

# Variety Mixture: the current state in Italy

**17<sup>th</sup> EU – VCU EXPERT SEMINAR**  
**Korsør, 13<sup>th</sup>-15<sup>th</sup> May 2024**

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**Seed Certifications**  
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## Contents:

### Mixture

- Legislation
- Mixture Type
- Figures



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## COMMISSION DECISION 2004/371/EC

on conditions for the placing on  
the market of seed mixtures  
intended for use as fodder  
plants

### COMMISSION DECISION

of 20 April 2004

on conditions for the placing on the market of seed mixtures intended for use as fodder plants

(notified under document number C(2004) 1429)

(Text with EEA relevance)

(2004/371/EC)

THE COMMISSION OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES,

Having regard to the Treaty establishing the European Community,

Having regard to Council Directive 66/401/EEC of 14 June 1966 on the marketing of fodder plant seed<sup>(1)</sup>, and in particular the third subparagraph of Article 13(1) thereof,

Whereas:

- (1) Pursuant to Directive 66/401/EEC, seed in mixtures intended for use as fodder plants may be placed on the market if, in addition to the provisions on sealing and marking of the packages, the various components of the mixture comply before mixing with the Community marketing regulations applicable to them.
- (2) In order to ensure the free movement of seed mixtures intended for use as fodder plants, conditions concerning the production, the inspection of the production and the labelling of such mixtures should be determined.
- (3) The measures provided for in this Decision are in accordance with the opinion of the Standing Committee on Seeds and Propagating Material for Agriculture, Horticulture and Forestry,

HAS ADOPTED THIS DECISION:

#### Article 1

This Decision provides for conditions for the production, the inspection of the production and labelling of seed mixtures intended for use as fodder plants, in addition to the conditions set out in Directive 66/401/EEC.

#### Article 2

The Member States shall require that firms producing seed mixtures:

- (a) have installed mixing equipment which will ensure the finished mixture is uniform;
- (b) have appropriate procedures for all mixing operations;
- (c) have a person in charge who has direct responsibility for the mixing operation;

- (d) maintain a register of seed mixtures intended for use as fodder plants.

#### Article 3

Firms intending to produce seed mixtures shall declare to the Authority referred to in point (A)(l)(c)(2) of Annex IV to Directive 66/401/EEC:

- (a) the percentage composition by weight of the various components shown by species and, where appropriate, by variety;
- (b) the name of the mixture, where it is given for marking the packages.

#### Article 4

1. The inspection of the production of the seed mixtures shall be carried out by the Authority referred to in Article 3.

2. The inspection shall be carried out through:

- (a) controls of the identity and total weight of each component, at least by random checks of the official labels identifying the packages of seed; and
- (b) a random check of the mixing operation including the finished mixtures.

#### Article 5

The detailed information concerning the use for fodder purposes shall be indicated on the official label and/or on a suppliers label.

#### Article 6

This Decision is addressed to the Member States.

Done at Brussels, 20 April 2004.

For the Commission  
David BYRNE  
Member of the Commission



# Legislative Decree 2<sup>nd</sup> February 2021, N° 20:

## Rules for production for marketing purposes and marketing of seed products.

**Art. 5: Mixture of seeds**

**Art. 62: Preservation mixture**

Supplemento ordinario alla "Gazzetta Ufficiale", n. 49 del 27 febbraio 2021 - Serie generale

Spediz. abb. post. - art. 1, comma 1  
Legge 27-02-2004, n. 46 - Filiale di Roma

**GAZZETTA UFFICIALE**  
DELLA REPUBBLICA ITALIANA

PARTE PRIMA

Roma - Sabato, 27 febbraio 2021

SI PUBBLICA TUTTI I  
GIORNI NON FESTIVI

DIREZIONE E REDAZIONE PRESSO IL MINISTERO DELLA GIUSTIZIA - UFFICIO PUBBLICAZIONE LEGGI E DECRETI - VIA ARENULA, 70 - 00186 ROMA  
AMMINISTRAZIONE PRESSO L'ISTITUTO POLIGRAFICO E ZECCA DELLO STATO - VIA SALARIA, 691 - 00198 ROMA - CENTRALINO 06-85081 - LIBRERIA DELLO STATO  
PIAZZA G. VERDI, 1 - 00198 ROMA

N. 16/L

DECRETO LEGISLATIVO 2 febbraio 2021, n. 20.

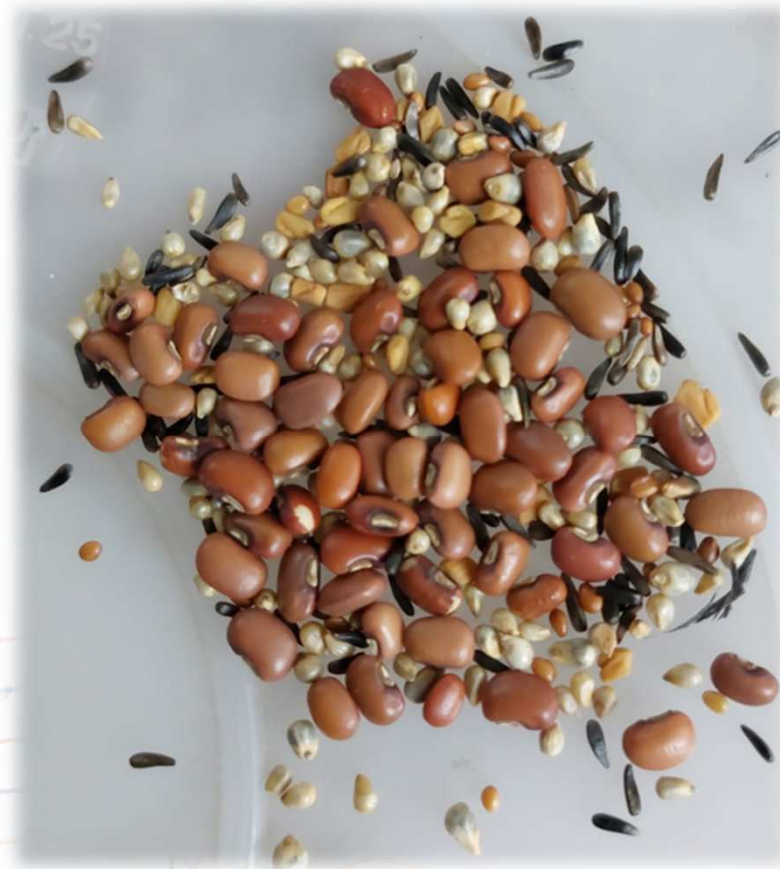
Norme per la produzione a scopo di commercializzazione e la commercializzazione di prodotti sementieri in attuazione dell'articolo 11 della legge 4 ottobre 2019, n. 117, per l'adeguamento della normativa nazionale alle disposizioni del regolamento (UE) 2016/2031 e del regolamento (UE) 2017/625.



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## Mixture

**1) for Fodder crop**

**6) Of Vegetable**

**2) for Turf or in any  
case mixture not  
intended for Fodder  
production**

**5) Varieties of  
a Cereal**

**4) Species of different  
Cereal**

**3) for Preservation of  
natural environment**



## 1) for Fodder crop

Mixture of legumes or gramineous plant or another genera for forage use, all component must be of certifiable species.





## **2) for Turf or in any case mixture not intended for the Fodder production**

Mixture of legumes, gramineous plant or another genera, for different use (laws, ski slopes, cover crops, "honey crops", manure crops, etc. ), but not for forage production. In these mixtures there may be species without certification requirements.





### 3) for Preservation of natural environment

Mixture of seed of various genera for the conservation of genetic resources, or the restoration of the natural environment. In these mixtures, usually, there are only species without certification requirements. The original seed must be harvested from the source area and can be multiplied in the origin area no more of five generations.

**In Italy, mixtures of this type have never been requested.**



Foto: <https://natura-territorio.provincia.bz.it/it/semene-autoctono-e-zone-biogeografiche>



## 4) Species of different Cereal

In Italy, these Mixtures are quite popular. Usually are for biomass transformed by the bio-digester into methane.



## 5) Varieties of a cereal

Mixture of different varieties of a species of cereal. The seed company provided these mixtures are effective against the propagation of harmful organisms. Now, there are not rules to verify if the declaration of the company against the harmful organism is true or not. Usually are different varieties of *Sorghum* spp. use as fodder crop.





## 6) Of Vegetable

May be composed:

- a) Mixture of different varieties of a species;
- b) Mixture of different species.

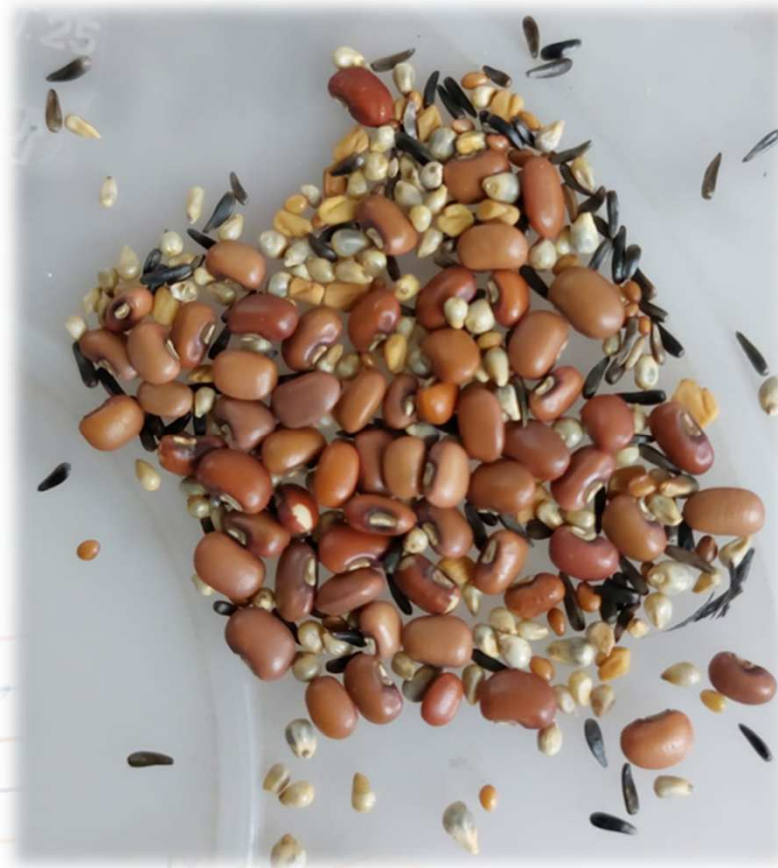
These Mixture can be marketed in small packaging and have not an official label of certification but only the label of the seed company.



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Our certification seed program shares the 5 Mixture type (vegetable mixture excluded) in 3 group:

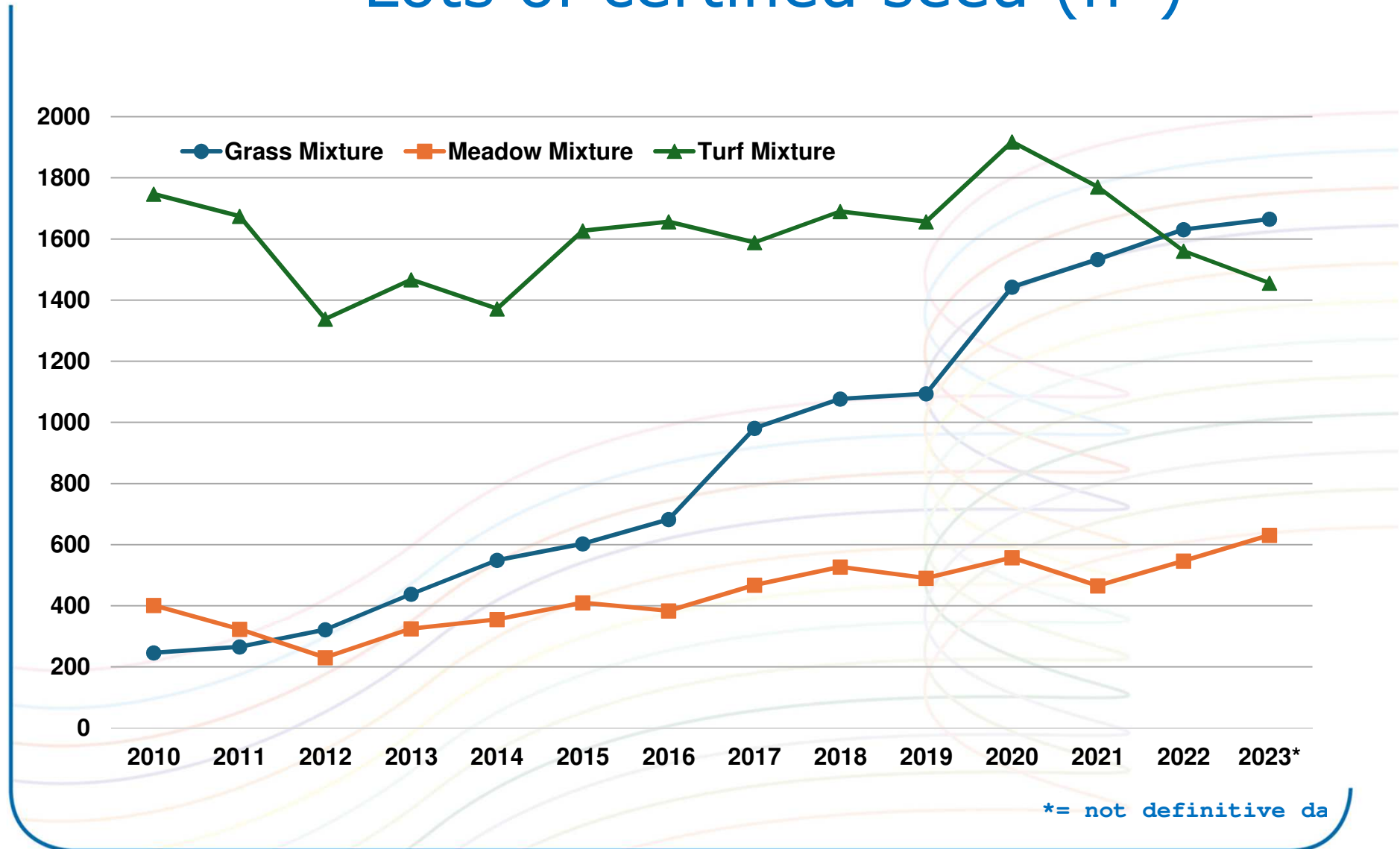
**a) Turf Mixture:** in this group are included only the Mixture for Lows (a mixture of different grasses);

**b) Meadow Mixture:** in this group are included the mixture of all other category (excluding turf), where the seed of all the species component the Mixture are smaller of a wheat seed;

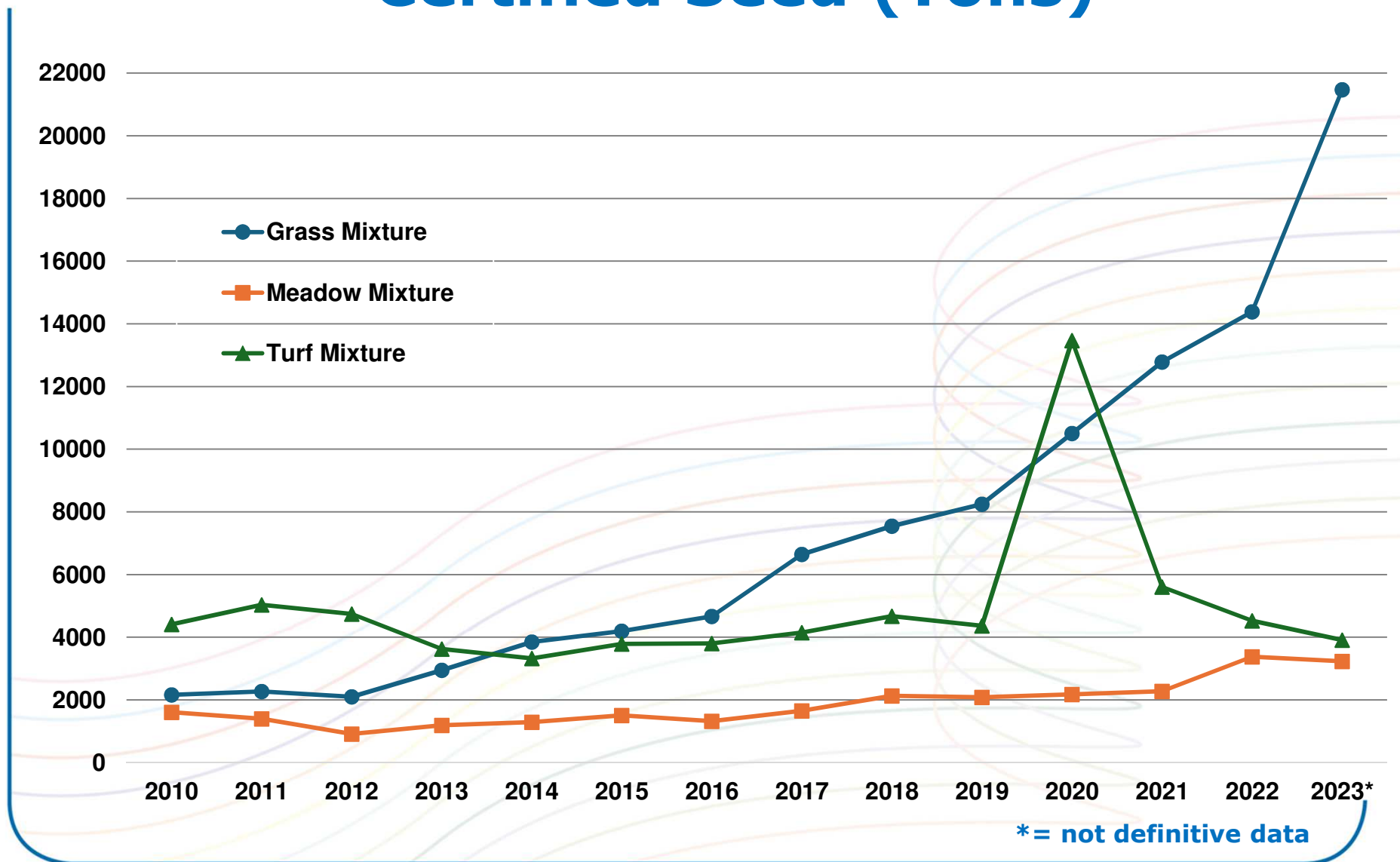
**c) Grass Mixture:** in this group are included the mixture of all other category (excluding turf), where the seed of at least one species component the Mixture are bigger or equal of a wheat seed.



# Lots of certified seed (n°)



# Certified Seed (Tons)







**Thank you  
for your  
attentions!**

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