



# The French Federation of Seed Maize and Seed Sorghum Production



**FNPSMS**  
maiz'EUROP'

*The FNPSMS [Fédération Nationale de la Production de Semences de Maïs et de Sorgho], is a federation of seed growers and seed companies that have joined forces in the interests of efficient control of production, technical and economic development, and for the promotion of top performance maize and sorghum seed.*

## **FNPSMS TO PROMOTE SORGHUM AND MAIZE WITH EU FUNDS**

Since May 2018, F.N.P.S.M.S leads actions to promote maize and sorghum grain, feed, and seed in Europe and in the third countries. These actions are part of a European promotion plan of agricultural products financed by the European Commission.

These financial resources are used based on specific calendars and development axes, as set out in the initial funding applications. Thus actions under this programme are to be carried out during the three-year period between the spring of 2018 and spring of 2021, via two promotion and communication programmes aimed at improving knowledge about the maize and sorghum crops, increasing farmers awareness about their numerous benefits and contributing to their development in Europe and in the third countries.

It clearly marks the EU's willingness to promote maize and sorghum industry and confirms the interest of public authorities in the development of these crops.

Some of the levers envisaged in that respect are:

- *field trials,*
- *expert publications in country-level agricultural press,*
- *video clips, radio and hard copy advertising,*
- *technical manuals,*
- *press and study tours,*
- *technical conferences and trainings,*

*All this will create positive dynamics that should help strengthen maize and sorghum industry both in Europe and in the third countries.*

## **An inter-branch structure with two complementary activities**

FNPSMS membership is comprised of 32 seed companies (members of the French union of seed companies, UFS) and 25 associations representing seed growers (members of the maize seed association AGPM MAÏS SEMENCE), operating under contract-based agreements covering the production of maize and sorghum seed. Nine of the 32 seed companies are plant breeders developing new varieties which they then produce themselves or by sub-contracting to other seed companies.

## **The FNPSMS' dual role**

- *Contributing to the excellence of the French maize and sorghum seed sector.*
- *Supporting a dynamic, top-performance seed network.*

## **The FNPSMS' fields of action**

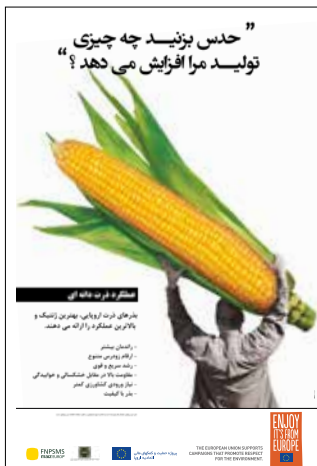
- *Contract-based organisation of seed production.*
- *Crop inspection in the field (under delegation granted by the official inspection and certification department - SOC).*
- *Expert assessments and technical action to optimise maize and sorghum seed crop production.*
- *Expert assessments on the economic and regulatory environment.*
- *Promotion and market development both in France and internationally.*



**Sorghum**<sup>ID</sup>

[www.sorghum-id.com](http://www.sorghum-id.com)





## SEED, THE PRIMARY VECTOR OF PERFORMANCE

A steady flow of new varieties plus advances in plant genetics provide the best leverage for improving yield. Many countries in Europe have had a solid and steady increase in yield, and over the last fifty years yield has gone up by an average of 1 to 1.5 quintals per hectare per annum. Improvements in varieties account for more than 85% of the increase. Crop management, tilling practices and, in some cases, crop rotation have also contributed to the continuing rise in yield.

Increases in yield levels attributable to genetic advances have been high for all groups across the full range from early-maturing to late-maturing. Early maturity, resistance to lodging and the goal of consistently high yield levels have been the main focus for plant breeders. And with sophisticated techniques available, they have gradually included two further objectives:

- to improve hardiness and have better tolerance to negative factors, such as cold conditions and lodging, and in particular to water deficit. A number of trials have shown that yield has remained at satisfactory levels on non-irrigated land at times of severe water deficit.
- to increase the energy value and digestibility of varieties bred specifically for use as fodder.



[www.maïs-rendement.com](http://www.maïs-rendement.com)

## EUROPEAN AND FRENCH SEED PRODUCTION - THE ASSETS

### SEED QUALITY

Certified seed is the insurance for farmers to use high quality maize and sorghum seeds and ensure rapid and uniform emergence.

### A WIDE RANGE

The French network, with fine soil and good weather conditions, is able to produce some 2000 varieties a year. More than a hundred new varieties are registered every year in response to the diverse requirements of European maize producers (for both grain maize and silage maize). Evidence must be provided for new registrations showing that they contribute additional value not already available with existing varieties.

### STEADY, RELIABLE SUPPLIES

All the main plant breeders, whether European companies or international customers placing orders, rely on the French network to produce their top performance seed. Consistent and uniform yield means reliable security of supply, which is also achieved through irrigation covering the entire seed production network in France and through the geographic spread of production zones over a variety of land types, offering protection from incidents and accidents that could damage crops.



### THE INDUSTRIAL KNOW-HOW OF THE COMPANIES

The industrial facilities (separating produce within the processing plant, packaging units of seed, and with efficient application of seed treatment products and technological processes) are well known for their ability to respond to customer specifications, even for smaller orders. Harvest time is mostly over a few short weeks, so timelines for delivering seed are optimal, and that includes deliveries to international customers.

### TRACEABILITY OF SEED

Traceability through extensive monitoring starts with the basic seed used by the seed-grower and goes through to the certified unit of seed for sale on the market. This feature is a guarantee of quality, safety and security for producers buying seed, and more generally for all sectors and industries using maize and sorghum.

PRESS TRIP

# Maize and sorghum quality seeds : from breeding to valorization

**Toulouse:** Sunday, September 16<sup>th</sup> to Wednesday, September 19<sup>th</sup>, 2018

## PROGRAM:

### Sunday, september 16<sup>th</sup>

**3.00 PM**

Welcome at Toulouse airport and transfer to Novotel Wilson

**5.00 PM**

Toulouse city tour

**8.00 PM**

Dinner

### Monday, september 17<sup>th</sup>

**10.00 AM**

Maize and sorghum seed production economics in Europe

*P.Guillaumin: Project manager economics and international development - FNPSMS*

**11.00 AM**

Transfer to Baziege

**12.15 PM**

Lunch

**1.30 PM**

Genetic progress and seed production field trials.  
*R.Doucet - Seed production expert - ARVALIS Institut du Végétal*

**3.30 PM**

Corn seed production and regulation with a seed producer, a representative of the Official Control Service for seed certification and a seed production inspector.

**8.00 PM**

Dinner at Toulouse

### Tuesday, september 18<sup>th</sup>

**9.30 AM**

Arterris Cooperative's seed factory, in Alzonne

**10.30 AM**

Arterris Cooperative's animal feed factory, in Alzonne

**12.15 PM**

Lunch

**2.00 PM**

Visit at of a corn and sorghum grain farm  
*F.Parayre, farmer.*

Presentation of the specificity of sorghum production  
*JL Verdier, Head of sorghum activities, ARVALIS Institut du Végétal*

**3.30 PM**

Visit of a dairy production farm, based on sorghum and maize silage.  
*Presentation of maize and sorghum complementarity in dairy production*

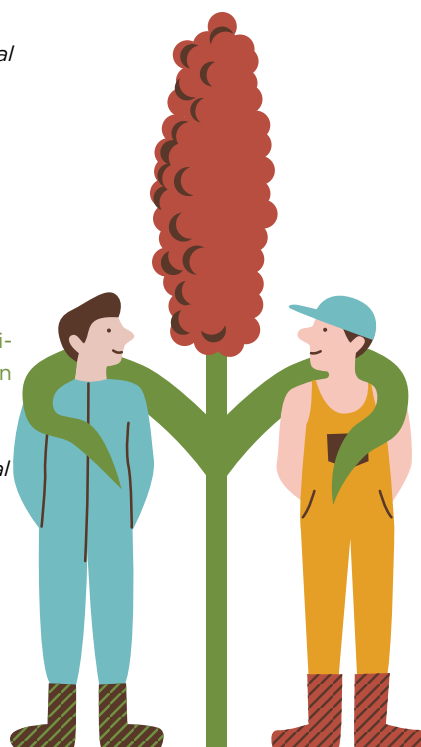
**8.00 PM**

Dinner at Toulouse with *Pierre Pagès, President of FNPSMS*

### Wenesday, september 19<sup>th</sup>

**9.00 AM**

Airport transfer



---

## CONTACT:

### F.N.P.S.M.S. - National Federation of Seed Maize and Seed Sorghum Production

23-25 avenue de Neuilly 75116 Paris - FRANCE  
[fnpsms@agpm.com](mailto:fnpsms@agpm.com) / [www.maizeurop.com](http://www.maizeurop.com)

#### Guillaume LEDUFF

Project Manager, FNPSMS  
Communication

+33 602 150 708 / [guillaume.leduff@fnpsms.fr](mailto:guillaume.leduff@fnpsms.fr)

#### Pierre GUILLAUMIN

Project Manager, FNPSMS  
Economic studies and international development  
+33 648 842 074 / [pierre.guillaumin@fnpsms.fr](mailto:pierre.guillaumin@fnpsms.fr)