

## Seminar

### **NEW PLANTS IN LITHUANIA—KERNZA PERENNIAL CEREALS: FOR FOOD, FEED, AND BIOENERGY**

*Thinopyrum intermedium* ([Host] Barkworth & D.R. Dewey) is a herbaceous plant related to wheat. From this perennial plant, scientists have developed a promising variety, which they have named 'Kernza'. Kernza is the world's first perennial cereal, developed through traditional breeding. What makes Kernza unique is that it is a perennial plant, which means that it does not need to be sown every year, unlike traditional wheat. This is the first time the plant has been studied in Lithuania. The seminar will present the results of the field experiments conducted at the Experimental Station of the Agriculture Academy of Vytautas Magnus University in 2023. These experiments aimed to assess the productivity, overwintering, and climatic impact of Kernza under different agrotechnologies. The potential uses of Kernza grains for food and an evaluation of their nutritional value will also be discussed.