



Press Release

Caussade, France, March 18th, 2019

CAUSSADE SEMENCES Group strengthens its financial resources to accelerate its development in France and abroad

Unigrains and Sofiprotéol invest in quasi-equity in the context of a fundraising

CAUSSADE SEMENCES Group, an international multi-species seed group, selects, produces and markets field seeds including corn, sunflower, rapeseed, straw cereals, forage crops, protein crops, soybeans and plant cover crops.

Present in 35 countries, the group generates sales of €M 145, 60% of which is outside of France and draws on the strength of its 630 employees, 11 research sites and 5 production facilities.

As a promotor of efficient agro-solutions adapted to different geographies and segments and drawing on seed production know-how in local territories, CAUSSADE SEMENCES Group's development is based on three major assets: multi-species expertise, close proximity to the market and a long-term vision for growth.

Through these additional resources, CAUSSADE SEMENCES Group strengthens its position as an independent player in the sector, committed to the emergence of sustainable agriculture, responsibility and the creation of economic value for farmers.

Luc Ozanne, Investment Director with Sofiprotéol, declared: *"We are delighted to support, alongside its agricultural cooperative shareholders, a multi-species seed company effectively and appropriately meeting the needs of farmers, distributors, industrials and consumers. This operation is fully in Sofiprotéol's core business, given the importance of seeds to the performance of entire value chains."*

François-Xavier Masson, Investment Officer with Unigrains, declared: *"Our support comes notably to strengthen the innovation and research capacities of CAUSSADE SEMENCES Group: a key asset for succeeding in its growth ambitions. We are pleased to accompany the development of innovative solutions that will help farmers meet the economic and climate challenges of today and tomorrow."*

Jean-Claude Virenque, President of CAUSSADE SEMENCES Group, declared: *"We welcome the arrival of these two major industry players. Beyond the additional resources that will support our international development, these partners provide the Group with vital, complementary vision, both in oilseeds and cereals."*

Pierre Flye Sainte-Marie, Managing Director of CAUSSADE SEMENCES Group, declared: *"With their many partnerships across the agricultural world, these partners bring added-value to our company at period when the number of projects underway is at an all-time high. Their priorities and their values are fully in line with the CAUSSADE SEMENCES Group 2025 strategic plan, which augurs for a fruitful collaboration and opens up significant prospects for growth."*

Actors involved in the transaction

- For CAUSSADE SEMENCES Group:
 - o Jean-Claude Virenque, President of the Board, Francois Trinquier, Financial Director
 - o Legal advisor: Nabaro & Hinge (Pierre Chatelain, Sarah Sadeg)
- For Sofiprotéol:
 - o Luc Ozanne, Anne-Sophie Dubourg
- For Unigrains:
 - o François-Xavier Masson, Aline Picaut

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About CAUSSADE SEMENCES Group:

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About Sofiprotéol:

Set up in 1983 at the initiative of farmers, Sofiprotéol, the finance and development subsidiary of Avril, is committed to supporting companies in the world of agribusiness and the agrifood industry.

A sustainable partner, Sofiprotéol can offer long-term support for companies in the sector and, more generally, those involved in French agribusiness, notably in order to consolidate their equity capital in the context of development or investment operations designed to enhance their competitiveness. From credit to equity, the financial solutions proposed by Sofiprotéol are based on an industrial and entrepreneurial approach to supporting development and innovation at all levels in agribusiness and agrifood sectors.

For more information: www.sofiproteol.com

About Unigrains:

For over 55 years, Unigrains followed agro-food and agro-industrial companies' development providing tailor-made financial solutions in equity and quasi-equity, as well as contributing with its recognized expertise in the sector. Unigrains manages about 1 billion euros and is a partner of over 120 companies, which operate at various stages of their development as minority shareholders. It operates in particular in the reorganization of shareholders, strategic investments and acquisitions, and guarantees national and international growth.

For more information: www.unigrains.fr

Press contacts:

- CAUSSADE SEMENCES Group: Célia BROGNIET / celia.brognet@caussadesemencesgroup.com / +33 (0)6 11 66 63 14
- Sofiprotéol: Tom Doron / tom.doron@groupeavril.com / +33 (0)6 26 28 39 94
- Unigrains: Ari Levine / alevine@unigrains.fr / +33 (0)6 69 20 79 19