The seed is the first link in the agro-industrial chain. Before planting, growers decide which seed to use in order to reach their production goals.

**GROWERS CAN PLANT:**

- **NATIVE OR LOCAL VARIETIES**
  These are cultivated, selected, and exchanged among growers within communities. They lack a "formal" breeding process and, although they are not high performance, they are adapted to the local agroecological conditions.

- **AUDITED SEED**
  These are varieties that have gone through the INASE* certification process. This process guarantees the identity, purity, germination power and phytosanitary quality of the seed. Each bag has a label that identifies it as such.

- **SEED FOR INDIVIDUAL USE**
  This is seed selected by growers from grains harvested on their own farms.

In the Peruvian Andes there are more than 4,000 local potato varieties. Using audited seeds is the only way to transfer innovation to the field. Seed used for individual use does not have certified quality parameters and therefore more inputs per hectare are required.

**DID YOU KNOW THAT...?**

By using audited seed, the grower ensures quality but also contributes to research on genetic improvement to obtain new, more productive varieties adapted to the different agricultural regions of Argentina.

**INASE - Instituto Nacional de Semillas (Argentinian National Institute of Seeds)**