

# FROM THE ROOTS OF INVIVO IN 1945 TO THE PRESENT DAY

The singular history of a major cooperative player in French agriculture

History  
of Agricultural  
Cooperatives

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### Extract

**The history of the InVivo** Union of Agricultural Cooperatives is rooted in the period immediately following the Second World War, a time when French agriculture was in dire need of reconstruction. The cooperatives involved in the reconstruction effort were grouped into sector-based unions, often with highly contrasted political and religious sensibilities. Gradually overcoming their divergences, they united their strengths and know-how to give rise in 2001 to InVivo, France's number-one farming cooperative group and a leader in Europe.

**Drawing on previously unused sources**, this book explores the fascinating history of the cooperative group, embodied by a series of talented men with strong convictions. It sheds light on the powerful role played by cooperatives and their unions in the development and international expansion of French agriculture and their key contribution to the growth of plant and animal production in France since 1945. Surprisingly, little is still known about this impressive business success.

**With agriculture regaining its strategic position** in the global economy and the cooperative model increasingly perceived as a credible alternative to the excesses of financialisation, the InVivo group is continuing on its mission, proud of its roots and empowered by its history.

**And in exploring these origins, the Group is building for the future.**

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