



Photo by M. Giannatiempo



Photo by V. Spina

## Research and Experimentation

Research and experiments are carried out for the development and the implementation of important projects in partnership with the European Union, national and regional governmental authorities. Such initiatives address areas such as vegetable biodiversity of Campania and Lazio regions, as well as varietal and technological characterization of seeds through field and laboratory tests.



Photo by M. Giannatiempo: ABC project participation in the event "Eruption of taste" – Pietrarsa (NA)

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## PLANT PROTECTION AND CERTIFICATION CENTER Seed Area Offices

### BATTIPAGLIA OFFICE



Photo by L. Barra

The Council for Research in agriculture and analysis of the agricultural economy (CREA) is the leading Italian research organization devoted to agri-food supply chains. It operates under public law, and is supervised by the Ministry of Agriculture.

One of the twelve centres of which it is composed, is the Plant protection and certification centre (CREA DC) which consists of eight territorial offices and ten Experimental Farms, two of which belong to the Battipaglia (SA) office: Corno D'Oro and Baldascine.

The Office also comprises two laboratories: seed analysis and phytopathological.



Photos by L. Barra and M. Giannatiempo

The mission of the Battipaglia Office is the registration in the National Register of plant varieties of vegetable species and some agricultural species; Seed Certification and participation in research projects and promotional activities.



Photos by M. Giannatiempo and A. Mondillo

## Entry in the Register and release of Community Plant Variety Right

The CREA-DC Seed Area, on behalf of MIPAAF, performs tests to ascertain the requirements for entry in the National Register of new varieties of vegetable and agricultural plant species. The Battipaglia Office is responsible for coordinating the registration of vegetable species and some agricultural species (hemp and potato), as well as the technical coordination of the Narbonne vetch.



Photos by L. Barra

The CREA-DC Seed Area is the *Examination Office* on behalf of the Community Plant Variety Office (CPVO) for the release of European plant rights of new varieties. Battipaglia Office is responsible for the release of new varieties of Narbonne vetch, tomato (determinate tomato), melon, cardoon and artichoke.



Photos by E. L. Frusciante and L. Barra

## Seed Certification

The seed certification activity aims to verify that seeds meet the legal requirements for their commercialization, such as:

- Identity and varietal purity;
- Physical, biological, physiological and phytosanitary characteristics.

The inspections, therefore, take place in three stages:

**When cultivating seed-bearing plants:** “field inspections”, to verify: **(a)** the varietal identity, **(b)** the varietal purity, **(c)** the health status of plants.

**When processing and packaging seeds:** “mechanical selection inspections”, which have the main purpose of verifying the correct procedures of the seed selection, packaging and labelling. The control phase of the mechanical selection also involves the sampling from the seed lots and the delivery of the samples to the seed analysis laboratories to verify their biological, physical and phytosanitary aspects.

**After the “commercialization” of seed lots with suitable results:** “a posteriori inspections”, with the aim to verify, through plot testing, that all the seed production stages have taken place in compliance with current legislation for the purpose of its commercialization.



Photo by L. Barra