Ente Nazionale Risi, is a public institute controlled by the Ministry of Agriculture. The aim is the rice field protection, promoting the rice made in Italy, providing consultant and analytical services to the rice producers. It was created in order to control the rice commerce and to stimulate international co-operations.

The institute has a research laboratory. In cooperation with several Italian and international organizations, the lab activities are split into four main areas:

- Genetic improvement
- Rice diseases control
- Pathology
- Chemical and microbiological analysis

Both the chemical and the genetic department have been using Retsch equipment for sample preparation for 7 years: a **Rotor Mill ZM 200 and a Mixer Mill MM 301**.

They recently purchased a **Knife Mill GRINDOMIX GM 300** in order to be able to prepare a sample volume of up to 1 kg/batch, meeting the new normative requests to analyze GMO. The fineness achieved after the short grinding process is usually enough to proceed to the next step: a solution extraction of ground sample using the Mixer Mill MM 301 equipped with the reaction vials adapter.

After a first grinding cycle of 90 seconds with rotation inversion every 20 seconds, they stop the machine for 3 minutes in order to keep the temperature as low as possible. Then a second cycle at 3000 rpm reduces the sample to the desired fineness.

In the peak season they usually prepare at least 20 samples per day and obtain the results in the required time. In order to avoid a loss of time, they purchased a complete grinding set consisting of stainless steel container, knife and cover for any sample.