

# InnoVar Kicks off!

## ***InnoVar* – Next-generation variety testing for improved cropping on European farmland**

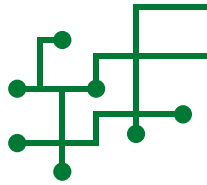
The kick-off meeting of the H2020 project *InnoVar* was held October 16<sup>th</sup>, 17<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup> in Belfast, Northern Ireland. The project’s coordinator AFBI hosted the meeting.

*InnoVar* aims to augment and improve the efficacy and accuracy of European crop variety testing and decision-making, using an integrated approach incorporating genomics, phenomics and machine learning. Historic data will form the foundation of the *InnoVar* database which will be expanded with new harmonised data generated from a trial series across Europe. The project focuses on wheat initially before applying the *InnoVar* approach to other crops.



Photos from the *InnoVar* kick-off meeting. On the left - KOM attendees, on the right – Project coordinator and speakers from Day 1.





*InnoVar* is a 4,5 years project under the Horizon 2020 SFS-29-2018 call. The project's consortium includes 21 partners across Europe.

Outputs and impacts of the project include:

- Support the introduction of new varieties that are “fit for purpose”, providing stable and higher yields;
- Help introduce plant traits that respond to new challenges and demands in the conventional and organic sectors;
- Increase the economic return of growers;
- Develop experimental designs, methods and tools to improve performance testing of new varieties for their sustainability profile;
- Support activities of the network of European and national plant variety examination offices;
- Improve information and recommendations on variety performance available to growers.

For further information regarding *InnoVar* please contact:

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