

OVERVIEW

# SEEDS & PLANTS

## AT THE HEART OF FOOD SOVEREIGNTY



**semae**

Seeds for tomorrow

Territory  
 Representation HISTORY VALUES  
 ECONOMIC STAKEHOLDERS Trade  
 PUBLIC SERVICE CHOICES surpluses  
 Channel Solidarity COMPETITIVITY  
 RESEARCH AND INNOVATION Agro-ecological  
 Discussion transition  
 SUSTAINABLE Gardeners  
 RESPONSIBILITY DIVERSITY  
 FARMERS



For 60 years, seed and plant interprofessional action has informed debate, consultation and decisionmaking by all the stakeholders in the sector:

- ▶ 75 breeding companies,
- ▶ 16,500 seed growers,
- ▶ 274 production companies,
- ▶ 4,900 distribution companies, more than 390,000 users, farmers and amateurs.

SEMAE supports them in order to rise together to food production, agricultural, climatic, economic and societal challenges.

SEMAE also performs a public service mission of official seed and plant quality control.

France, with its seed and seedling industry, is the leading European producer and the leading world exporter of seeds.



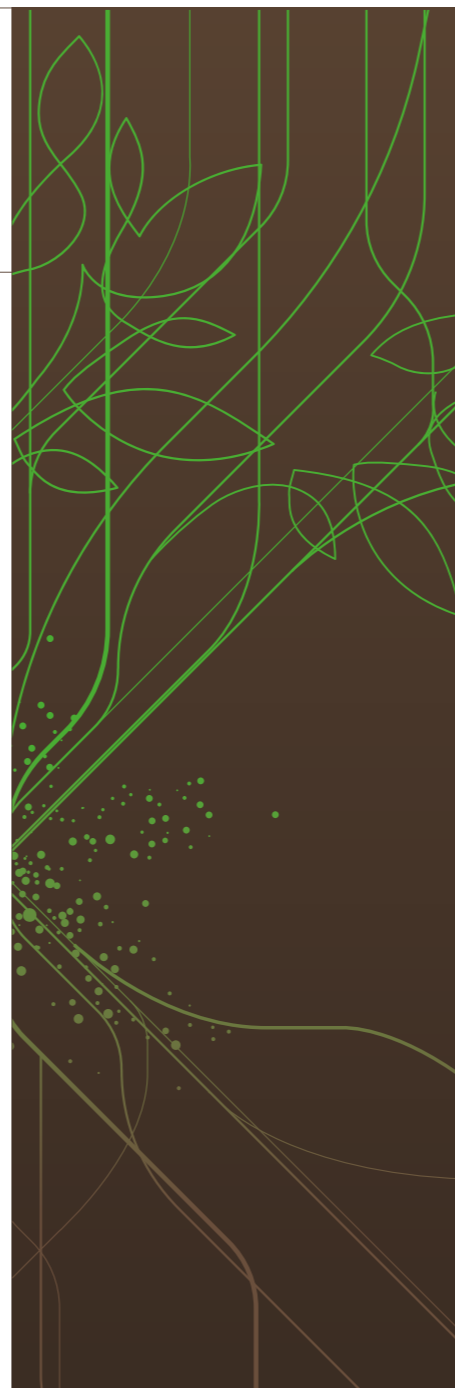
# STRENGTHS

## A DYNAMIC, COMMITTED AND SUPPORTIVE SECTOR, PROVIDING SOLUTIONS AT THE CUTTING EDGE OF INNOVATION.

- ▶ **A leading position in many markets**, particularly in exports, with a turnover of €3.5 billion and a trade balance surplus of more than €1 billion.
- ▶ **A structured sector**, rooted in the **diversity of territories**, committed to the **conservation of biodiversity**.
- ▶ **The sector is not very concentrated** and is therefore

still present in many market segments and across a number of species, bringing together a variety of companies that can meet a wide range of needs and expectations.

- ▶ **Breeding capacity** in the majority of species, resulting from a long-standing public and private research commitment: **15% of the sector's turnover invested in R&D**.
- ▶ **A high level of skill and expertise in seed production**, thanks to the high standards and technical expertise of a network of seed growers recognised throughout the world.
- ▶ **A sector of excellence** driven by tradition, modernity and love of the profession!



# CHALLENGES

## THE EXPECTATIONS OF SOCIETY AND THE STATE ARE IN LINE WITH THE AMBITIONS OF THE PROFESSIONALS.

- ▶ **Strengthen the attractiveness and competitiveness of the sector**, and ensure the necessary level of excellence of **training** in plant production, seeds and plant improvement.
- ▶ **Guarantee fair remuneration** for farmers and adequate **funding** for research, to ensure that the diversity of stakeholders throughout the country is maintained, both in terms of their status and their

number, for both seed companies and seed growers.

- ▶ **Fight against the consequences of climate change and adapt** by developing our knowledge, practices, working methods and professions.
- ▶ **Offer seed and plant varieties adapted** to the climatic, demographic and agroecological transition challenges that meet the different expectations of citizens and consumers.
- ▶ **Contribute to maintaining French and European seed and food sovereignty**.



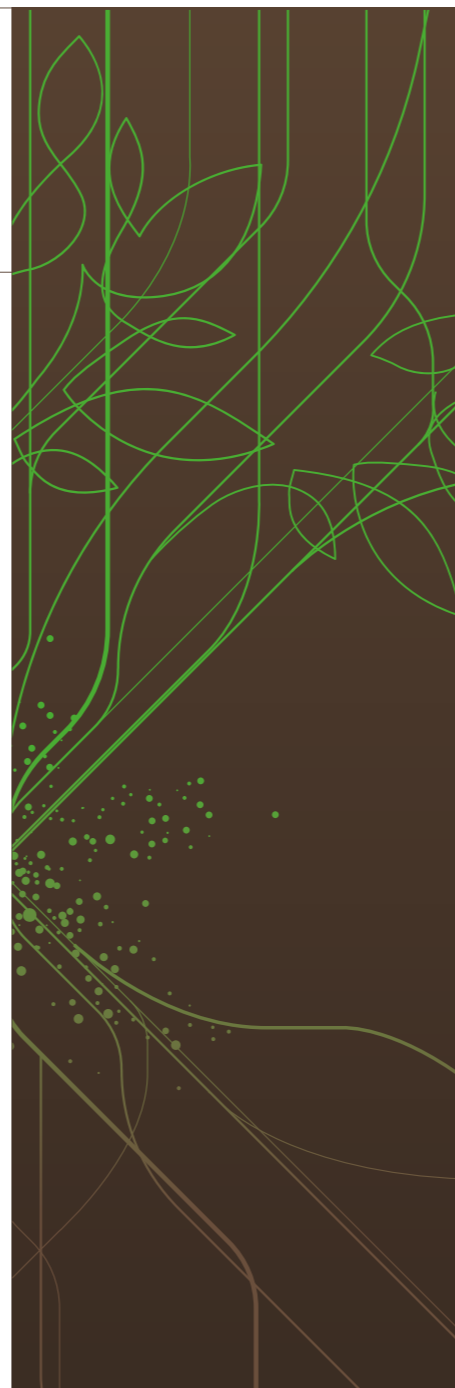
# OUR COMMITMENTS

## TO MEET THESE CHALLENGES AND TAKE THE SECTOR INTO THE FUTURE IN A SUSTAINABLE WAY.

- ▶ **Fully integrate the diversity of seed forms and uses**, in all the interprofessional bodies entering into consultation and dialogue.
- ▶ **Better respond to the expectations of citizens, consumers and customers** by supporting all types of agriculture and by pursuing the sector's social commitment by incorporating it in a CSR programme.
- ▶ **Innovate in order to support the agro-ecological transition** by changing selection objectives,

diversifying species and uses and promoting the evolution of selection methods with a view to this transition.

- ▶ **Protect, enrich and further biodiversity.** Old varieties, Conservations & Biodiversity funds... in France and within the framework of the International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources interprofessional activity is particularly committed to the protection and fair sharing of these resources.
- ▶ **Improve the competitiveness of the sector** by raising awareness of its local and national challenges and by making the seed business more attractive.



# EXPECTATIONS

## MAINTAIN SEEDS AT THE HEART OF ALL PRODUCTION SYSTEMS FOR RICH, COMPETITIVE AND DIVERSIFIED FRENCH AGRICULTURE IMPLIES THAT POLITICAL DECISIONS AND THE SPECIFICITIES OF THE SEED BUSINESS MUST BE RECONCILED.

- ▶ **Prioritise policy directions** to enable breeding to **pursue a multitude of objectives** (taste, disease resistance, drought, carbon) while taking into account time and resource constraints.
- ▶ **Consider the high level of requirements for seed production** in decisions relating to the means of production (plant health, irrigation, carbon, etc.).

- ▶ **Support a regulatory framework** which, with the **involvement of the public authorities**, is designed to guarantee access to the French and European market for **seed diversity**, while providing users and consumers with **excellence in terms of quality**.
- ▶ **Support higher education and agricultural technical education.**
- ▶ **Support public and private research** through **significant investments in all the levers of the agro-ecological transition**, including new genomic techniques and agronomic innovations.

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The French seed and plant industry is mobilised more than ever before.

Its seed breeders, growers and producers are capable of meeting these challenges.

However, it will be all the stronger if it can count on the support of public authorities.

Together, we can play our part in achieving the great ambitions for the France of tomorrow.

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Seeds for tomorrow

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