bank, Alnarp).

A set of nine descriptors has been used for the identification of accessions in the catalogue:

| 1. 2. 3. | Country Institute Accession | country where collection is maintained. institute where collection is maintained. institute collection number and identifying prefix e.g. WBH, WL, VIR, PI, JII, PIS, BO, CGN etc. |
|----------------|-----------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 4. | Name | species, sub-species, convar, variety names, etc. |
| 5. | Synonyms | includes collection prefixes, numbers, donors codes, and true synonyms where known. |
| 6. | Origin | country from which accessions were obtained, not collected. |
| 7. | Donor | name, and institute. |
| 8. | Donor Number | will often be an institute collection number with prefix e.g, WL, WBH, PI etc.; may be |

9. Country Origin \dots generally refers to where the accession was collected.

Preliminary observations indicate that considerable duplication occurs both within and between collections.

equivalent to synonyms.

Dr P. Matthews John Innes Institute Colney Lane Norwich, NR4, 7UH

Dr. W. Swiecicki Plant Breeding Station Wiatrowo 62-100 Wagrowiec Poland

Telephone (0603) 52571 Telex 975122(JIINOR G) Fax (0603) 56844

Telephone Wagrowiec 20-542 Telex 47608 SHR PL