	Geographical Indication Product Database - Step 1- **Pommes de terre primeur du Roussillon**	**SOURCE :** **Author : B. Sylvander** **Institution : INRA** **Date : 31 August 06**

DESCRIPTION :

1. **NAME OF PRODUCT :** ***Pommes de terre primeur du Roussillon***
2. **COUNTRY AND REGION IN THE COUNTRY: France**
3. **TYPE OF PRODUCT : (including the possible substitutes and imitations of the product)**

Early fresh potato.

4. **DESCRIPTION OF THE PRODUCT AND ITS AREA (including its specific characteristics, conditions of production, main differences with the substitutes) :**

Shape : oblong and flat, size inferior to 65 mm. very thin and yellow skin. Fondant texture, slightly sweet, no bitterness. Strong flavour. Generic category I. In the same time early and dry, which is very specific, if compared with other early potatoes.
Can only be cultivated on the area of 22 communes in the "Pyrénées orientales" district, south eastern France, close to Perpignan and Mediterranean sea.

5. **LINK WITH THE GEOGRAPHICAL AREA (tradition, know how, reputation, soil, climate, etc.):**

Only certified plants from variety "Béa", which is adapted to the alluvial soil and very dry climate of the region (the same variety cultivated elsewhere come to measured lower quality).
Very fragile plants, requiring specific know how (pregermination techniques, soil work, soft harvest techniques, removing of the top, which end up to a 20% dry matter). Maximum authorized yields : 30 tons / ha.

6. **PRODUCTION SYSTEM / SUPPLY CHAIN (some data about the number of producers, processors, market structure..) :**

550 ha cultivated (60 % of the area devoted to potatoes in the district). 13500 tons produced yearly. 5 wholesalers.

7. **MARKET AND REPUTATION (size, price premium, attractiveness, growth) :**

Béa is very technically demanding and had been decreasing for the last decades, although it's quality and reputation. Producers recently wanted to come back to this variety focused on the traditional areas and very renowned on the market. Béa is sold through restaurants and wholesalers (5 firms) on the specialized chains for vegetable products.

Comes on the market for early potatoes just before the Islands potatoes (PDO Ré and Noirmoutiers). Weak competition. Market area : national, with a focus on the South West.

7. **APPLICANT / HOLDER (IF ANY) :**

Syndicat des producteurs de Pommes de terre du Roussillon

RELEVANCE : Why is this case important for research in general and for SINER-GI in particular ?

Illustrates the rigour of the code of practice, *which is slightly different and more specific from standard high quality potatoes, and well linked with the terroir and the know how. .*

CATEGORY :

☐ **Origin Product** ☐ **GI product** ☑ **Recognized GI (2006)**