

## Biosafety Clearing-House (BCH)

ORGANISM (ORGA)

BCH-ORGA-SCBD-115905-1

LAST UPDATED: 22 FEB 2021

### Organism information

Scientific name

Brassica juncea

Taxonomic Classification

Kingdom Plantae  
Phylum Tracheophyta  
Class Magnoliopsida  
Order Brassicales  
Family Brassicaceae  
Genus Brassica  
Species Brassica juncea (L.) Czern.

Alternate scientific name(s) (synonym(s))

Sinapis juncea L.

Common name(s)

|                   |    |
|-------------------|----|
| Indian mustard    | EN |
| Brown mustard     | EN |
| Chinese mustard   | EN |
| Leaf mustard      | EN |
| Vegetable mustard | EN |
| Mustard greens    | EN |
| BRAJU             | EN |

Type of organism

Crops

## Characteristics related to biosafety

### Centre(s) of genetic diversity

Russia and Central Asia

EN

### Habitat range

*Brassica juncea* grows in many environments (Boreal to tropical wet zones), tolerating precipitation between 500 and 4200 mm, temperatures between 6 and 27°C and soil pH between 4.3 and 8.3. Brown mustard tolerates light shade. Ideal conditions for the mustard are organically rich, well-drained soils in full sun.

EN

### Geographical distribution

The species is distributed worldwide, except for northern and polar regions with temperatures below 6°C.

EN

### Common use(s)

Food

## Additional Information

*Brassica juncea* is a natural amphidiploid hybrid (AABB genome,  $2n = 36$ ) of *Brassica rapa* (AA genome,  $2n = 20$ ) and *Brassica nigra* (BB genome,  $2n=16$ ). The species is mainly self-pollinated, but 20-30% cross-pollination was reported. Inter-specific crosses are possible between *B. juncea* and other mustard relatives. However, most hybridization events have required human intervention to achieve.

EN

### **Brown mustard has been listed as a weed species.**

The species is fast growing and has a broad range of growing environments.

Brown mustard is grown primarily for culinary purposes (edible leaves, stems and seed; cooking oil from the seeds). The essential oils from the seeds have been used in ethnobotany.

### Other relevant website addresses and/or attached documents

? [NCBI Taxonomy Browser - Brassica juncea \(L.\) Czern.](#) ( English )

? [GBIF - Brassica juncea \(L.\) Czern.](#) ( English )

? [Catalogue of Life - Brassica juncea \(L.\) Czern.](#) ( English )

? [North Carolina Extension Gardener Plant Toolbox - Brassica juncea](#) ( English )

? [CABI - Brassica juncea \(mustard\)](#) ( English )

? [Missouri Botanical Garden - Brassica juncea](#) ( English )

? [Canada Food Inspection Agency - The biology of Brassica juncea \(Canola/mustard\)](#) ( English )

? [UniProtKB - Taxonomy - Brassica juncea](#) ( English )

? [Advances in Agronomic Management of Indian Mustard \(Brassica juncea \(L.\) Czernj. Cosson\) - An Overview.pdf](#) ( English )

? [Botanical characteristics, potential uses, and cultivation possibilities of mustards in Turkey.pdf \(English \)](#)

BCH-ORGA-SCBD-115905-1

## Further Information

Questions about the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety or the operation of the Biosafety Clearing-House may be directed to the Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity.

**Secretariat of the Convention  
on Biological Diversity**

413 rue Saint-Jacques, suite 800  
Montreal, Québec, H2Y 1N9  
Canada

Fax: +1 514 288-6588

Email: [secretariat@cbd.int](mailto:secretariat@cbd.int)