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CERERE

About CERERE: Through a balanced, multi-actor network of researchers and communities of practitioners, the project promotes innovation by producing and disseminating accessible end-user materials and training products for farmers, food manufacturers, consumers, researchers and policy makers.

PREVENTIVE MEASURES AIMED AT CONTROLLING OF SPREAD OF TILLETIA CARIES IN ORGANIC CEREALS

PROBLEM

Assuring the health of the seeds is a prerequisite to foster the independence of the farmers through the effective and safe re-use of seeds at farm and over the time. Moreover, it represents a key element in building up a reliable relations into the practices of the exchange of small quantities of seeds among farmers.

SOLUTION

it is crucial to proceed with a seed treatment in order to avoid the onset of relevant diseases such as Caries (*Tilletia caries*) which are transmitted through the seeds and that they depress the quality of the product.

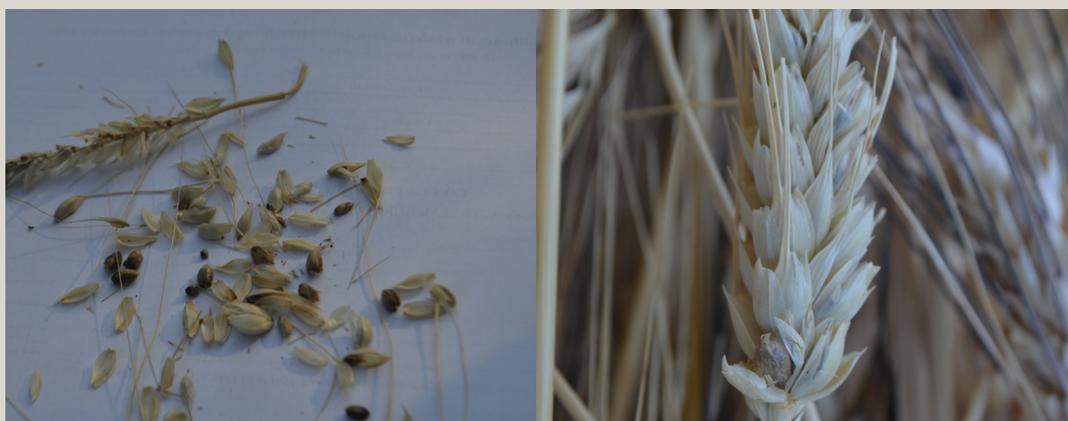
Outcomes

The protocol implemented includes two scenarios: in the case the diseases are not confirmed the strategy of risk prevention envisages: the spaced rotations between the crops (avoiding the succession of winter cereals) , the use of copper for the dressing of the seed*, a monitoring activities during the growing and at the harvest. In the second case once the diseases have been found or suspected, the protocol is further extended to the risk reduction: the mowing of the wild cereal, the washing of the seed and the farm tools with a solution of water and sodium hypochlorite (2%) in order to inactivate the spores. For the dressing of seed is recommended the use of oxychloride of copper.

**if and where the national law provides its use*

Practical recommendation

For the dressing of seed is recommended the use of oxychloride of copper. The quantity is related to the amount of metallic copper provided (detectable on the data-sheets of commercial preparations)



Further information

The oxychloride of copper may reduce germination of the seeds, therefore, the treatment should be done in the days immediately prior to sowing.

and it should be up to 75 grams of metallic copper per 100 kg of seed treated. In order to facilitate dispersion it is necessary to mix the seed with the oil of sunflower, in the proportion of 2 litres per 100 kg of seed. It proceeds through mixing firstly the seed with the oil and then with the powder of the copper; this operation guarantees that the seed will be dressed even in case of leaching by rainwater.

Evaluation and sharing of the results

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Project partners

The University of Reading (United Kingdom), The University of Florence (Italy), Rete Semi Rurali (Italy), Réseau Semences Paysannes (France), Institut National de la Recherche Agronomique (France), The University of Helsinki (Finland), The Irish Agriculture and Food Development Authority (Ireland), Red Andaluza de Semillas (Spain), Formica Blu (Italy), Organic Research Centre (United Kingdom), SEGES P/S (Denmark), Institut Technique de l'Agriculture Biologique (France), The University of Debreceni (Hungary).

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