European Agriculture and Consumer Policy

EU Seed Policy and Legislation
“Challenges for Producers, Consumers and Citizens:
Who will own the seeds?”

January 22, 2014
8.30 a.m. – 6.00 p.m.

Residence Palace – International Press Centre
155, rue de la Loi – Block C, 1040 Brussels

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Background information

Why this conference is important?

A lot of activities (conferences, policies, lobby work) are taking place on the national level of Member States regarding organic plant breeding. However, very little awareness and lobby work is done on the EU level in Brussels. Therefore, we consider this conference urgent and necessary for the future of organic plant breeding in the EU, but also for the upcoming legislation for the market of plant and reproductive material. It is uncertain whether it will promote or hamper the future of SMEs and agro-biodiversity.

EU seed legislation - an obstacle for farmers, breeders, gardeners, citizens and biodiversity?

On 6 May 2013, the European Commission presented a draft for a new regulation on the marketing of seeds [COM (2013) 262] for consultation within the European Parliament and the European Council. The new regulation is supposed to substitute 12 EU-directives, which means EU rules would in the future be implemented directly in the Member States. This legislative draft opens some new opportunities for niche markets and heterogeneous material. However it leaves the interpretation of these new possibilities for implementing rules that would be realized in later steps. Furthermore it maintains as a mainstream concept standardized, highly uniform seed. Moreover, it opens the possibility for large seed companies to test a new variety according to their own premises. This privatization could result in a situation where public services for variety testing and release, would be further reduced.

Who owns the seed – multinationals, farmers, breeders or citizens?

This conference will address the question on how citizens and civil society can contribute that agro-biodiversity is maintained in food production. How can we establish societal, ethical and economic models that allow safeguarding biodiversity in seeds as a cultural heritage and respecting the ethics of life? Seeds in their natural expression are a part of the local environment and cannot automatically be spread over Europe like for instance technical commodities like iPhones. Communities who maintain local varieties and crop populations need a sovereignty to do so. Therefore they need freedom from disproportionate bureaucratic burden the EU legislation on seed marketing might pose on them.

A forum to discuss the future of seed for stakeholders and policy makers

This conference brings together stakeholders and policy makers to discuss the proposed EU legislation for the marketing of plant reproductive material. Also to discuss about the fair seed access for a multitude of producers (avoidance of monopoly). Moreover, it provides a forum for breeders, farmers, consumers, development NGOs and other stakeholders to exchange ideas on future models for plant breeding and alternative ownership models for plant varieties and populations.
Program

08:30 Registration
09:00 Opening and Welcoming
Andreas Biesantz (Demeter International), MEP Nikos Chrysogelos (The Greens/ EFA)
09.30 Keynote speech - Hannah Townsend (writer of the article “Save our Seeds”, UK)

Panel 1: The EU Seed law – Chances and Challenges

09.45 Päivi Mannerkorpi (European Commission, DG SANCO, Head of Sector Material for Plant Reproduction) “Legal proposal on marketing plant reproductive material – new possibilities for more diversified production”

10.00 Antje Kölling (IFOAM EU Group, Brussels): “Current European legislation and its consequences for the organic seed sector”

Questions and Discussion

10.20 Gebhard Rossmanith (Bingenheimer Saatgut AG and Kultursaat e.V., Germany) “Revision of the EU seed legislation - Chances and risks for organic breeding – e.g. development of biodynamic vegetable varieties”

10.30 Pierre Sultana (Arche Noah): “Current European legislation and its consequences for biodiversity”

10:40 Discussion
Moderation: Hans Martin Lorenzen (Agricultural Adviser, European Parliament)
11.00 Coffee break

Panel 2: The wider picture

Part 1: Research in Organic Breeding

11.30 Edith Lammerts van Bueren (Wageningen University, Louis Bolk Institute and ECO-PB, The Netherlands): "Seed research and development, state of the art, participatory research”

Part 2: The Commons

11:45 Silke Helfrich (Author, co-founder of the “Commons-Strategies-Group”) “Commons vs. commodities – a new framework for seed handling”

12.00 Discussion
Moderation: Hans Martin Lorenzen (Agricultural Adviser, European Parliament)

12.45 Presenting the 4 working groups for the afternoon session

13.00 Lunch
14.00 Working groups 1-4

**Working group 1:** “EU seed legislation and its consequences for the organic seed sector and agro-biodiversity”

**Working group leaders:**
- Antje Kölling (IFOAM EU Group, Brussels), Gebhard Rossmanith (Bingenheimer Saatgut A.G., Germany), Roikos Thanopoulos (Peliti, Greece)

With input from Joost Visser: “Reconsidering ITPS/ Breeders Law: A biological Necessity”

**Working group 2:** “Economic aspects and needs for the organic seed sector – especially for smaller organizations, farmers and individuals”

**Working group leader:** René Groenen (Demeter Gardener, Kultursaat e.V., The Netherlands)

Amadeus Zschunke (Sativa Rheinau AG, Switzerland)

With inputs on the threats of African seed law harmonization by Million Belay (Alliance for Food Sovereignty in Africa - AFSA) and Stig Tanzmann (Brot-fuer-die-Welt, Germany)

**Working group 3:** “Seeds as a common and property rights”

**Working group leaders:** Stefan Doeblin (Network Economy Group) and Silke Helfrich (author, co-founder of the “Commons-Strategies-Group”)

With inputs from Susanne Gura (Verein zur Erhaltung der Nutzpflanzenvielfalt e. V., Germany) “The role of protected and non-protected material in the proposed seed marketing legislation” and Frédéric Thomas (author and senior researcher in IRD) "Seeds: An History of Politics"

**Working group 4:** “Citizens’ and farmers’ participation”

**Working group leaders:** Carsten Berg (Expert for European Citizens’ Initiatives, Germany), Andreas Biesantz (Demeter Int. and ELIANT), Véronique Chable (INRA, France)

With input from Heidemarie Porstner (GLOBAL 2000 – Friends of the Earth, Austria): "Freedom for diversity - a broad movement can make a change”

16.00 Coffee break

16.30 Plenary

Presentation of working group results including intervention from Guy Kastler (Réseau Semences Paysannes, France), open discussion and main conclusions

**Moderation:** Hans Martin Lorenzen (Agricultural Adviser, European Parliament)

17.30 Final keynote speech of MEP Martin Häusling (The Greens/EFA)
17.50 Closing the conference: Andreas Biesantz (Demeter International)
18:00 End of conference
Working Group 1 – Legal aspects of Plant Reproductive Material (PRM) and its consequences for the organic sector and agro-biodiversity

Overview

The EU legislation on the marketing of PRM regulates market access for crop varieties. The marketing and exchange of reproductive material is nearly impossible without registration. That has contributed gradually and over the last years to the heavy loss of agro-biodiversity in Europe, but also on the global level. Legislation should be modified and give appropriate room to the needs of breeding SMEs, farmers, gardeners, gene banks, networks and initiatives being active in agro-biodiversity conservation. Legislation should motivate and encourage “seed saving initiatives”, farmers, gardeners and small breeding enterprises to preserve, develop varieties and exchange genetic material, by excluding them from a strict and obstructive legislation. The question remains whether the PRM law will benefit the organic sector or not.

Working group leaders

- **Antje Koelling** (IFOAM EU Group, Brussels)
- **Gebhard Rossmanith** (Bingenheimer Saatgut AG and Kultursaat e.V., Germany)
- **Róikos Thanopoulos** (Peliti, Greece)


Objectives of the WG

- Which are the parts of the EU legislation proposal which are suitable for the organic sector?
- Which parts of the legislation are unacceptable and should be modified?
- Consequences of the PMR law for the organic sector
- Consequences of the legislation for breeders and the seed market
- Consequences of the legislation for seed savers and agro-biodiversity
- Which “standards” for future varieties - agro-industrial or climate resilient/food securing “new” varieties?
- Dispossession of the farmer or self-determination?

Expected outcomes

- Proposals for appropriate and simplified legislation, registration and marketing for the organic seed sector
- Suggestions to secure and promote agro-biodiversity within the new legislation (with special emphasis on the development and use of landraces)
WG 2 - Economic aspects and needs for the organic seed sector – especially for smaller organizations, farmers and individuals

Overview

The agricultural sector is more and more influenced by the agricultural industry. Small and medium-sized farmers and enterprises are put under pressure even though they still produce the major share of the food in Europe and in the world. The European Commission is trying to improve food safety by imposing laws and to identify producers who do not act legally. The Commission wants to achieve that by central registration and certification. Moreover, competitiveness of Europe in global markets is an important goal. Ethical questions are ignored. Seeds are a part of it and the goal of the EU is to sell European seeds all over the world (main interest is Africa). Local differences of the environment and climate change are not taken into account. Small and medium sized producers maybe do not want to produce for a global market because they know that will increase health risks and reduce agro-biodiversity. Others are not interested in huge profit margins and others like to trade for free seeds because of other advantages or ethical issues. The working group wants to explore these issues in more detail.

Working group leaders

- René Groenen (Demeter Gardener, Kultursaat e.V., The Netherlands)
- Amadeus Zschunke (Sativa Rheinau AG, Switzerland)

With inputs on the threats of African seed law harmonization by Million Belay (Alliance for Food Sovereignty in Africa - AFSA) and Stig Tanzmann (Brot-fuer-die-Welt)

Objectives of the WG

- Challenges for small enterprises/farmers/gardeners/breeders
- Globalization versus regional and local markets
- What should be changed for the benefit of SMEs?
- Financial constraints for SME breeders
- Interests of citizens and consumers
- Which seed is required for cereals or vegetables of organic and biodynamic farmers (local versus export markets)?
- Who is offering these products and does the EU legislation create a barrier for these producers?

Expected outcomes

- Better understanding of the conflicts between corporations and SMEs in the current EU proposal
- Understanding where national interests do not match the interests of the EU
- Financial requirements to keep biodiversity and to support sustainability
- Clarifying the impact of the EU legislation on the rest of the world like Africa
- Potential actions (funding models and examples, networks, info-blogs, lobby actions for SMEs and citizens’ interests)
**WG3 - Seeds as commons and property rights**

**Overview**

In the last 30 years, competition and capital return have become the fundamentals of the political systems in the “developed” countries (i.e. the so-called Western World). Social security, environmental aspects and food are becoming subject of profit seeking and return on investment. Even research increasingly linked to commercial interests. Intellectual Property Rights (IPR) have a history of several hundred years of development and implementation till today. These IPR enabled the globalization of the economy and value chain. We would like to discuss whether life and the live-creating quality of seeds are respected by the current proposal to introduce IPR? How can we identify solutions guaranteeing agro-biodiversity and conservation of needed seed varieties?

**Working group leaders**

- Stefan Doeblin (Network Economy Group, Brussels)
- Silke Helfrich (author, co-founder of the “Commons-Strategies-Group)

With inputs from Susanne Gura (Verein zur Erhaltung der Nutzpflanzenvielfalt e.V., Germany) “The role of protected and non-protected material in the proposed seed marketing legislation” and Frédéric Thomas (author and senior researcher in IRD, France): “Seeds: An History of Politics”

**Objectives of the WG**

- Can and should seeds be protected by laws?
- Do the current proposals for seed protection legislation promote the creation of non-reproductive seed varieties?
- What is the impact of the proposed legislation on seed variability, biodiversity and sustainability?
- Do current marketing models and structures based on IPR support the access to seeds for everybody or do they create unfair access barriers?
- Do we need other support and trading agreements for seeds in our society or even another framework for seed/breeding legislation?
- Does financing of seed breeding and creation really require IPR (i.e. protection of species through patents)? If not, how can we finance seed development and biodiversity of seeds as common goods belonging to everybody?
- How can the affordability of naturally grown products be maintained for low-income countries that cannot compete with profit and financial return requirements of high-income ones?

**Expected outcomes**

- Better understanding of the currently proposed EU legislation and the conflicts that this creates
- List of examples of seed development initiatives with a positive impact on the environment and on the “seeds as a commons” approach
- Financing and development models to maintain agro-biodiversity, support sustainability and enhance accessibility
- Proposed actions (conference statement for the EU Parliament, networks, info-blogs, news distribution, round-tables of experts, events, free the seed walks, integration of artists)
WG 4 - Citizens’ and farmers’ participation

Overview

During the last years citizens are more concerned about “where their food comes from”. That concern has stimulated the establishing of several associations and initiatives which deal with that issue. With citizens becoming more and more aware of seeds as the basis of plant life, they realize their importance in production and food chain. Moreover they want to protect them from genetic modification and other manipulating interventions. It is essential for the organic sector not only to preserve local varieties, but also to breed and develop appropriate seed material. Therefore, more and more farmers and citizens participate in this process and express their opinion on issues which concern seeds.

Working group leaders

- Véronique Chable (INRA, France)
- Andreas Biesantz (Demeter International and ELIANT, Belgium)
- Carsten Berg (Expert for European Citizens’ Initiatives, Germany)

With input from Heidemarie Porstner (GLOBAL 2000 – Friends of the Earth, Austria): “Freedom for diversity - a broad movement can make a change”

Objectives of the WG

- Role of participatory breeding
- Ways of mobilization for a broad movement – Citizens involvement and initiatives
- How do Member States approach the seed issue and how active are they: Compare and list the most successful initiatives
- How to finance breeding and seed initiatives

Expected outcomes

- Share ideas and brainstorm on ways that promote the interests of farmers and citizens
- Better understanding of the importance of farmers and citizens’ participation
- Brainstorm solutions that could promote the participatory approach
- Network identification
- Funding opportunities for Citizens’ initiatives
Biografies of speakers

**Million Belay** is a founder and director of MELCA – Ethiopia, an indigenous NGO working on issues of agro-ecology, intergenerational learning, advocacy and livelihood improvement of local and indigenous people. He also coordinates the Alliance for Food Sovereignty for Africa, a network of major networks in Africa. Million has been working over two decades on the issues of intergenerational learning of bio-cultural diversity, sustainable agriculture, the right of local communities for seed and food sovereignty and forest issues. His main interest is now advocacy on food sovereignty, learning among generations, knowledge dialogues and the use of participatory mapping for social learning, identity building and mobilization of memory for resilience. He has a PhD in environmental learning and MSc in tourism and conservation and BSc in Biology.

**Carsten Berg – European Citizens Initiatives (ECI), Germany.**

Carsten Berg is a trained Political Scientist and obtained a degree in Political Sciences from the University Potsdam and an MA in Education from Alanus University Bonn-Alfter. He has campaigned for participatory and direct democracy at regional, national and transnational levels. In 2002-2003, Carsten Berg worked for Mehr Demokratie e.V. in the Convention on the Future of Europe (European Constitutional Convention) and successfully campaigned for the inclusion of the European Citizens’ Initiative (ECI) into EU law. Since then he is heading The ECI Campaign, an NGO that is working for the successful implementation of the new democracy instrument www.citizens-initiative.eu. At the same time it is supporting organizations and groups of individuals to use the ECI. The ECI Campaign is deeply committed to ensuring that the ECI fulfills its promise of empowering EU citizens to influence the legislative agenda of the EU.

**Andreas Biesantz (Head of the Demeter International EU Liaison Office, Brussels)**

Andreas Biesantz is the representative of Demeter International at the EU Institutions and Head of Brussels’ EU Liaison Office. Before starting his work for Demeter International in 2001 he completed a PhD thesis about “Genetic Resources in Wheat” in 1989. Following (1989-2001) he worked as a scientist, lecturer and consultant in the field of International Agricultural Research and Crop Science at the Universities of Berlin (Technical University and Humboldt University), Izmir and Ankara (Turkey) at the respective Faculties of Agriculture.

**Veronique Chable, INRA, France**

Her main research activities are focused on “Participatory Research for cultivated diversity for organic and low input agriculture. She began participatory plant breeding in 2001 on Brassica species in Brittany. She is also working on several arable (wheat, maize, buckwheat) and vegetable crops (bean, tomato and broccoli). Veronique's INRA position has been within the Sciences for Action and Development division since 2005. Now, she is mainly involved in the coordination of European projects, as SOLIBAM (Strategies for Organic and Low Input Integrated Breeding and Management, http://www.solibam.eu/).
Nikos CHRYSOGELOS, The Greens/ EFA Group

Ecologists Greens MEP, Vice-president 4th Regional Development (REGI) and alternate member of the Committee on the Environment, Public Health and Food Safety (ENVI) of the European Parliament. Shadow rapporteur at the European Parliament for Social Cohesion, Regional Development and Environment for the Greens; Representative for several years; Ecologist Green in the Council of the European Greens. Nikos Chrysogelos is Chemist-environmentalist. Active, some three decades in protecting and managing the environment, sustainability, green policy, regional development, dialogue between cultures, with significant experience in education to the environment and sustainability at local, regional, national and Euro-Mediterranean level.

Stefan DOEBLIN, Network Economy Group, Brussels

Stefan is a serial entrepreneur and the founder and chairman of Network Economy Group. Currently he is engaged in renewable energy projects in different European countries. He is a director of Biossence Ltd, London. He is engaged in a permaculture project in Vierzon, France, to support an organic cosmetic manufactory. Jointly with the Finance Lab and WWF he developed a metro crowd investment concept for mega cities in India or South America. He was engaged in Fibre to the Home projects in Western Europe. Network Economy has created more than 20 ventures in the past 13 years. Average investment period is around 5 years.

René GROENEN, Demeter Gardener and board member of Kulturaat e. V.

René Groenen (1959) is Demeter gardener since 1981. Together with his wife he runs a small-scale garden "De Groenen Hof" (8 hectares) in the south of the Netherlands. Since 1999 he is fulltime involved with the propagation of seeds of open-pollinated varieties for the seed company "Bingenheimer Saatgut AG" and breeding activities for "Kulturaat e. V." Both organizations are farmer-driven and connected in a network of biodynamic gardeners in mainly Germany, called "Initiativkreis" (the Initiative circle). Since 2011 he is member of the board of "Kulturaat".

Susanne GURA, Verein zur Erhaltung der Nutzpflanzenvielfalt e. V., Germany

Susanne Gura is a policy analyst and author of studies and articles about agricultural biodiversity and rural development, among others. She holds a PhD in rural sociology, a postgraduate certificate in development economics, and a master degree in human nutrition. She is the coordinator of the Association for Plant Breeding for the Benefit of Society (APBREBES), the only civil society organization accredited as UPOV observer. Since 2009, she chairs the largest German seed saving association VEN and serves on the board of a seed and breed conservation umbrella organisation in German speaking countries.
Martin HAEUSLING – The Greens/EFA Group

Martin Häusling is a German Member of the European Parliament for The Greens/EFA Group and their spokesperson of the Committee on Agriculture and Rural Development. Besides this, he runs an organic farm in Hesse (Germany) with 60 cows and its own cheese dairy. He is a member of the following associations: Slow-Food, ATTAC, Bioland, Hessisches Anti-Gentec-Bündnis as well as Bund Deutscher Milchviehhalter (BDM, a German Dairy Farmers’ Association) and Arbeitsgemeinschaft bäuerliche Landwirtschaft (AbL, a farmer’s consortium of family-run farms).

Silke HELFRICH, author and co-founder of the “Commons-Strategies-Group

Silke Helfrich has studied romance languages and pedagogy at the Karl-Marx-University in Leipzig. Since mid of the 1990s activities in the field of development politics, from 1996 to 1998 head of Heinrich Böll Foundation Thuringia and from 1999 to 2007 head of the regional office of Heinrich Böll Foundation in Mexico City focusing on globalization, gender and human rights. Since 2007 she works as independent author and activist, working with a variety of international and domestic partners. Helfrich is the editor of several books on the Commons.

Guy KASTLER, Réseau Semences Paysannes (Peasants’ Seeds Network), France

Kastler is a French farmer, chairman of the Réseau Semences Paysannes (Peasants’ Seeds Network), a member of the Confédération Paysanne (Farming Confederation) and an official representative of the Nature et Progrès (Nature and Progress) association. The Réseau Semences Paysannes was established in spring 2003. It includes national trade unions and development organizations of professional and amateurs involved in organic and conventional farming who want to develop and conserve biodiversity in their fields.

Antje KOELLING, IFOAM EU Group, Belgium

Antje Koelling works for the IFOAM EU Group since summer 2009. She is responsible to coordinate the work in the areas of Common Agriculture Policies, biodiversity, GMOs, climate and environmental aspects of agriculture. The IFOAM EU Group is the European section the International Federation of Organic Agriculture Movements.
Edith LAMMERTS van BUEREN, Wageningen University, Louis Bolk Institute, ECO BP, the Netherlands

Prof. Edith T. Lammerts van Bueren has more than 25 years of experience in organic research and management. She is a pioneer in plant breeding and genetic resources for organic, low-input agriculture and has put this subject on the European agenda. She holds a chair at Wageningen University in the Netherlands as professor Organic Plant Breeding since March 2005. And she is also senior researcher Organic Plant Breeding at the Louis Bolk Institute in the Netherlands. Edith was co-founder and president of the European Consortium for Organic Plant Breeding (ECO-PB) for 10 years, and is now chair of the Section Organic and Low-input Agriculture of EUCARPIA (European Association for Research for Plant Breeding).

Päivi MANNERKOPRI, European Commission, DG SANCO, Head of Sector Material for Plant Reproduction


Heidemarie PORSTNER, Global 2000, Austria

Heidemarie Porstner is working for Friends of the Earth Austria - which is GLOBAL 2000 since 2010. She started as a volunteer then supported the anti-nuclear campaigner. Since October 2011, she is working as a campaigner on the topics of GMO, food and agriculture whereat GMOs are her main topic. Heidemarie studied nutritional science at the University of Vienna, Milano and Rome where she wrote her thesis. She is part of the consulting board of the platform ARGE Gentechnikfrei in Austria and also of the association Danube Soya (Donau Soja). And she attended the GENET-Meeting for the first time in June 2012.

Gebhard ROSSMANITH, Bingenheimer Saatgut AG, Germany

CEO of Bingenheimer Saatgut AG in Germany for 12 years. Before he worked for 20 years as a professional biodynamic vegetable grower. Bingenheimer Saatgut is part of a network of biodynamic and organic farmers and gardeners to supply the organic movement with own based seeds and breeds. The company offers organic seeds of vegetables, herbs and flowers.
Pierre SULTANA, Arche Noah, Belgium

Pierre Sultana was born in 1984 and grew up in a French farm. He studied EU and WTO laws at the University of Rennes, France. After he gained positive experiences in the legal services of European and French institutions, he became a volunteer at IFOAM EU Group. He is fighting for seed diversity and is presently the Brussels representative for Arche Noah, a Central European seed savers organization since 2012.

Stig TANZMANN, agriculture-economist, based in Berlin. He is an expert for agricultural issues and he works for Brot-fuer-die-Welt, the protestant development service organization. His main topics are the international impact of the European meat production. Currently he is working on the G8 New Alliance for Food Security and Nutrition and the harmonizing of seed legislation in the world. In addition he advised reform steps of the joint EU agriculture policy related to international consequences. Before that he studied agricultural economy in Berlin and Goettingen and before that he worked in two organic farms finishing his practical training courses.

Roicos THANOPoulos, Peliti Greece

The agronomist Dr. Roicos Thanopoulos is a graduate of the Agricultural University of Athens. He worked as extension adviser in the Evrytania Prefecture of Central Greece while at the same time writing his PhD thesis on lays' management for the same University. For six years he was seconded by the Hellenic Ministry of Agriculture to the EU Rural Development Plan's Food Administration Authority, in which capacity he supervised the Landraces Protection Program. He co-authored the Second Country Report on the situation vis à vis plant genetic resources for food and agriculture, participating also as a delegate at the First Meeting for the treaty on genetic resources for agriculture – Madrid 2006. He now works as Head of the Agricultural University of Athens Farm Unit, also serving as an active member of the Plant Genetic Resources Group, Plant Breeding Laboratory, Agricultural University of Athens and participating in numerous exploratory expeditions for collection of landraces throughout the country. He was a member of the Organizing Committees for the 1st and 2nd Scientific Meetings on landraces (2010 and 2012).


Hannah TOWNSEND, writer of the article “Save our Seeds”. She grew up on a small family farm in Devon, UK. After reading English at Cambridge University and then teaching in London for a time, she returned to the West Country and became a biodynamic Market Gardener. She is a regular contributor to the journal New View, and has recently been commissioned to write a book exploring the inter-relationships of Nature, Technology and the Human Soul.
Joost VISSER is a chemist by background. Although, he started with chemistry as main subject, he also studied philosophy, history of science and mathematics. This brought him into the history of genetics already at the end of the 80s. Then at the start of the 90s he had the opportunity to study soil science, environmental technology, and related subjects for some years. The following years he took a closer look at agriculture and ecology. Then from the beginning of the past decennium he did in-depth research into post-war agriculture, from both a natural science and a social science perspective. Down to Earth is the write-up of ten years of that research (3300 references). An important focus of his 2013 research was the history of breeding, for which he traced decisive sources especially in the Prague University library.

Amadeus ZSCHUNKE, Sativa Rheinau AG, Switzerland

Amadeus was born in 1962. He holds Dipl.-Ing. Gartenbau (FH) and is currently the Director of Sativa Rheinau AG. Sativa Rheinau AG is a Swiss seed company dedicated to 100% organic and biodynamic seeds. Sativa offers a wide range of products for professional vegetable production and agriculture. 40% of the turnover is achieved in the EC. On the one side Sativa cooperates with the biodynamic cereal breeder Peter Kunz, on the other side Sativa has own vegetable breeding programs for more than 10 species.
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