

SOWING THE FUTURE! on your farm?

On every farm a ***SOWING THE FUTURE!*** event can take place. Following conditions should however be ensured.

- The farm provides a seed-ready field of 20 – 30 Ares
- Varieties from organic breeding should if possible be used as seeds
- The farm takes care of the crop until harvest and organises, if possible, a separate harvest
- The farm mobilises around 100 sowers
- ***SOWING THE FUTURE!*** can be part of a farm festivity or of another event
- A joint event with regional partners (other farms, consumer and environmental protection organisations, schools etc.) gives ***SOWING THE FUTURE!*** more emission and attention.
- The farm obligates a person of public interest to participate actively
- Before the sowing an introductory and explanatory speech is given
- ***SOWING THE FUTURE!*** takes place with all sowers jointly and at the same time

The initiative

The initiative ***SOWING THE FUTURE!*** is presented by its initiators Ueli Hurter and Peter Kunz, as well as all farms where already a ***SOWING THE FUTURE!*** event took place. Johannes Wirz is responsible for the worldwide network and distribution work, whereas Michel Bossart coordinates the events and material distributions internally.

For the farms the initiative ***SOWING THE FUTURE!*** provides following services:

- Training and advise for the practical realisation of the sowing
- Caps (or paper bags) as seed bin for all sowers and T-shirts for all helpers
- Banner on which all sowers can sign
- Basic communication: flyer, website, presentation at fairs and markets

Your registration

Can you organise a ***SOWING THE FUTURE!*** on your farm? Maybe you are connected as consumer or partner with a farm in your region, and could help to organise a sowing the future event? Information and pictures you find on the homepage (www.avenirse.ch) as well as from persons and farms who already conducted a ***SOWING THE FUTURE!*** We look forward to your registration on office@avenirse.ch or +41 55 264 17 89.

SOWING THE FUTURE! is financed by donations. Thank you very much for your support! (Donation account on the back side).

Practical instruction for the realisation of an event

1. Meeting and welcome of the sowers
2. Short speech of a politician or a prominent
3. Speech by the farmer
4. Distribution of the caps and seeds. For every 20 to 30 sowers a seed bag is provided on the field edge and one person is appointed to distribute the seeds. For every cap around 600-750 grams.
5. Demonstration of the sowing: One person from the farm, a venerable, prominent guest or a school class presents how it works. It is important to look that the speed is reduced. The sowing is actually only a short activity and already done, before one realises that it started. Therefore, it is important to inform the sowers repeatedly that they have enough time. The more calm and unhurried the sowing takes place, the more beautiful it is.
6. Music, singing, sowing saying: What is done can be different from place to place. Important is to prepare the joint sowing, by drawing all attention to one thing, the music, the song or the text.
7. Joint start: When all sowers are ready at the field, a person gives the beforehand agreed sign (call, wave, bell or other) and all start to sow. It was successful to position the sowers on two sides of the field, so that the two rows approach and cross each other. It is a good experience to surround the field and it also results in a regular sowing.
8. Second sowing round possibly: It is nice to sow the whole field together. Then, you can repeat it, but it is important that you start again together. If not everybody sows his or her own part and the concentration on the joint event gets lost.
9. Raking or harrowing of the seeds: The end of the sowing is the harrowing or raking, then the sown grains must be covered. It is practical to do this with the tractor. So, it becomes clear, that it was not just an event of nostalgia. ***SOWING THE FUTURE!*** wants to be of present time and setting a sign for the future. (Of course it is not prohibited to do the harrowing with horses, if offered).
10. Soup and bread or something similar.