

# Explanatory Note

Brussels, September 2025

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## Mandatory Transparency

Patent protection covering plant varieties must be completely transparent to ensure that seed companies and farmers are properly informed about the presence of a patented trait in marketed varieties. Euroseeds already today supports such widespread distribution of information by means of its private database PINTO- which provides the link between patents and individual varieties.<sup>1</sup>

To assure completeness of information, Euroseeds advocates for mandatory transparency through public databases like the European Common Catalogue of Varieties<sup>2</sup> which should be extended to include up to date information about the patent status of any variety.

More in detail, Euroseeds supports the addition of the following transparency information through the European Common Catalogue of Varieties.. This information will be available through the register.

To enable access to this information and timely updates, Euroseeds recommends that such transparency is fulfilled with a link to the Patent Register of the European Patent Office (EPO) or to the national register directing to the concerned patent: patent application number, patent owner, patent status and countries of validation

To enhance the reliability of such a mandatory system, Euroseeds emphasises the need to clearly define the liability aspect related to it. In case of missing or misleading information (eg. information connected to the wrong variety), intentionality and bad faith are to be considered as determining elements for liability.

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<sup>1</sup> Euroseeds View on IP: [24.0386.3-Euroseeds-view-on-IP.pdf](#)

<sup>2</sup>[https://food.ec.europa.eu/plants/plant-reproductive-material/plant-variety-catalogues-databases-information-systems\\_en](https://food.ec.europa.eu/plants/plant-reproductive-material/plant-variety-catalogues-databases-information-systems_en)



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