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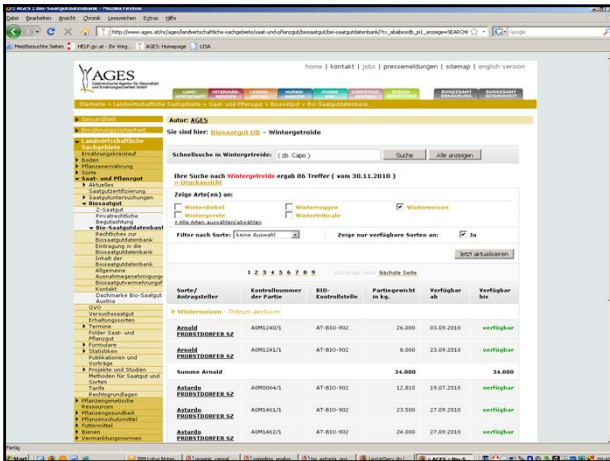
## Organic Seed in Austria— data base, derogations, future developments

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### The database

- The organic seed database was slightly re-designed, especially for vegetable applications
- domestic vegetable seed companies were encouraged to register their organic seed offer in the database
- currently about 130 vegetable varieties are offered in the database
- efforts were placed for improved description of seed mixtures in the database
- no "Annex 1" species are introduced in Austria




The screenshot shows the AGES database search results for winter cereals. The search criteria include 'Wintergetreide' and 'Brotweizen'. The results table lists various seed lots with columns for 'Sorte/Anbauverfahren', 'Kontrollnummer der Partie', 'BIO Kontrollstelle', 'Partiegewicht in kg', 'Verfügar ab', and 'Verfügar bis'.

Sorte/Anbauverfahren	Kontrollnummer der Partie	BIO Kontrollstelle	Partiegewicht in kg	Verfügar ab	Verfügar bis
Arnold FROBENDORFER SA	ADMS240/3	AT-800-902	26.000	03.09.2010	verfügbar
Arnold FROBENDORFER SA	ADMS241/3	AT-800-902	8.000	23.09.2010	verfügbar
Sonnen Arnold	ADMS064/3	AT-800-902	34.000		34.000
Axtende FROBENDORFER SA	ADMS414/3	AT-800-902	12.810	19.07.2010	verfügbar
Axtende FROBENDORFER SA	ADMS415/3	AT-800-902	23.500	27.09.2010	verfügbar
Axtende FROBENDORFER SA	ADMS412/3	AT-800-902	24.000	27.09.2010	verfügbar

  
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### Expert groups

- An Expert group was established in 2011
- This "working group for organic seed" is under the responsibility of the Ministry for Health (Codex-commission for Organic farming) and is chaired by AGES
- There are at least two working group meetings per year
- subjects of the working group are:
  - elaboration of species for general derogations
  - harmonisation of procedures for individual derogations
  - discussion and feedback on basis of the derogation reports
  - further developments of the database and procedures
  - other general organic seed issues

  
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### Derogations

- Individual derogations are issued by the inspection bodies; the data are transferred once a year to the competent authority
- The derogation report is prepared and concluded by AGES
- The number of general derogations for agricultural species is quite stable
- New: for vegetable seeds general derogations are only established for species without any offer in the database

  
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### Number of individual derogations

	2011		2012	
	Derogations	Quantity	Derogations	Quantity
Cereals	1037	615 000	1177	794 000
Large seeded leg.	527	451 000	374	331 000
Grasses + clover	601	41 600	696	47 500
maize	281	45 000	567	86 500
Oil- + fibre plants	610	178 500	429	141 000
Potatoes	554	1 866 000	373	1 200 000
Others	378	21 000	352	26 100
Seed mixtures	1901	128 400	1492	106 900
<b>Total</b>	<b>5889</b>		<b>5460</b>	

## Derogations – top ten species



2011		2012	
Potatoes	554	Maize	438
Barley	353	Potatoes	373
Peas	289	Oats	329
Rape	273	Wheat	268
Maize	196	Oil pumpkin	257
Oats	195	White clover	255
Wheat	190	Barley	187
White clover	155	Triticale	166
Field beans	129	Peas	137
Rye	127	Soja	128

## Future prospects



- Measures for convincing organic farmers of the benefits of organic seeds
- Dialog in issues regarding seed mixtures  
seed business – organic farming association – authorities - DB
- Further development of the organic seed database  
e.g. enhanced system for seed mixtures and vegetables