

Organic cereal seed

The project “Organic cereal seed” (2019-2022) aims to increase the quality, and diversity, of organically grown cereal seed by disseminating knowledge about variety development and how to grow and produce high-quality, healthy seed. The project will support commercial activity by informing about possibilities within national regulations to broaden the offer of varieties for organic growing, and how small-scale distribution of seed grains may be established. We will study how active selection of equally large grain seeds by air-separation may affect seed quality, and if such selection will affect the adaptation of wheat populations originating from crosses made by Graminor. In 2019, organic field experiments were carried out at four sites, two in Southeast and two in Mid-Norway. Similar experiments will be carried out in 2020 and 2021, and seed separation and selection in the populations will be added as research questions. The experiments comprise following accessions: Dala landhvete (land race), Runar, Seniorita, Mirakel, two breeding lines (GN06557 and GN17635) and four populations from Graminor. The populations are crossed from several very different breeding lines as well as Norwegian varieties such as Bjarne, Krabat and Mirakel.

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