Target audience: farmers, farm advisors





# **Italian Organic Seed Database**

## **Problems**

According to the European Organic Regulation all organic plant reproductive material (PRM) shall be listed on the National databases of the Member States.

### **Solutions**

The Italian organic seed database (BDS) has been updated to a fully interactive database. Since 1<sup>st</sup> January 2019 all certified organic farmers are required to register on the database to consult organic seed offers and apply for derogation when seed of the varieties needed is not available.

Farmers are advised to complete the registration process in good time to ensure everything is working and become familiar with the tool.

### **Practical recommendations**

The database allows to search available organic certified PRM, according to supply levels set by seed companies. Crop species are categorised following a traffic light system:

- GREEN LIGHT no organic seed available: derogation always granted;
- **YELLOW LIGHT** some organic seed available: the farmer must send a request of interest to the seed supplier via the database system. This shall lead to a seed sale, or a derogation request if the interaction wasn't successful.
- RED LIGHT organic seed available in ample quantity. No derogation possible.

A dedicated function is available to request a derogation for **experimental/research purposes**. This is particularly relevant to farmers engaging in field trials or wanting to test non-organic germplasm, obtained from gene banks.

### **Further information**

- CREA-DC is the public agency responsible for the maintenance of the Italian BDS.
   Their staff provides technical support: <a href="http://scs.entecra.it/biologico-indice/biologic-2019.html">http://scs.entecra.it/biologico-indice/biologic-2019.html</a>
- 2. Organic seed in Italy: problems and perspectives: <a href="http://scs.entecra.it/biologico-indice/indice-convegno-bio.html">http://scs.entecra.it/biologico-indice/indice-convegno-bio.html</a>







Target audience: farmers







Figure: Interface of the Italian organic seed database

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LIVESEED: Boosting organic seed and plant breeding across Europe. LIVESEED is based on the concept that cultivars adapted to organic systems are key for realising the full

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