

## Cucumber (*Cucumis melo* var. *Flexuosus*)

*Cucumis melo* var. *Flexuosus* is a scabrid or hispid, scrambling or climbing, annual or perennial plant of the gourd family. Although botanically is a muskmelon, this fruit looks and tastes like a cucumber. It grows in very poor soils and has moderate requirements for irrigation water.

### Nutritional value

- Rich in vitamins A and C
- Minimal calories
- High antioxidant content

### Environmental impact

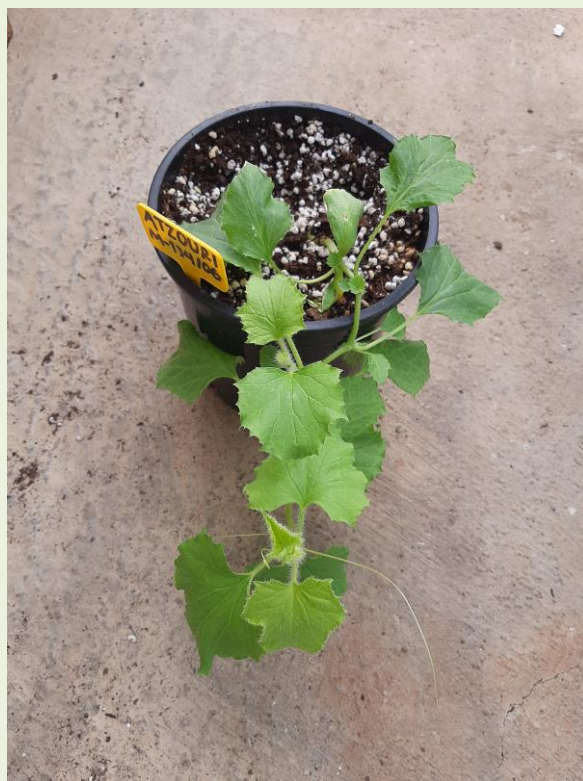
- Resilient
- Reduced water needs

### Uses

This cultivar can be used in a variety of ways including in salads and stir fry dishes.

### Current status – Future perspectives

Cultivated in western Asia from Armenia and Turkey south along the eastern Mediterranean to Egypt. It could be extended in protected environments (greenhouse) from South to North Europe.



**Picture 1:** *Cucumis melo* var. *Flexuosus* young plant



**Picture 1:** Fruits of *Cucumis melo* var. *Flexuosus*

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Vertical Leader: Estonian University of Life Sciences EMU



Estonian University of Life Sciences  
(EMU) - Estonia

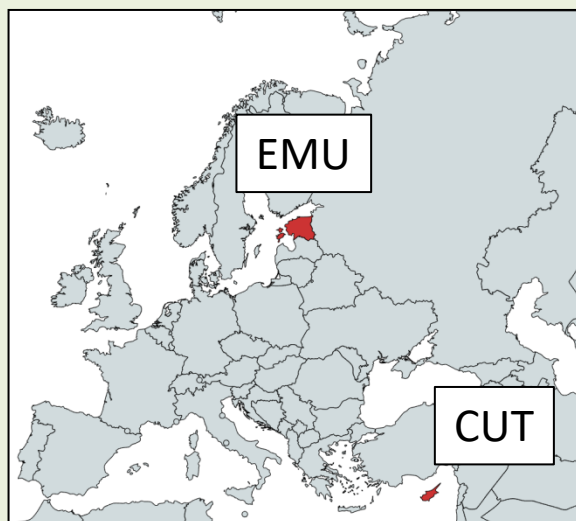


Cyprus University of Technology  
(CUT) - Cyprus

The two pilot cases' locations were selected for their high heterogeneity. The two locations can be compared with respect to different growing systems such as greenhouse versus field growth and conventional versus organic farming.

**Estonia (EMU)** represents a region where cucumbers have to be grown under cover in controlled conditions due to the harsh climate.

**Cyprus (CUT)** is a typical Mediterranean country where environmental conditions lie within the crops' region of cultivation (western Asia to eastern Mediterranean).



Picture 3: Pilot cases' locations

### Project progress

Plants from the two genotypes are cultivated to acquire seeds for the establishment of the pilot cases, according to **Task 7.1**.