

LiveSeeding Project Briefing Document

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1 - Project Details	
Project Name	LiveSeeding
Funding Source	Horizon Europe
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Purpose of the Research	<p>A “living lab” is a network of farmers, scientists and supply chain actors with a common interest in co-creating research questions, co-designing research to address these questions, and collaborative delivery of research activities. We propose to launch a living lab on organic cultivation of field crops (beans, oats or wheat) and the supply chain as part of the EU LiveSeeding project. The living lab will include an assessment of field-scale performance of organic crops with a network of farms, integrating cultivar comparisons and agronomic surveys.</p> <p>The overall aim of the living lab is to bring together all members of the organic supply chain to collaborate, share knowledge and strengthen the links between all stakeholders, to foster innovation and growth in the organic field crops sector. To build evidence of crop performance and engage stakeholders we will centre activities around an on-farm cultivar evaluation network, testing cultivars in real farms at field scale. It is hoped this will lead to a better understanding of organic field crop cultivation through investigating genetics, crop management and the effects of environment on crop performance.</p>
2 – What will the on-farm trials consist of?	
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. You will grow a number of treatments consisting of different crop varieties as well as other innovations of interest on your farm (e.g. pollinator strips, different drilling methods added biostimulants etc) 2. You will include one standard variety grown on all farms in the network as well as varieties identified as suitable for trialling on organic farms in the UK 3. Seeds will be provided to you free of charge 4. You will be provided support for derogation paperwork should the seed not be certified organic 5. The varieties will be grown according to your farm practice in strips/tramlines 6. You will entirely own the harvest 	

3 – What will you be required to do?
1- Take a short interview held by the ORC and/or OA team regarding your farm, your rotation and how you will manage the experimental strips
2- Contact, or be contacted by, the ORC or OA team to check the status of the crop and other relevant information during or immediately after the planting
3- Provide ORC and/or OA team with access to the experimental field for surveys and assessments during the growing season (by pre-appointment only; we will always contact you at least 24 hours in advance of a visit)
4- Make a note of dates of key stages of crop development as outlined by the ORC or OA investigators
5- Provide accurate yield measurement of the strips as well as uncleaned (directly off-combine) grain samples from the strips for grain quality analysis, and be offered assistance during harvest to facilitate these measurements
6- Inform the ORC and/or OA team of any inconvenience or problem with your participation to allow mitigating actions or alternative plans
4 – Benefits from joining the Living Lab
1- The opportunity to test different crop varieties and/or mixtures as well as other innovations on your farm and receive specific feedback on their suitability to your system
2- Be part of a larger network of farmers involved in the same research and have direct access to more information on e.g. other varieties or management systems to significantly enrich your basis for informed decisions
3- Your field will be thoroughly assessed by the ORC researchers in terms of crop status and weed populations for all the seasons you will participate, and you will be provided with the data and the summary
5 - Risks involved in joining the Living Lab
1- We will make all possible efforts to assist you in these operations, but acknowledge that drilling and harvesting separate strips might be time consuming and create extra burden
2- Testing new varieties and/or mixtures and/or seeding rates and/or any factor that we will agree, on your farm will always bear the risk of a disappointing outcome
6 – If you change your mind and want to withdraw
<p>Your participation in LiveSeeding is strictly voluntary and you will be free to withdraw at any moment from participating in the project. However, we kindly ask you to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. inform us of your plans to withdraw as soon as you decide to allow us to make alternative plans, should you withdraw before drilling the crop 2. allow us to discuss with you alternative plans to collect essential data from your field should you have already drilled the crop, so as to minimize the damage to the experiment.

7 - How we will manage and use the data

- 1- Where we need to process your personal information (name and contact details) for the purposes of the LiveSeeding project, we will process your data securely as described in our [privacy policy](#).
- 2- Data will be analysed by the ORC and/or OA team and may be shared with crop breeders.
- 3- Personal data will be managed and processed in accordance with the UK Data Protection Act 2018 and any amendments, replacements or successor legislation with the same intent or effect.