

Seminar

„THE AGROECOLOGICAL POTENTIAL AND PRACTICAL APPLICATION OF PERENNIAL CEREALS: KERNZA PERSPECTIVES IN LITHUANIA“

Intermediate wheatgrass (*Thinopyrum intermedium* (Host) Barkworth & D.R. Dewey) is a grass plant related to wheat. Scientists have bred a promising variety from this perennial plant, which they have named "Kernza." It is the first perennial cereal plant in the world and was developed using traditional breeding methods. Kernza is unique because it is a perennial plant, which means that it does not need to be sown every year like traditional wheat. This plant is being studied for the first time in Lithuania. During the seminar, the results of field experiments conducted at the Vytautas Magnus University Agricultural Academy Experimental Station in 2023–2025 to assess Kernza's productivity, winter hardiness, and impact on the climate using different agrotechnologies. The seminar will discuss the possibilities of using Kernza grain for food and research on its nutritional value.