

Every year the F.N.P.S.M.S. (working in partnership with the G.N.I.S.) determines and conducts an ambitious technical programme involving the professional players in the seed sector, the maize and sorghum seed producers and the seed companies.

The programme, most of which is carried out by Arvalis-institut du végétal, is designed to improve the productivity of French maize seed and sorghum seed and therefore its competitiveness. Substantial financial resources and human resources are provided to achieve this, finding technical solutions for the seed production network.

The different actions cover a range of issues including crop protection, the physiology of the plant, irrigation, agronomics and agricultural machinery.

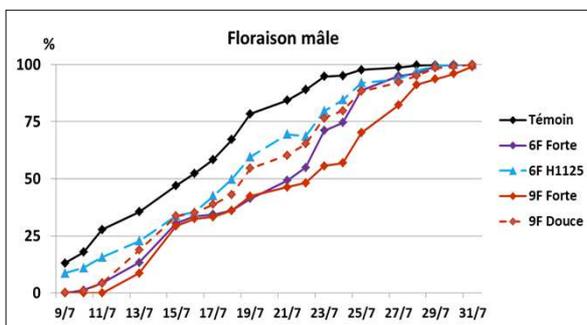
In addition to purely technical approaches, initiatives being conducted now focus increasingly on environmental considerations, mainly for plant protection, the use of fertilizers, irrigation, farming equipment and agronomics.



## Focus on sorghum seed actions

### Physiology

- Different flowering times: trials on the effects of heavy cutting and use of defoliant in early stages.
- Late-cycle screening of defoliant.



### Weed control

- Trials testing the selectiveness of new herbicides on seed sorghum (set of strains).



### Disease control

- The advantage of fungicide treatment at flowering to control fusarium.
- Assessing health status of tassel and germinative capacity.