

Some interesting cassava cultivars:

6 – UnB 031

Nagib M. A. Nassar, J. Moises Mendoza and Naiana Sano

Cassava Breeding Program, Universidade de Brasilia, Brazil

Correspondence author: nagnassa@rudah.com.br

Geneconserve: 11(43) – 12:14 (2012)

Abstract

This cultivar was selected from progeny of the interspecific hybrid *Manihot dichotoma* × cassava. It is very productive, produces 8–10 kg after 2 years of plantation and well adapted to Federal District conditions. Root used for flour consumption and very tolerant to post harvest deterioration.

Key words

Post harvest deterioration, *Manihot dichotoma*, cassava cultivars

Introduction

Cassava cultivar UnB 031 was selected from progeny of interspecific hybrid of *Manihot dichotoma* Ule with cassava. It is very productive, produces 8–10 kg root per plant in the second year of plantation, under federal district condition. Root very tolerant to post harvest deterioration, and used for flour consumption. It is available at the Experimental Biological Station, Universidade de Brasilia and EMATER (Empresa estadual de extensão rural) of the Federal District.

Cultivar botanical description UnB 31

This characterization follows the botanical description of *Manihot* spp. according to Rogers and Appan (1973), and Rogers and Fleming (1973). Shrub semi-erect, ca. 2–2.5 m tall. Single central stem, diameter 1.5–2.5 (-3) cm; branches ditrichotomous and decumbent, young stems purple to reddish and greenish-grey in mature, with abundant latex; mature stems with prominent petiole scars nodes (Fig. 1B), cortex green-yellow and xylem cream. Leaves membranaceous alternates

(Fig. 1A), dark green adaxial face and green-glaucous in abaxial face, glabrous in both faces; variably palmate-lobate, 3–5, narrowly oblongo-lanceolate lobes, rare 7-lobate in branches or simple leaves in inflorescence base; apex acuminate; petioles cylindric (10-) 20–30 cm long, base smoothly attachment, purple in young and mature, strong reflexes, normally glabrous; stipules quickly caduceous, entire or moderate bipartite, lanceolate, (8-) 11–15 mm long, clear green, fine pubescent; apical leaves and end branches light purple to reddish. Inflorescence, small terminal panicle with 3 raceme leaving same basal point, 8–10 mm long; bracts and bracteoles quickly caduceous, lanceolate; pistilate flowers, green-yellow and cream-green with reddish tinged on lobes in staminate flowers. Fruit globose, glabrous, with small and purplish tinged wings; peduncle cylindrical, purple. Seed and caruncle not observed. Roots, long cylindrical, numerous (Fig. 1C), ca. 30–65 (-80) cm long and (3-) 4–6 cm diameter, with small peduncle or not, usually without constrictions; clear brown periderm; cortex and pulp white.



Fig. 1: UnB 31: A) Flower and leaf. B) Stem with prominent scars. C) Root form and size.

References

NASSAR, N. M. A. Wild cassava confers useful characters upon the cultivated, transgenic cannot. *International Journal of Food, Agriculture and Environment*. v 06, p. 554-555, 2008.

NASSAR, N. M. A. and R. ORTIZ Cassava genetic resources: Manipulation for crop improvement. *Plant breeding review*. v 31, p. 247-275, 2008.

NASSAR, N. M. A.; L. F. A. ABREU; D. TEODORO; D. GRACIANO. Drought tolerant stem anatomy characteristics in *Manihot esculenta* (Euphorbiaceae) and a wild relative. *Genetics and Molecular Research*. v 09, p. 1023-1031, 2010.

ROGERS, D. J. & S. G. APPAN. *Manihot, Manihotoides*. Flora Neotropica 13. New York. Hafner. 272 pp, 1973.

ROGERS, D. J. & H. S. FLEMING. Monograph of *Manihot esculenta* Crantz. Econ. Bot. 27:1-114. 114 pp, 1973.