

Bejo and Limagrain announce licensing deal on traits in vegetables

Bejo and Limagrain, through its listed company Vilmorin & Cie, have signed an agreement for the exchange of non-exclusive licenses for patented traits in vegetables. This exchange will enable the two vegetable breeding companies to strengthen their innovative capacities and introduce improved varieties more quickly.

Under the agreement, the parties provide each other the right to use plant material that falls under the scope of several of their patents for both breeding and commercial purposes in vegetables. The agreement thus increases the possibilities for both companies to develop new and improved vegetable varieties by making use of each other's innovations.

John-Pieter Schipper, Chief Executive Officer of Bejo, said: *"This agreement is in continuity of other agreements signed by Bejo since the launch of the International Licensing Platform Vegetable. We strongly believe that access to genetics will contribute to long-term preservation of biodiversity and food security. At the same time this agreement strengthens the innovative capacity of both companies, which will ultimately benefit the market."*

Arnaud Messenger, Scientific Director for Limagrain Vegetable Seeds commented: *"This agreement will allow both companies to use their respective innovations to bring new improved varieties to the market, which will benefit both growers and consumers."*

About Bejo

Bejo is a leading family company in the breeding, production, processing and sales of quality vegetable seeds. With an assortment of 50 crops and more than 1,200 varieties, Bejo offers a complete program for all markets and a wide variety of climates. Bejo seeds find their way to more than 100 countries through a global network of Bejo companies and dedicated distributors. Over 1,700 employees work to provide the best possible service and quality.

About Limagrain

As the fourth largest seed company worldwide, Limagrain's mission is to move agriculture forward to meet global food-related challenges. Limagrain is a cooperative group founded and managed by French farmers. Its parent company brings together 2,000 farmers located in the center of France. The Group creates, produces and distributes field seeds, vegetable seeds and cereal products. Limagrain is present in 56 countries and has more than 10,000 employees. It makes sales of more than 2.6 billion Euros with recognized brands on their markets: LG, Vilmorin, Clause, Hazera, Harris Moran, Jacquet, Brossard. www.limagrain.com - #Limagrain

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PRESS CONTACTS

Bejo : Mirjam Both, mirjam.both@bejo.nl, +31 226 396 162, www.bejo.nl

Limagrain : Marie-Laure Joblon, marie-laure.joblon@limagrain.com, + 33 (0)6 33 51 80 33