



Data Management at the Crops Research Institute (CRI): A Scoping Report

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Overview

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Sustainable agriculture depends on strong data ecosystems.

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CRI's research excellence is tied to robust, secure, and accessible data management.

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This presentation shares findings from October-December 2023 scoping survey at CRI.

Methods & Sampling

Survey Design

- Developed by CSIR-CRI management and PHIL_OS team.
- 13 questions (mix of open- and closed-ended).
- Focus areas: collection, storage, accessibility, security, and training needs.

Dissemination

- Via Google Forms (Oct–Dec 2023) through email and internal messaging.

Sample

- 55 respondents (43% response rate out of 127 researchers).
- There is the potential for self-reporting biases and any changes after December 2023 are not captured in the data.





Analysis Approach

Quantitative Methods

- Trends and patterns were identified using pie charts and bar graphs (Google Forms).

Qualitative Methods

- Manual categorisation and thematic analysis of open responses to visualise concerns and ideas.

Outcome

- Triangulated insights to better understand the strengths and gaps in current data practices.
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Key Results

- Inconsistent practices in backup, storage, sharing, and access.
- Organisational gaps—no centralised data repository.
- Difficulty accessing legacy data from past research.
- Security concerns around centralised storage.
- Capacity Needs—strong demand for training and infrastructure support.

Conclusion

CRI's commitment to agricultural innovation must be matched by investment in stronger data systems.

The way forward is clear:

- Develop hybrid systems, blending analogue and digital methods to accommodate different user needs.
- Invest in secure, centralised storage and expanded training programs.
- Strengthen data security protocols to build trust and reliability.

However, limited funding is a real barrier. CRI is therefore seeking external partnerships and donor support to scale up its infrastructure.

✚ Ultimately, robust and responsible data practices will help CRI drive innovation, sustainable livelihoods, and economic growth for the communities it serves.

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Thank You