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WHAT TRAITS AND STRATEGIES FOR THE DURUM WHEAT OF TOMORROW: A SEED COMPANY PROSPECTIVE

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Isea S.r.l

Isea S.r.l. is a research and development company, controlled by Agroservice S.p.A.. Isea has a history in the Italian grain seed panorama, playing a role in production and multiplication of several crops such as cereals, legumes, oil-seed crops and other. Moreover, in recent years, company's activities have greatly expanded out of Italy.

Since its establishment, Isea has considered research a key factor for agriculture development, carrying out applied research activities on the main crops of agronomic interest, performing both conventional and modern genetic improvement breeding programs, and through a wide network of scientific collaboration and partners.

Today, researchers and scientists from all over the world are studying how to face problems related to climatic changes that will soon arise or that are already perceivable, and Isea moves in the same direction with them.

The continuous research of new plant varieties, with improved traits, has always been the main goal of the company, with the aim to make them available to the world of agriculture.

Nowadays, breeding programs have the task to produce varieties able to meet and exceed agronomic standards, such as productivity, plant structure, resistance to biotic/abiotic stresses and others.

On the other hand and at the same time, successful breeding programs must anticipate and meet new needs of tomorrow, as the climatic changes are.

In this scenario, Isea is adopting several approaches in order to develop elite varieties suitable for the different environments and climate of the near future among which there are 'pre-breeding', 'breeding' and 'shuttle-breeding' strategies.

All these breeding programs are aimed to find plants that will be able to adapt to the imminent climate change, keeping the high production and quality standards achieved to date by the Isea research.

ABSTRACT