

Session 1.2

Roundtable with national authorities on their progress towards 100% organic seeds

Final project conference

“Change Seeds, Grow the difference”

Overview

10th June 2026

L42 Business Center, rue de la Loi, 42 - Bruxelles

Anna Giulini CREA-DC



LiveSeeding

CONTENTS

- ☐ Organic seed Database
- ☐ Organic seeds?
- ☐ National Organic Seeds Plan (PNSB)

ORGANIC SEED DATABASE

L'Ente italiano di ricerca
sull'agroalimentare
e sulle foreste

Matching Supply and Demand

Database management

- **Species/Variety (83.503 varieties)**
- **Equivalence List**
- **TRAFFIC LIGHTS SYSTEM**

Organic Seed Availability management

- **Expression of Interest**
- **Availability organic seed**
- **Derogation**

TRAFFIC LIGHTS SYSTEM

	LIST	N° SPECIES	N° VARIETIES
	RED	9	6.735
	YELLOW	290	69.821
	GREEN	1.299	6.947

Red: the derogation is granted only after submitting the expression of interest (order function)

Yellow: the derogation is granted only upon request and evaluation

Green: the derogation is always granted (organic seeds are not available on the market).

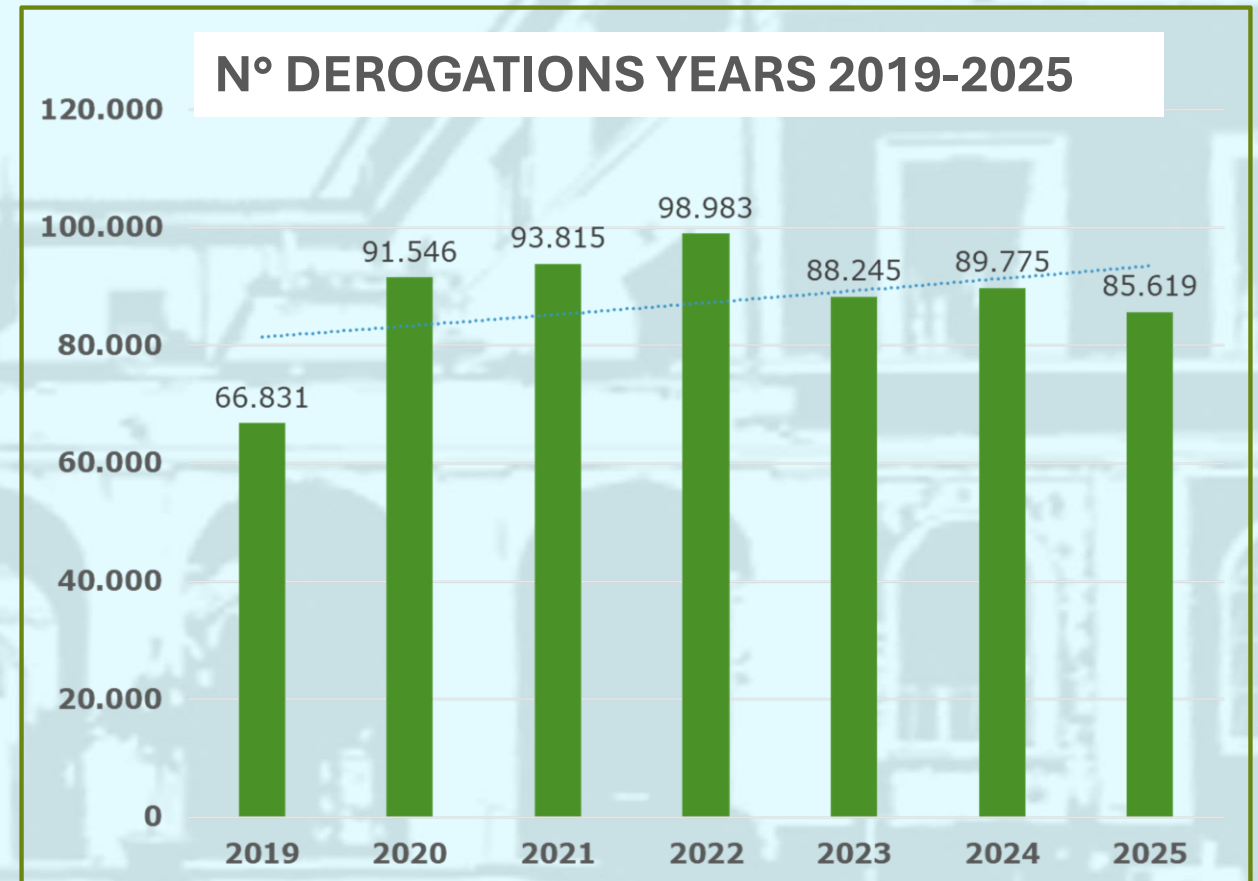
OUT OF 83.503 VARIETIES

ORGANIC SEEDS?

2° semestre 2025



around 46,500 derogations



National Organic Seeds Plan (PNSB 2025–2027)

General Objective

To promote the use of organic plant reproductive material (PRM) and to contribute progressively and significantly to reducing the reliance on the use, under derogation, of non-organic PRM



To achieve this objective, the PNSB shall:

- ☐ **increase the availability of organic plant reproductive material (PRM) belonging to varieties suitable for organic farming;**
- ☐ **encourage the development of organic varieties;**
- ☐ **promote the development of organic heterogeneous material (OHM);**
- ☐ **identify tools that facilitate the matching of supply and demand for organic PRM;**
- ☐ **promote plant breeding, with contributions from farmers, technicians, and researchers.**

A general performance indicator may be a **20% reduction in derogation** requests compared with the average level recorded during the three years preceding the launch of the PNSB.



WP1 – State of the art

- **Lead: CREA-PB**
- **Objective: To outline the description of the organic seed sector, its evolution over time and experience on evolutionary populations and the inclusion of OHM in the regulations, prospects, strengths and weaknesses, analysis of supply and demand, including through targeted surveys, estimation of the market value of the sector**

Expected results:

- **SWOT analysis of the organic seed sector**
- **Cost analysis of seed production within the various agricultural supply chains**



WP2 – Supply Chain Support

Lead: CREA-PB

Objective: To identify actions that can support production on organic farms, the dissemination and use of organic seeds, in different areas or at national level

Expected results:

- Establishment of technical working groups for the main agricultural supply chains (cereal-forage, horticultural, fruit, nursery)
- Definition of actions to support and strengthen the different agricultural supply chains



WP3 – Innovation

**Lead: CREA-CI (agricultural species)
CREA- OF (horticultural species)**

Objective: Participatory and decentralized genetic improvement, with the collaboration of organic farmers, technicians and researchers, to select plants that meet the needs of organic farmers

Expected results:

- Genetic materials collected, analyzed and used for the development of evolutionary populations and mixtures
- Evolutionary populations distributed to farmers and subjected to participatory selection
- Stable and optimum quality mixtures for specific uses tested and validated
- Network of experimental fields for testing commercial varieties, conservation varieties and MEBs under biological conditions



MEETING BETWEEN CREA-CI AND AN ORGANIC FARM

TECHNICIANS
RESEARCHERS



CUSTODIAN FARMER
FARMERS

- ☐ Evaluation of production and agronomic requirements for organic farming systems
- ☐ Choice of genetic materials to be included in the National Varietal Comparison Network and selection programs

☐ Breeding Goals

- 1) local adaptation
- 2) yield stability
- 3) tolerance to biotic and abiotic stresses
- 4) complementarity between heterogeneous materials
and pure lines

☐ FIELD TRIALS

1) Comparison of conventional varieties under organic Farming conditions

2) MEB of durum wheat

3) Bread wheat mixtures

**4) Durum wheat lines obtained by pure line selection (F5 generation)
(breeding in certified organic field)**



WP4 – Seed and plant propagation material quality

Lead: CREA-DC

Objective: to manage the organic seed database and provide technical and scientific support to MASAF for the implementation of European regulations concerning the registration of organic varieties and the marketing of organic heterogeneous material.



□ OHM Marketing

- n. 13 OHMs have been authorised for marketing;
- n.1 notification was successful but with suspension, as the reference sample was not sent to CREA-DC
- n. 2 notifications were withdrawn due issues related to the variety denomination and a general revision of the contents of the notification and resubmitted;
- n. 6 notifications are waiting to be integrated with the information requested by CREA-DC;
- n. 4 notifications were rejected because the notification was sent by a non-organic operator;
- n.1 notification (Kamut) was rejected as the species is not covered by seed legislation and therefore outside the scope of Regulation (EU) No 1189/2021;
- n. 1 notification is awaiting evaluation by CREA-DC



❑ Registration organic varieties

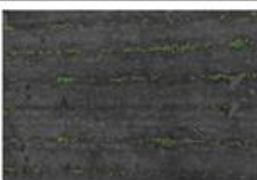
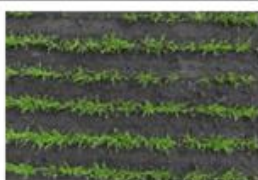
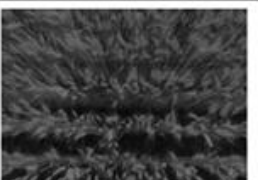
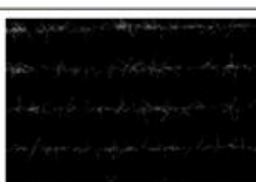
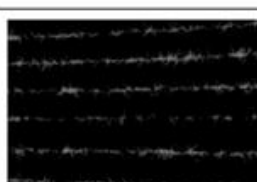
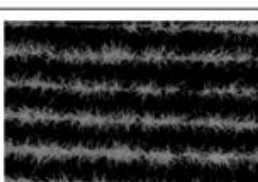
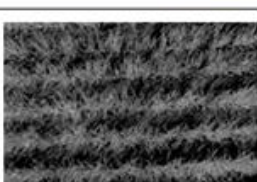
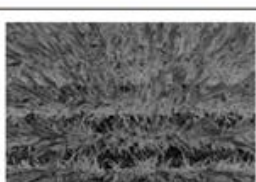
- Agronomic network: certified organic farms + CREA DC and CI farms
- 5 varieties bread wheat (commercial varieties + new varieties)
- 4 durum wheat varieties (commercial varieties + conservation varieties)
- Technical Protocol



❑ OBSERVATIONS

1) Vegetation indices derived from RGB images

- Early vigor GS 13-20
- at the start raised – GS 35
- during the ear emergency – GS 60

	GS12	GS25	GS31	GS35	GS60	GS85
PLOT						
GGA						
NGRDI						

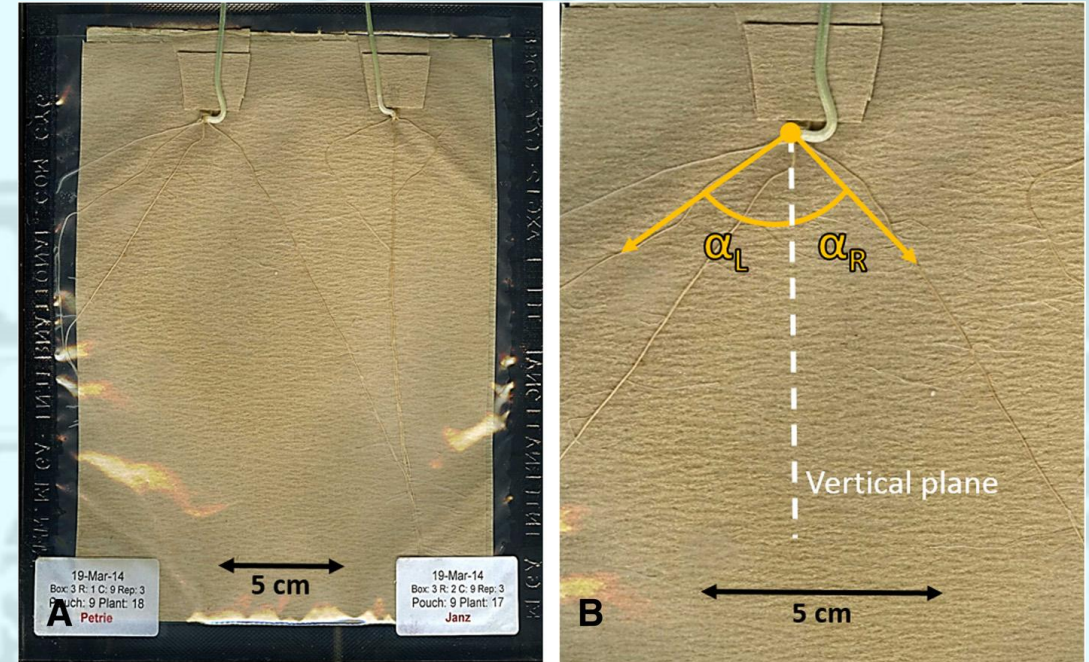
2) Root system

- Morphology and root biomass
- Efficiency in N uptake
- Associations with microorganisms benefits

$$NUtE = \frac{Y(B)}{N_a}$$

$Y(B)$ = produzione di granella (Y)
o la biomassa totale (B)

N_a = l'azoto accumulato nella
coltura



WP4 – Seed and plant propagation material quality

**Lead: CREA-OFA (olive, citrus, fruit-bearing)
CREATE-VE (vine)**

Objective: Analysis of the problems of the nursery supply chain for the production of certified plants for the organic method for the identification of technical-scientific solutions

Expected results:

- **guidelines for production protocols for biological propagating material**



WP5 – Outreach and training

Lead: CREA-DC

Objective: To promote information on the PNSB to all users of the biological system of the initiatives adopted

Expected results:

- **publications on the activity carried out in the exchange of the PNSB**
- **interventions in the specialized press**
- **bulletins for the institutional website**
- **conferences on the subject of seeds and propagating material of organic plants**
- **open days**



WP6 – Coordination

Lead: CREA-DC

Objective: activities to link the activities of the different WPs in order to ensure their consistency and compatibility with the overall objectives of the project, continuously monitor its progress and promote synergies

Expected results:

- Meetings with project participants
- Preparation of semi-annual reports
- Monitoring the progress of the project



MASAF

Paolo Torrelli

CREA

CREA-DC

CREA-PB

CREA-CI

CREA-OF

CREA-GB

CREA-IT

CREA-OFA

CREA-VE

CREA DC

Antonella Donniacuo

Francesca Massara

Giorgia Spataro

Matteo Nebuloni

Irina Bacchichet

Sumer Alali

Tommaso Bardelli

Elena Novarina

**Thank you for your
attention!**

Anna Giulini
annapiamaria.giulini@crea.gov.it