

## Euroseeds condemns attack on agricultural research in Italy

Brussels, 14th February 2025

Euroseeds strongly denounces the recent act of vandalism against the University of Verona's experimental vineyard, during which grapevines developed with new genomic techniques (NGTs) - key to developing more resilient varieties - were destroyed. Secretary General Garlich von Essen emphasized that attacking innovation harms both farmers and sustainability efforts, reaffirming the need for science-based progress in European agriculture. Euroseeds stands with researchers and urges continued support for scientific advancements that secure a resilient and competitive future for farming.

Euroseeds strongly condemns the recent act of vandalism against the experimental vineyard of the University of Verona, where NGT grapevines were deliberately destroyed. This attack is not just an act of destruction - it is an assault on scientific progress, sustainable agriculture, and the future of European farming.

"Innovation in plant breeding is essential to ensure a resilient and competitive agricultural sector," stated Euroseeds Secretary General Garlich von Essen. "Targeting research efforts that aim to provide farmers with better, more resistant crops is not just short-sighted—it harms the very sustainability and food security we all depend on. Science must prevail over fear."

Euroseeds stands in full solidarity with the researchers and institutions working tirelessly to develop innovative solutions for European farmers. We urge policymakers and the public to recognize the importance of supporting scientific advancements that contribute to a more sustainable and resilient agriculture.

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