



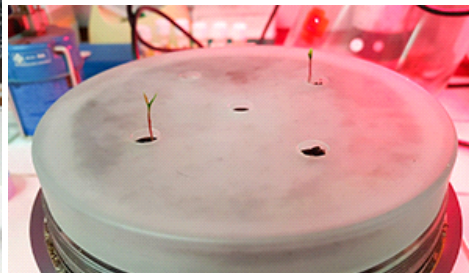
PanAmerican Seed® Sponsors Eklosion Experiment On International Space Station With Marigold Seeds On Earth

The Graines d'Eklo activity includes 850 volunteers growing French Marigold seeds at the same time a French scientist performs his experiment in space.



VENHUIZEN, THE NETHERLANDS – August 2021: In early August, 850 volunteers received a seed packet of French Marigolds from PanAmerican Seed as part of the activity "[Graines d'Eklo](#)" of the Eklo Association (Eklosion), which links space experiments with those on Earth. French astronaut Thomas Pesquet will germinate and grow his Marigold seeds on the International Space Station (ISS) at the same time as the earth-bound volunteers grow their seed. Eklosion is one of 12 experiments of the ALPHA mission in the ISS. PanAmerican Seed is proud to sponsor the Earth portion with the seed donation.

As part of Eklosion, a capsule was created of French Marigold seeds specially designed for growing in zero gravity. Without natural light, Pesquet will garden and observe nature 400km from Earth and share his experiences. On Earth, 850 people will do the same and share their results. This way, both young and old can experience on Earth the same experiment as Pesquet in space.



Pesquet has been living in space since the end of April. On Tuesday, Aug. 10, the Eklosion capsule left Earth to join the ISS with other experiments, refueling and provisions for the astronauts. During their trip in orbit, the astronauts will enjoy the nature they are carrying. The experiment and activities start once the capsule has arrived.

"As a breeding company of high-quality and innovative seeds, we love the chance to participate in scientific activities like Eklosion," says **Sylvia Rocheteau**, Area Manager for PanAmerican Seed. "With this link from Space to Earth, people will learn about and experience cultural and scientific projects together, and these experiments of today will make our future. PanAmerican Seed embraces these contributions to science and is happy to sponsor 'Graines d'Eklo'."

Curious about these experiments and want to learn more? Go to the Eklo Association website at <https://eklo.space/> and follow the "Graines d'Eklo" progress on social media at [Facebook](#), [Instagram](#) or [LinkedIn](#) (in French).

#GRAINESDEKLO #EKLOASSOCIATION #EKLO #CNES #ESA #ISS #THOMASPESQUET

About PanAmerican Seed

PanAmerican Seed is an internationally renowned breeder and producer of seed-raised flowers and vegetables based in West Chicago, Illinois, USA that produces high-quality and best-

performing varieties. Research facilities in North and South America, the Pacific Rim and Europe enable us to test and evaluate new varieties under numerous climate conditions. Our state-of-the-art seed distribution center guarantees quick, efficient processing of orders for our worldwide customers. Visit www.panamseed.com for more information.