Euroseeds
Embracing Nature

Representing the Seed Sector

1 July 2019

Seed sector in a nutshell

- **Seed market** value in the EU € 10 bn
- **Farm gate value** of agricultural products in the EU > € 100 bn
- **Processed agricultural products** value in the EU > € 1000 bn

Seed sector employment

- Seed sector **employment**: about 52,000
- Seed sector annual **R&D spending**: about 10% (of turnover)
- **R&D stations** in the seed sector: 750

Varieties in the EU

- **3,500 new varieties** are authorized for marketing within the European Union each year
- **42,000 different varieties** of agricultural and vegetable species are available to farmers in the European Union

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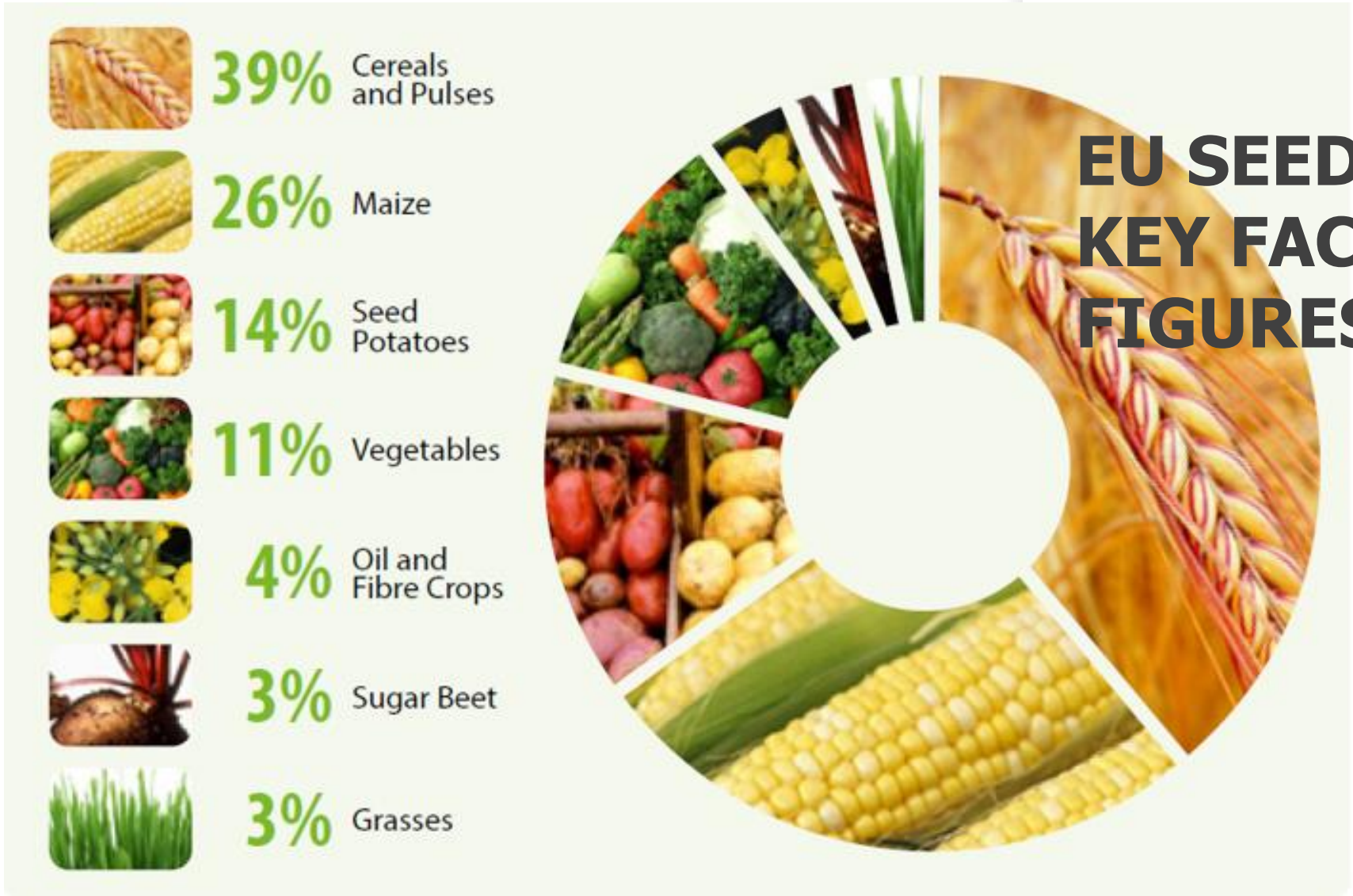
EU SEED MARKET KEY FACTS AND FIGURES



Seeds are high-tech, high value added products!

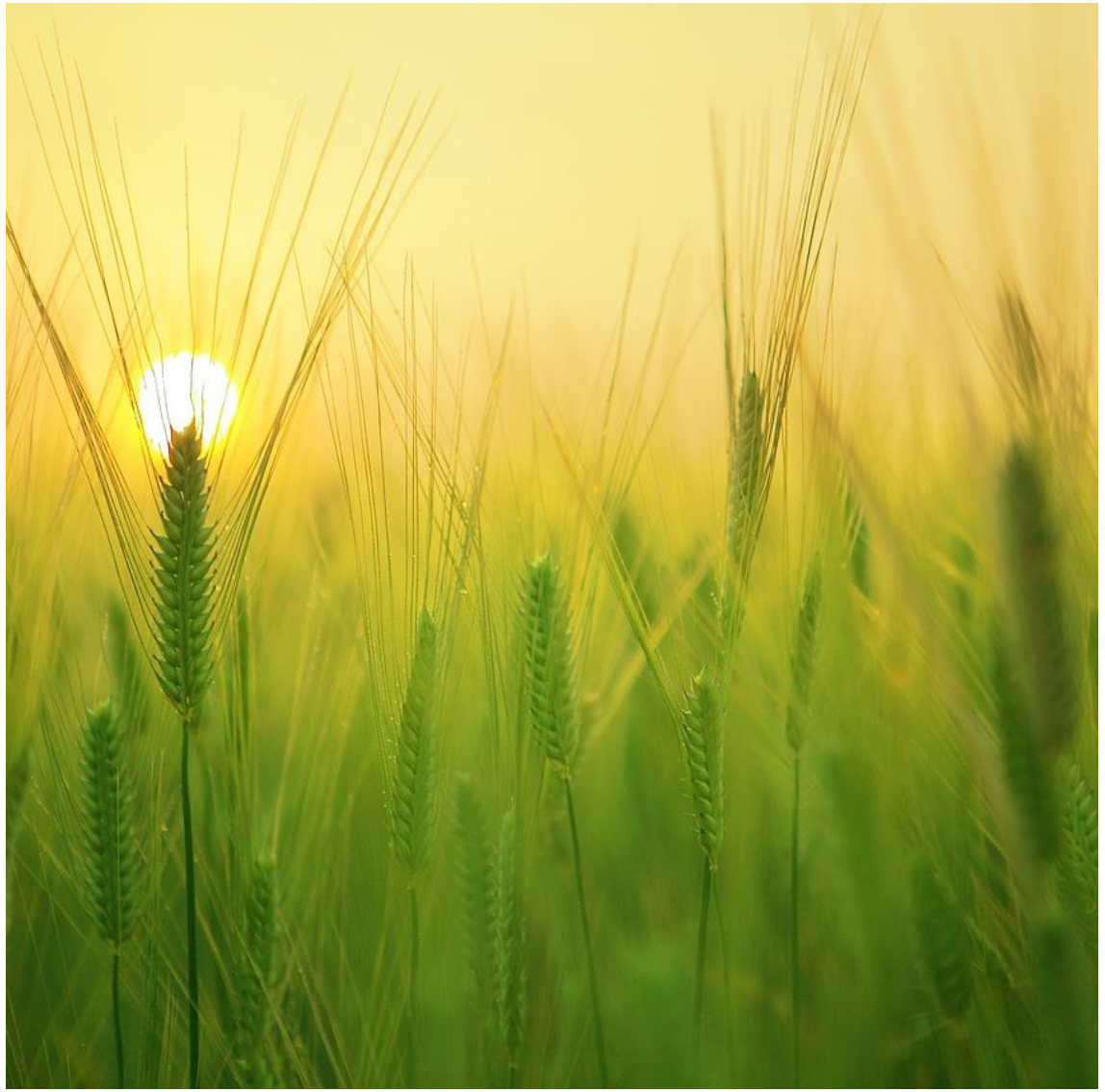
Crop	Yield from 1kg seed at average seeding rates
Maize	500 kgs grain
Oil seed rape	<1.000 kgs oil seed
Tomato	3.0 – 9.0 mill. kgs tomatoes
Sugar beet	10.000 kgs sugar
Soybean	80 kgs beans
Wheat	70 kgs grain

Introducing Euroseeds

- SINGLE voice of the **European seed industry**
- Represents the European seed industry via the **European institutions** and their representatives:
  - European Commission
  - European Parliament
  - Council of Ministers
  - Community Plant Variety Office

Introducing Euroseeds

- International involvement and observer status: ISF, CPVO, UPOV, OECD, ISTA, IPPC, FAO, etc.
- Continuous contact with other **industry associations:**
  - related to agriculture & biotechnology
  - non-governmental organisations
  - the international press
  - the wider interested public



Euroseeds' principal role

- **Inform – Represent - Lobby**

  On **all seed related issues**:

  - seed marketing, incl. GM and organic seed
  - IPRs ; biodiversity ; access ; research
  - plant/seed health ; seed treatment ; environment
  - land use and food production

- **Help solve collective problems of members**

Euroseeds members

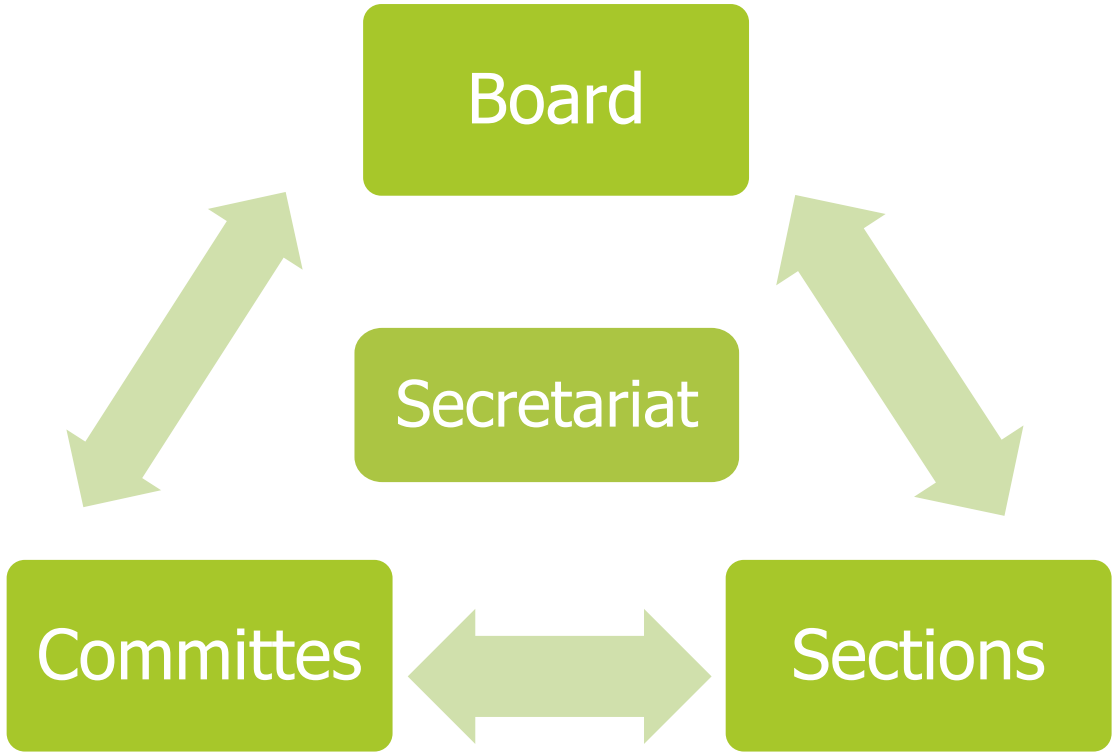
- **38 national seed associations**

  (Euroseeds Association Members)
- **40 direct company members**

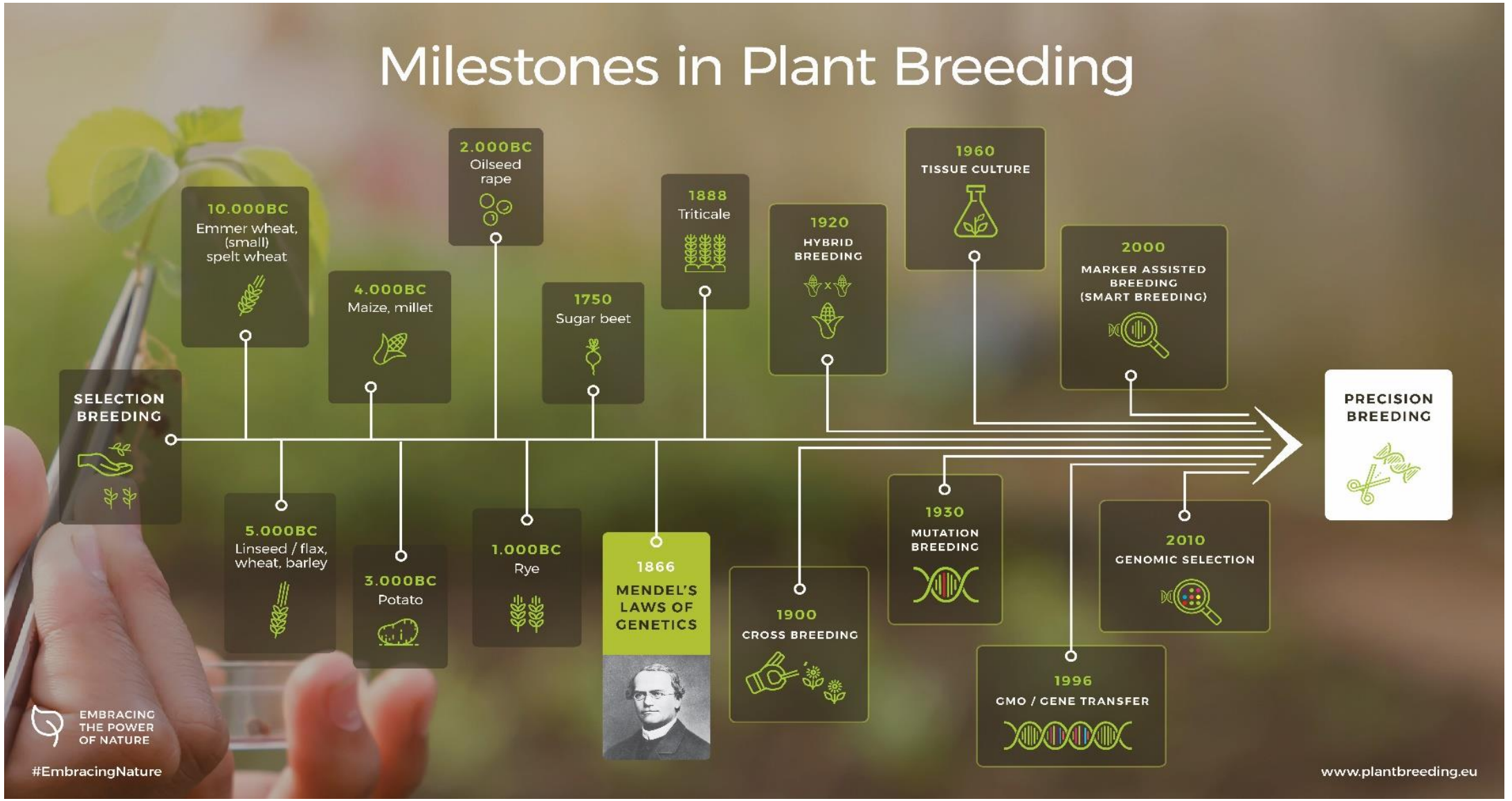
  (Euroseeds Individual Members)
- **29 associate company members**

  (Euroseeds Associate Members)

Euroseeds' governance



- Subsidiarity
- Decision on the relevant level
- Discussion on a higher level where necessary
- Only strategic, no operational decisions
- Management and implementation by Euroseeds Secretariat


Milestones in Plant Breeding
SELECTION BREEDING
10.000BC
Emmer wheat, (small) spelt wheat
5.000BC
Linseed / flax, wheat, barley
4.000BC
Maize, millet
3.000BC
Potato
2.000BC
Oilseed rape
1.000BC
Rye
1750
Sugar beet
1866
MENDEL'S LAWS OF GENETICS
1888
Triticale
1900
CROSS BREEDING
1920
HYBRID BREEDING
1930
MUTATION BREEDING
1960
TISSUE CULTURE
1996
GMO / GENE TRANSFER
2000
MARKER ASSISTED BREEDING (SMART BREEDING)
2010
GENOMIC SELECTION
PRECISION BREEDING
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www.plantbreeding.eu

INNOVATION IN
RUBBER
BOOTS
Selection
Molecular marker
Handcrossing
Genome editing
Tissue culture
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Avenue des Arts 52
1000 Brussels

www.euroseeds.eu

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