

PRESS RELEASE - JANUARY 2025

## 38<sup>TH</sup> EDITION OF THE SIVAL | 14-15-16 JANUARY 2025

### Bruno DUPONT is handing over the presidency of the SIVAL

*After 20 years as President of the SIVAL, Bruno DUPONT is passing the baton to Albert RICHARD, tree producer and President of the Vergers d'Anjou.*

The SIVAL, that took place from the 14 to 16 January 2025 at the Parc des Expositions in Angers was special. After a presidency of 20 years, Bruno DUPONT, President of the SIVAL since 2005 passed the baton on to Albert RICHARD.



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### Looking back at 20 years of presidency

Bruno DUPONT, a tree producer by profession, presided over the Fédération Nationale des Producteurs de Fruits, at a local and national level, as well as the inter-profession of fresh fruit and vegetables, Interfel. He became president of the SIVAL in 2005.

During his different terms he brought the profession a vision of unity, interlinking his different commitments. Throughout the 20 years of his presidency of the SIVAL, Bruno DUPONT, with the unwavering support of the teams from Destination Angers, instilled a key guiding principle aimed at innovation and highlighting solutions that enable producers to adapt to the major challenges facing the sector.

He has constantly repeated that *the SIVAL is a*

*showcase for innovation, know-how and thought, in order to help producers to adapt to current changes and those to come.*

He has worked hard for the SIVAL to become a show that is recognised nationally, not only by all the sectors' professionals but also the different political bodies. Under his impulsion, several ministers have visited the show's aisles during the years of his presidency. He has therefore made a huge contribution in publicising and gaining recognition for the richness, know-how and the vitality of the different specialist plant production sectors as well as propelling the SIVAL upwards, and it is now one of the leading shows nationally.

Internationally Bruno DUPONT has been one of the instigators for international development. *The SIVAL is a show that other countries are jealous of!* in the words of Bruno DUPONT. Convinced that our region, and more widely, France, has an enormous amount that they can bring to support production in other countries. They have created strong links particularly with the African continent. Projects for partnerships have been created as a result of this vision and belief. If these partnership projects are still under construction, SIVAL has, in recent years, with the support of its partners such as VEGEPOLYS VALLEY, technical institutes such as the CTIFL or IFV, or even professional unions or federations, experienced an intensification of its development with the increase in the number of foreign exhibitors as well as its visitors.

Bruno DUPONT has therefore left his imprint on the development and the reputation of the SIVAL. In the next few years, he will continue to support the show's international section by pursuing the implementation of international partnerships.

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## Albert RICHARD, the new President of the SIVAL

*During this 38<sup>th</sup> edition of the SIVAL, Bruno DUPONT handed over the presidency of the SIVAL to Albert RICHARD, tree producer and President of the Vergers d'Anjou.*



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Albert RICHARD took over the family fruit farm, the Vergers de Souzay situated near to Angers at Corzé, in 1992. He was joined by his wife in 2004 who took over the administrative side of the business. The fruit farm is made up of 30ha of apple trees and 3 ha of cherry trees and employs 3 full-time staff.

After studies in micro-mechanics, Albert RICHARD started his reconversion, firstly at the ENSH in Versailles, then at the CFPPA at Moissac where he obtained a technical diploma in agriculture in 1990. He developed his passion for the work as he started working with his parents on the farm when he was young. Taking over the family farm was obvious and became his aim.

But it wasn't his only aim, and his family background wasn't far away. He followed in his father's footsteps by becoming involved in agricultural unions, and taking his turn as a leader in the different structures and associations for fruit and vegetable production and processing (\*). He has been president since 2017 of the Les Vergers d'Anjou Cooperative. Totally committed is also standing this year in the elections for the chambres d'agriculture as a representative for cooperatives.

### Shared values

He first encountered Bruno DUPONT a long time ago. The two men met due to their union activities, when Bruno DUPONT was president of the departmental FNPF. Even then they shared the same vision of the profession: with a sharp focus on public interest and unity.

At 58 years old, native of the Angers region, he takes over the presidency of the SIVAL that he has always known. As far as he is concerned the show is both an essential and unmissable demonstration for the specialist plant production sector. *For tree producers more specifically, it is an open book where one can find everything that one desires, but one can also feel the pulse of the sector. It is important in an environment that is becoming more and more complex.*

He sees the SIVAL as a genuine crossroads for techniques and innovations that make production even more efficient with more respect for people and the environment.

Over the years to come he hopes to consolidate the work of his predecessor, and is committed to taking an in-depth look at the show's attractiveness, particularly for future generations. This goes hand-in-hand with the requirements of the different specialist plant production sectors.

Finally, he is looking forward to working with the teams from Destination Angers and salutes their commitment to the profession and the work that they perform to publicise the SIVAL.

### (\*)Les engagements d'Albert RICHARD

- Administrator of FELCOOP  
*Professional federation representing co-operative businesses and SICA for fresh and processed fruits and vegetables, horticulture and potatoes.*
- President of the SICA Transfocruits
- Administrator of the ANPP / Committee member  
*National Association for apple and pear production*
- Administrator of the CTIFL  
*Interprofessional technical centre for fruits and vegetables*
- Administrator of AFIDEM  
*Interprofessional organisation representing multi destination processed fruit sectors*
- Administrator of SAS Blue-Whale  
*Group of French food producers*
- Administrator of IDFEL  
*Association open to any economic operator in the fruit, vegetable and mushroom sectors*
- President of JOYA Europe Team
- Administrator of Pink Lady Europe





25 hours of live broadcasting when the show is open, with free access via our website, the application SIVAL Online and on Facebook,

Instagram, LinkedIn et YouTube.

On the programme :

- All the forums in La Serre live
- Reports from the shows aisles with Reussir Fruits and Vegetables
- Portraits «My SIVAL and I» filmed on farms before the SIVAL
- Speeches from the Tour de France des Alternatives by CTIFL on replay on SIVAL TV from wednesday
- The interviews and presentations with the 19 SIVAL Innovation 2025 Concours prizewinners.



DOWNLOAD  
THE PHOTOS OF  
BRUNO DUPONT  
AND ALBERT RICHARD  
BY CLICKING HERE



## THE SIVAL IS ORGANISED BY DESTINATION ANGERS

A brand supported by the SPL (Local Public Company) ALTEC (Angers Loire Tourisme Expo Congrès), whose majority shareholders are Angers Loire Métropole and the town of Angers, the SIVAL aids the development of the specialist plant production sector. Angers, the plant capital, and the home of the SIVAL is part of a sustainable development initiative with ISO 20121 Certification, Destination Angers is committed to a policy of responsible management for its activities on a daily basis.



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