

L'Alliance d'Ail Français

2022 Annual Cooperative Report – The Heart and Soul of French Garlic

Message from the President: Jacques "Le Chef" Dubois

"At L'Alliance d'Ail Français, we don't just grow garlic; we grow tradition. We cultivate, process, and distribute the finest garlic in France and around the world with pride. Our garlic is in the blood of this cooperative — it's who we are. And with our garlic-fueled staff volleyball team, we're unstoppable both in the field and on the court!"

Welcome to our 2022 report. Here, you'll learn about our commitment to quality garlic, sustainable farming, and the team spirit that unites us on and off the court.

1. About L'Alliance d'Ail Français

L'Alliance d'Ail Français (LAF) is a cooperative of French garlic growers, producers, and artisans united by a shared passion for garlic excellence. Headquartered in Provence, LAF supports every aspect of the garlic journey — from soil to sauté pan, from storage to serving. We believe garlic is the essence of French cuisine, and our cooperative is dedicated to ensuring that our garlic embodies the highest standards of quality, sustainability, and tradition.

2. Cooperative Highlights and Performance Summary

2022 has been a landmark year for LAF. Below is a summary of key performance metrics for our various activities.

Activity	Revenue (2022, €M)	Revenue Growth (%)	Notable Achievements
Garlic Cultivation	10	+12%	Expanded organic garlic fields by 20%
Garlic Processing & Derivatives	7	+15%	Launched "Essence d'Ail" (Garlic Oil) product line
Retail Sales of Garlic Products	5	+10%	Opened three new retail locations
Warehousing & Logistics	4	+8%	Upgraded storage to include climate control
Staff Volleyball Team	0.5 (sponsorship)	+30% in support	Won national cooperative volleyball championship

"Garlic is the pride of Provence, and every clove tells a story. Our commitment isn't just to grow garlic, but to make it a lifestyle — and thanks to our hardworking team and the energizing garlic in their diets, we're also champions on the volleyball court."

3. Cultivation of Premium Garlic

Our garlic begins with the dedication of 200 cooperative farmers across France, with a special focus on Provence, known for producing garlic with an unparalleled depth of flavor. In 2022, we expanded our organic garlic fields by 20%, as we work to meet increasing demand for pesticide-free, sustainably grown garlic.

Sustainable Farming Practices

- **Crop Rotation and Soil Health:** We rotate garlic with other local crops to maintain soil nutrients and prevent disease.
- **Water Conservation:** Our farms use advanced drip irrigation systems to minimize water usage, essential during hot Provençal summers.
- **Organic Certification:** Currently, 60% of our fields are organic-certified, with a goal of 75% by 2025.

"Our garlic is as rich as the soil it grows in, and our fields are tended with a love and respect for the land that only Provence can offer. From our farms to your kitchens, we ensure each bulb is perfection itself."

4. Processing and Garlic Derivatives

LAF is committed to transforming garlic into a variety of products, ensuring that every bit of our harvest is used and valued. In 2022, we introduced *Essence d'Ail*, a garlic oil made from the finest cloves, along with garlic pastes, powders, and minced garlic for convenience and culinary delight.

Key Products and Innovations

- **Essence d'Ail** (Garlic Oil): Perfect for infusing dishes with rich garlic flavor.
- **Ail en Poudre** (Garlic Powder): Made from slow-dried garlic, preserving its aroma and taste.
- **Concentré d'Ail** (Garlic Paste): Ready-to-use, ideal for sauces and marinades.

"Garlic is versatile, powerful, and, if I may say so, magnificent! Every product we make carries that Provençal soul, from oils and pastes to a simple powder."

5. Retail and Distribution: Bringing Garlic to the People

With retail outlets across France, we bring our garlic directly to consumers. In 2022, we expanded our footprint by opening three new stores in Marseille, Lyon, and Paris, bringing French garlic to even more homes and kitchens. Our retail operations include a line of garlic-based culinary products such as garlic confit, infused vinegars, and our bestselling Essence d'Ail.

Warehousing & Logistics Upgrades

In line with our commitment to quality, we have upgraded our warehousing facilities to include climate-controlled storage, ensuring that garlic maintains peak freshness year-round. Our logistics team, affectionately known as "Les Boules d'Or," manages distribution with precision and dedication.

"Our garlic isn't just food — it's a passion. We make sure it reaches our customers in perfect condition, because we know how much garlic can change a dish — and a day."

6. Sustainability Efforts and EU Taxonomy Compliance

At LAF, we believe in the importance of sustainability, both for our garlic and for our planet. Below is a summary of our eligible and aligned activities as per EU Taxonomy guidelines for 2022.

EU Taxonomy Category	Metric Type	Eligible (%)	Aligned (%)
Organic Farming and Water Use	Cultivation	70%	60%
Climate-Controlled Storage	Logistics	80%	75%
Sustainable Packaging Initiatives	Retail	65%	55%

"Sustainability is the foundation of our cooperative. Every clove is nurtured with care, and every shipment is handled with the respect that garlic deserves."

7. Champion Spirit: The LAF Volleyball Team

One of our proudest achievements in 2022 wasn't just in the fields or the kitchen, but on the volleyball court. Our staff volleyball team, *Les Gousses de Feu* (The Fire Cloves), won the national cooperative volleyball championship for the third consecutive year! Made up of players from all departments — farmers, warehouse workers, retail staff, and office team members — this team is the beating heart of LAF.

The volleyball team is more than a sport for us; it embodies the spirit of teamwork, dedication, and a love for garlic that binds us all together. The team's success has also contributed to our cooperative's sponsorship growth and public profile, making them true champions both on and off the court.

Team Highlights

- **National Championship:** Victory at the 2022 Cooperative Sports Tournament.
- **Employee Engagement:** 75% of cooperative members have participated in team events or games.
- **Sponsorship Revenue:** Generated €500,000 in sponsorship, which supports our sustainability and community initiatives.

"At LAF, we believe a strong team is as vital as strong garlic. Les Gousses de Feu are a symbol of our cooperative — bold, united, and always ready to spice things up!"

8. Looking Ahead: Goals for 2023 and Beyond

As we look to the future, LAF remains dedicated to expanding our operations while staying true to our cooperative values. Our key goals for the next year include:

- **Increasing Organic Farming:** Expand organic-certified fields to reach 75% of all garlic crops by 2025.
- **Product Innovation:** Introduce three new garlic-based products in 2023, including a range of garlic-infused spreads.
- **Sustainability Expansion:** Implement sustainable packaging for all products by 2024, aligning with our EU Taxonomy commitments.

"The future of L'Alliance d'Ail Français is brighter, bolder, and garlickier than ever. Together, we'll keep bringing French garlic to the world in ways only we can."

9. Community and Social Responsibility

LAF is committed to supporting our local communities and preserving the tradition of French garlic. In 2022, we partnered with schools across Provence to teach students about garlic farming and the importance of sustainable agriculture.

2022 Community Highlights

- **School Partnerships:** Educational programs reached 3,000 students.
- **Volunteering:** LAF members volunteered over 1,500 hours in local food banks.
- **Donations:** Donated 10,000 garlic bulbs to local communities.

"Community is the backbone of our cooperative. Whether we're teaching kids about garlic or playing volleyball for charity, LAF is here to give back."

Disclaimer: This report reflects the achievements and future ambitions of L'Alliance d'Ail Français. For additional information, visit:
<https://www.alliancedailfrancais.com/annualreport2022>.