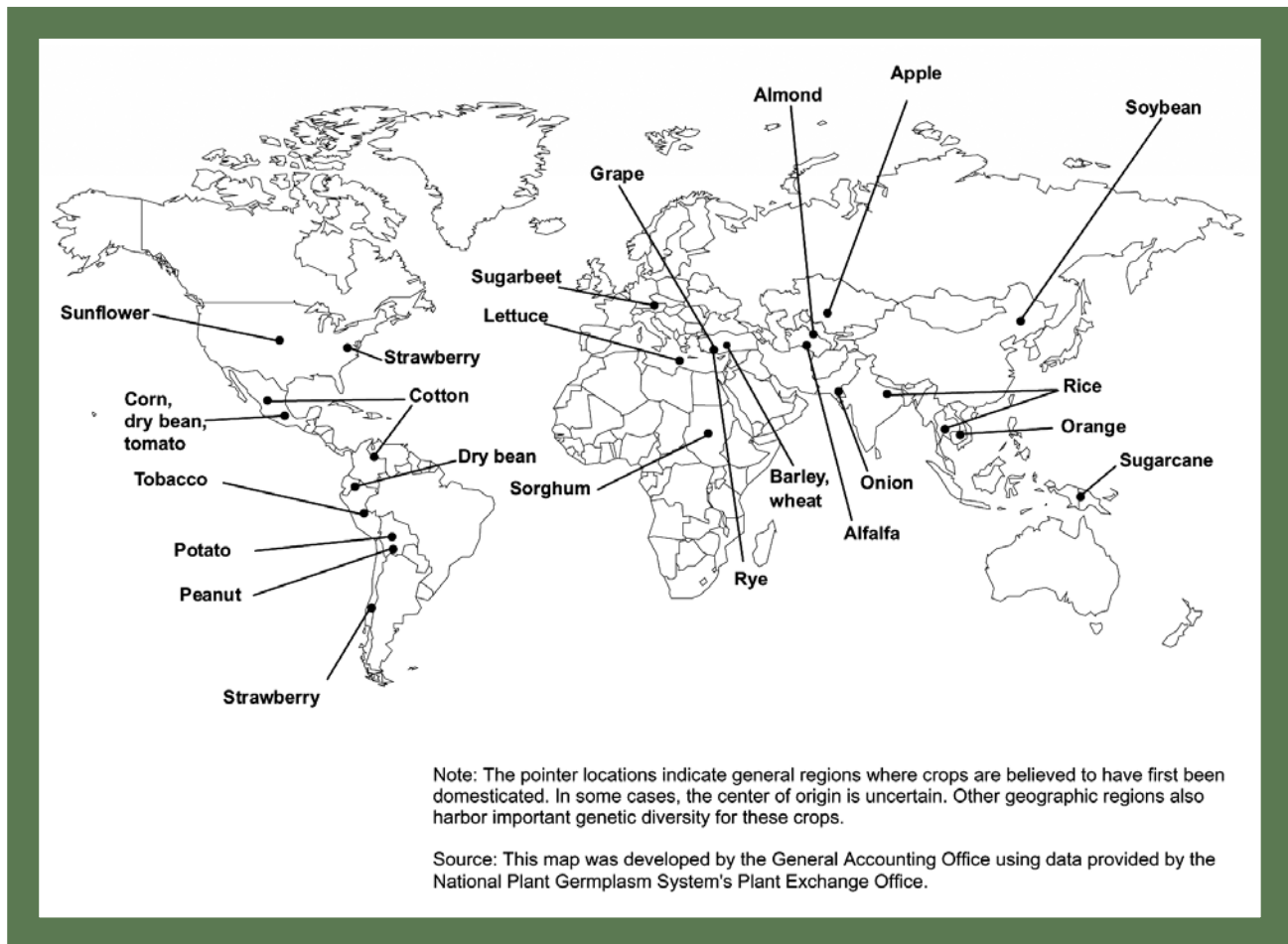


# Centers of origin of selected crops



Source: Amber Waves, June 2003

- Around 10,000 plant species have been used for human food since the origin of agriculture.
- Today only 150 plant species make up the diets of the majority of the world's population.
- 12 plant species provide over 70 percent of the world's food.
- Four plant species – rice, maize, wheat and potatoes – make up over 50 percent of the food supply.
- Only 30 crops provide 90 percent of the world's calories intake.

Source: Food and Agricultural Organization of the United Nations  
"Facts and Figures: about plant genetic resources"