

French leguminous plants and cereals, what markets?

Maize, soybean, sunflower: successful harvests in 2023 for cultures with many advantages

Haut-Mauco, the 20th of November 2023. While the government was introducing late September its ecological planning strategy promoting the rise of leguminous crops and the evolution of our diet, in particular thanks to the cereals, Maïsadour reveals a successful harvest for the end of this year with 510,000 tons of cereals and protein crops, including 490,000 tons of maize harvested. After some harvests strongly affected by the drought in the Summer 2022, the Cooperative welcomes a more stress-free campaign for 2023, thanks to an “adaptive” agricultural strategy in response to the climate hazards which secured the yields and to the favorable weather conditions. The crops diversity also allows to multiply the market opportunities for the farmers.

Daniel Peyraube, President of Maïsadour: *“The collective work of the farmers and of the Cooperative technicians improved the results for this year 2023, especially for maize. Concerning soybean and sunflower, in addition to provide multiple markets, these species meet the dual challenges of food sovereignty and global warming. They combine resilience and conservation of the biodiversity, while ensuring good yields for our farmers. In Nouvelle-Aquitaine, we are lucky to have a climate suitable for the production of these crops of tomorrow!”*

A good year for the maize harvest thanks to a favorable weather and a schedule adapted to anticipate the climate hazards.









Maize is recovering this thanks thank to a milder weather that led to an increased harvest of 490,000 tons of maize (class A, way, waxy pro and white maize) after a 2022 campaign hindered by the summer drought which strongly affected the harvest results (367,000 tons harvested). In 2023, the Cooperative took a new approach, seed earlier to harvest earlier. A strategy that was successful, with some advantages both for the farmers and for the environment:

- Water savings: the maize fields were able to benefit from the rains of June and early July, thus limiting the irrigation needs;
- An optimization of the industrial and logistic tools: thanks to the harvests with lower water content, the farmers were able to make some savings on drying costs.

Maïsadour, French leader of the maize and European leader of the Waxy starch maize.

What crops?




	Class A Maize	Way Maize	Waxipro Maize	White Maize
What volumes in 2023¹	223,000 tons	233,000 tons	24,500 tons	2,600 tons
For which countries?	 France, Spain and United Kingdom	 France, Netherlands and Germany (starch manufacture)	 Germany (starch manufacture)	 Belgium - Netherlands (Cargill customer)
For which uses?	 Ethanol plants, food manufacturers, food plants of the South-West of France	 Waxy = texturing = 100% use of starch manufacture for human consumption (texturing for ready-made meals: for example dessert creams, precooked).	 Waxy = texturing = 100% use of starch manufacture for human consumption (texturing for ready-made meals: for example dessert creams, precooked).	 Pharmacies (for example capsules for tablets in the pharmacies).

Positive results for the 100% local, non-GMO and non-deforesting soybean chain, produced in short circuit to feed the animals raised in the Landes

Like the maize, soybeans are sown between April and May and the harvest begins when the Fall arrives, between September and October.

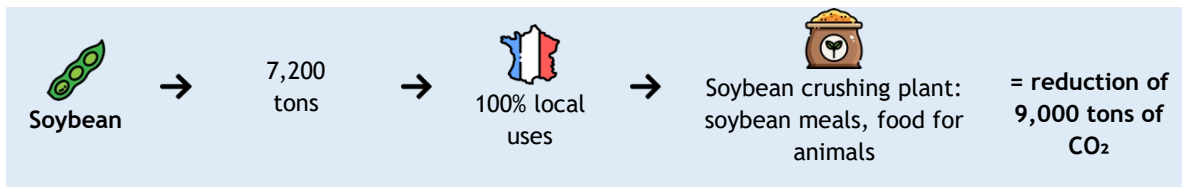
In 2023 the results are positive: 7,5000 tons of soybeans were harvested and 1,8000 tons of organic soybeans. A harvest that will supply the Graines d'Alliance soybean crushing plant in Saint-Sever starting from December.

The Graines d'Alliance plant allows to develop a 100% local soybean chain. It promotes the crops of the Maïsadour members and helps to reduce the imports of deforesting soybean from South America. The manufactured meals are then added to the animal nutrition to cover the entire needs of our Fermiers du Sud-Ouest breeders. This local soybean significantly reduces the carbon impact of the animal productions.

What crops?	What volumes in 2023 ² ?	For which countries?	For which uses?	
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¹ On the 30/10/2023

² On the 30/10/2023



Christophe Bonno, Executive Director of Maïsadour: *“87% of the soybean is imported by the European Union, which is the second largest importer of soybeans in the world after China. This imported soybean is intended for the animal nutrition, and half of it is for the poultry breeding. While the CO₂ emissions from deforestation account for about 10% of the global warming, Maïsadour is the only major player in France to breed low-carbon poultry through short-circuit feeding, based on local soybean, non-GMO and non-deforesting. At Maïsadour, we are committed to fighting against global warming; our chicken fed with local soybeans have a carbon footprint 20 to 40% lower than the standard French or imported chicken!”*

1 ton of GMO imported soybean = 2,261 kg of CO₂ produced
1 ton of non-GMO imported soybean = 1,058 kg of CO₂ produced
1 ton of non-GMO local soybean = 606 kg of CO₂ produced

Drought-proof sunflower, ideal for the crop rotation

With 27,5% of the national harvest³, the Nouvelle-Aquitaine is the leader in terms of sunflower production. Very efficient for crop rotation thanks to its short cycle (sown in March/April and harvested from August to September) and with low amounts of residues in the soil, the sunflower has many advantages: a species that does not require much input, a good resistance to water stress, a plant that contributes to the biodiversity and appreciated by bees. 9,608 tons of sunflower was harvested this year, almost 2,000 tons more than last year.



Mutual support at the heart of the Cooperative’s values with the “Symbiose” scheme

To cope with periods of high activity and difficulties in recruiting seasonal workers, Maïsadour has been implementing for several years a scheme named “Symbiose” which is based on volunteering and the strong spirit of solidarity of the group.

³https://www.franceagrimer.fr/content/download/70923/document/Plaquette%20r%C3%A9gionale_NOUVELLE_AQUITAINE_2022.pdf

⁴ On the 30/10/2023

“Symbiose” mobilizes Maïsadour’s technical advisors to strengthen the silo teams in order to optimize the productivity and to offer the farmers a service as close as possible to their expectations.

ABOUT THE MAÏSADOUR COOPERATIVE GROUP

Since 1936 Maïsadour has been a committed Cooperative from the South-West of France, with a CSR Committed label, placing Man and the Living at the center of its concerns, for a sustainable agriculture, food and society. Maïsadour develops chains of excellence that meet the expectations of consumers to promote, in France and in 50 countries, the productions of its farmers. “At Maïsadour, we are working together for the success of our members and are developing the future of our territories.” The Group, structure around the Agricultural Activities, Seed and Food Bushiness Lines, markets gourmet product under the brands Maison Delpeyrat and Comtesse du Barry and Red Label poultry under the brands St - SEVER and Marie Hot. www.maisadour.com

Key information

Governance: Daniel Peyraube, President / Christophe Bonno Executive Director

Turnover for fiscal year 2021-2022: €1.415 billion/ 5,000 farmers and 4,300 employees

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