



# PRESS RELEASE

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## **CZAV and Casibbeans take next step in Protein Strategy with acquisition of Termont & Thomaes**

*Effective May 2, 2024, these three parties will further integrate and expand the chains of locally grown crops: from field to food industry.*

*Last year, CZAV acquired a majority interest in Casibbeans, initiating a strategic partnership after years of collaboration to develop opportunities in plant-based proteins. CZAV and Casibbeans have already been closely collaborating with Termont & Thomaes (T&T). From this 'pulseful' cooperation, a next step is now being taken.*

### **Leading position in cleaning of local pulses**

Termont & Thomaes is a company specialized in pulses, grains, and seeds, based in Biervliet with over 100 years of experience in cleaning and processing of these products. Ben Thomaes and the T&T team have taken significant steps in further professionalizing their operations over the past seven years. Today, T&T holds a leading position as a processor of locally grown pulses, and in the cleaning of imported pulses. With their long experience and expertise in cleaning, conditioning, and packaging, they ensure a high-quality product.

### **Cluster in the chain**

For years, CZAV has experience in the cultivation of pulses and provides growers with knowledge and advice. With the newly acquired activities in the conditioning, cleaning, and processing of T&T products, the product will be handled in full control from the field up to the food industry. Casibbeans has an extensive network and full-service solutions to market these local pulses. "We are convinced that in this way, we can supply the European food industry with the best locally grown pulses," says Jurriaan Visser, Manager of Grains, Seeds, and Pulses at CZAV.

### **Specialization**

Heidi Vercreaeye, Deputy Director at Termont & Thomaes: "In addition to creating the chain for local pulses, in collaboration with CZAV and Casibbeans, T&T's focus remains on responding to requests for conditioning and cleaning of agri-products. The acquisition allows for further specialization and to meet the future demands of food companies and traders."

### **More opportunities for CZAV growers**

With this next step, CZAV anticipates expected future developments. The demand from the food industry for locally grown products, including pulses, is increasing. The cooperative aims to facilitate its members as much as possible with the development and opportunities for plant-based proteins. Through the participations in Casibbeans and T&T, CZAV offers its members additional opportunities. Not only in the form of extensive (cultivation) knowledge but also in giving them access to the European and even global market.

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#### **For the editors, not for publication**

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