

Saint-Beauzire, June 25, 2025

Limagrain, via its subsidiary Vilmorin & Cie, has entered into exclusive discussions to build a strategic and financial partnership with ADQ on Vegetable Seeds

- ✓ **This partnership project would enable to further accelerate Limagrain Vegetable Seeds business growth**
- ✓ **As part of the contemplated transaction, Limagrain Vegetable Seeds (“LVS”) and Silal, an ADQ portfolio company, would launch joint R&D partnership in UAE focused on the development of desert-adapted seeds**

Limagrain, an agricultural cooperative and international seed group, today announced having entered into exclusive discussions with ADQ, an active sovereign investor focused on critical infrastructure and global supply chains. Under the terms of the contemplated transaction, ADQ would acquire a 35% minority stake in Limagrain’s Vegetable Seeds business. This strategic and financial partnership project would mark a key milestone in Limagrain's ambition to accelerate its growth, particularly in strengthening its leadership within the global vegetable seed market.

ADQ is a long-term investor with a proven track record in the agricultural and food sectors. In addition, The UAE maintains strong bilateral relations with the French economy¹.

This partnership project is fully in line with Limagrain's strategic roadmap, “Ambition 2030”, which aims at developing an increasingly innovative and sustainable seed business. It would further accelerate Limagrain’s growth — particularly in its Vegetable Seeds business line — advancing toward the 2030 strategic objectives.

As part of the proposed collaboration, LVS and Silal — an ADQ portfolio company specializing in agri-food technology — plan to establish a Research and Development partnership, leading to the creation of a joint venture focused on desert-adapted vegetable genetics. The collaboration aims to develop innovative genetic solutions that enhance the resilience of vegetable crops to extreme environmental conditions such as extreme heat, drought and salinity. Together, the partners are committed to advancing solutions for sustainability and food security in arid and semi-arid regions, particularly across the Gulf.

“This strategic and financial partnership project marks a significant milestone for our Group. It aligns with our longstanding approach of welcoming minority partners into our capital structure, while maintaining control of our different activities. Importantly, it underscores our ability and commitment

¹ <https://www.mofa.gov.ae/en/MediaHub/News/2025/4/24/24-4-2025-UAE-France>



to grow through partnerships that are fully consistent with our identity and that leverage the unique strengths of our model,” said **Sébastien VIDAL, Chairman of Limagrain**.

“We chose ADQ as partner because they have fully met our criteria: a shared vision, a commitment to a long-term sustainable investment and a strong focus on innovation. The planned investment of ADQ into our Vegetable Seeds business line would provide decisive strategic support to strengthen our position as the world leader in the vegetable seed market. This alliance goes beyond just a financial partnership: it marks the beginning of a R&D collaboration between our Vegetable Seeds business and Silal, aimed at developing cutting-edge technologies to strengthen the resilience of vegetable crops against extreme environmental conditions that significantly impact crop yield and quality,” commented **Sébastien CHAUFFAUT, CEO of Limagrain**.

“Over the past years, ADQ has focused on building and growing its Food & Agriculture cluster, anchored by fully integrated market leaders across key segments of the value chain. As part of our commitment to strengthening the UAE’s economic resilience, expanding into the seeds segment represents a natural next step. It enables us to deepen our exposure to one of the most critical components of the food value chain. By combining Silal’s world-class infrastructure and innovation capabilities with the scientific excellence of Limagrain Vegetable Seeds, we are well positioned to deliver seed innovation solutions that create commercial value while supporting the UAE’s food security. We look forward to working with a likeminded partner to help secure a sustainable and resilient food system that delivers safe, nutritious food to a growing global population,” commented **Mansour Al Mulla, Deputy Group Chief Executive Officer of ADQ**.

Limagrain, the global leader in vegetable seeds

All of Limagrain’s Vegetable Seeds activities — positioned as the global market leader — would be consolidated under a new entity Limagrain Vegetable Seeds (“LVS”), intended to be held at 65% by Vilmorin & Cie, a subsidiary of Limagrain. This LVS entity would bring together the Business Units Hazera, HM.CLAUSE and Vilmorin-Mikado, comprising over 4,000 employees across 35 countries and generating €796 million in revenue*.

Through this contemplated transaction, ADQ would become a minority shareholder in Limagrain Vegetable Seeds and would have a presence on the entity’s Board of Directors, proportional to its stake, contributing to strategic decisions. The governance of Limagrain Vegetable Seeds will continue to reflect all the Group’s current businesses organization, with a farmer Chairman (Pierre-Antoine RIGAUD) and a salaried CEO (Rémi BASTIEN). This partnership project will not result in any changes to the governance at the level of Limagrain Group or the Cooperative.

This transaction will need to undergo the consultation process of the employees’ representative bodies, and its closing will be subject to customary conditions, including regulatory approvals.

* Data for 2023-2024.

About Limagrain

Limagrain is a global company with deep local roots. Our parent company is an agricultural cooperative based in the Limagne-Val d'Allier plain, in the heart of Central France's Auvergne region, while we are an international seed and agri-food group with some 9,600 employees working in 53 countries.

At Limagrain, we breed, produce, and sell high value-added field and vegetable seeds, drawing on our long history of expertise in plant improvement. Uniquely, we also have agri-food chain businesses, in France and internationally, to transform the produce of the Cooperative's 1,300 farmer members. The world faces escalating climatic, environmental and demographic challenges, and our various businesses help address its food and farming issues.

As the 4th largest seed company in the world, we achieved sales of 2.522 billion euros in 2023-2024, with additional sales of 729 million euros from activities carried out in collaboration with our strategic partners.

www.limagrain.com

About ADQ

Established in 2018, ADQ is an active sovereign investor with a focus on critical infrastructure and global supply chains. As a strategic partner to the Government of Abu Dhabi, ADQ invests in the growth of business platforms anchored in the Emirate that deliver value to local communities and long-term financial returns to its shareholder. ADQ's total assets amounted to USD 251 billion as of 31 December 2024. Its rapidly expanding portfolio encompasses companies across numerous core sectors of the economy, including energy and utilities, transport and logistics, food and agriculture, healthcare and life sciences, financial services, infrastructure and critical minerals, real estate investments, and sustainable manufacturing.

ADQ's Food & Agriculture portfolio includes investments in Louis Dreyfus Company, a leading merchant and processor of agricultural goods; Unifrutti, a global champion in the production, trade and distribution of more than 100 varieties of fresh produce; Agthia Group, one of the region's leading food and beverage groups; Al Dahra Holding, an Abu Dhabi-based global leader in forage and other agribusiness sectors; Lulu, the leading hypermarket and supermarket chain in the Middle East; and Silal, Abu Dhabi's leading food and agriculture technology company.

For more information, visit adq.ae or write to media@adq.ae.

You can also follow ADQ on [Instagram](#), [LinkedIn](#) and [X](#).

Press contacts:

Image 7

Anne-France Malrieu - +33 (0)6 89 87 61 18

Sergio de la Calle - +33 (0)6 69 58 42 34

limagrain@image7.fr
